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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 1, 1863. No. 1.

INTRODUCTION.

THE U. S. Sanitary Commission have long felt the need of some direct method of communication with their wide-spread constituency. Those who furnish the money and the supplies, by which our extensive ministry to the sick and wounded is maintained, have a right to more frequent and full accounts of what becomes of their charity than we have hitherto been able to give them. It is true, we have published a large number of documents containing this information, and distributed them widely; but they have necessarily lacked the freshness and the personal details which a less compendious and less formal account of our current operations would possess. A thousand intensely interesting particulars reach our several offices at Washington, Louisville and New York, which we are anxious should come to the knowledge of the people; and we propose in the BULLETIN to collect and report these pungent details fresh from the lips of our agents in the field and the hospital.

It is high time that an interest, now so rooted and grounded in its own methods as the U. S. Sanitary Commission, should possess an independent organ for the expression of its matured opinions in regard to the only safe and wise means of applying the gifts of the people to the relief of the Army. After all the careful discussion which the subject has received, there is constant danger of falling back into slovenly, wasteful, and injurious ways of supplying the wants of the soldiers. Only the most persistent and strenuous resistance to an impulsive benevolence, the most earnest and obstinate defence of a guarded and methodized system of relief, can save the public from imposition, and the Army from demoralization.

The health and safety of our soldiers require an organ, in which questions of Army-Hygeine can be discussed with sole reference to practical results. There is a steady tendency to the neglect or ignoring of preventive methods. The condition of our barracks, transports, and camps needs incessant watchfulness, and a perpetual cry of warning must be raised in the ear of the responsible civil and military authorities.

It is necessary, moreover, that the interest of the women of the country should be quickened anew in the work they have undertaken. We have warned them from the first that they were enlisted for the war; that their industry and self-sacrifice would be taxed to the utmost. There is no longer novelty or artificial excitement to sustain their activity. Only a steady principle of patriotic humanity can be depended on for continued labors in this holy cause. Thank God, there are thousands of noble women connected with our work, who for more than two years have given their best thoughts, and hours, and labor to the enterprise. Their zeal has outlived all superficial excitements. They go to their work, as the soldier goes to the front, or digs in the trench, or advances on the works of the enemy. It is their duty and their business while the war lasts. But ten thousand such noble women are not enough. They must be supported by a hundred thousand; yes, five hundred thousand other women of similar views and feelings, before our supplies can be accumulated in adequate quantities. Our machinery is in admirable order; our central reservoirs of supplies perfectly adapted to their purpose. It is only neces-

sary that, with the opening winter, every village Sewing Circle, or Soldiers' Relief Society, or Church, or Dorcas Association, should set itself about a systematic contribution of supplies to the central associations at Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Chicago, or Louisville. This done, everything needed in the way of supplies can be easily and readily procured. If there is a jealous scattering of these resources, a little here and a little there, there will be a dreadful waste, and a melancholy abuse of the well-established principle of unity and economy.

Again, our moneyed men and institutions of wealth must see to it that the efficiency of the U. S. Sanitary Commission is not hampered by the want of abundant pecuniary resources. It is universally conceded that the efficiency of the Army has been vastly sustained by the watchful care of this Commission. It is not too much to say that our Generals in the field have come to depend upon it as a *sine qua non*. It is an established and indispensable part of the public service. The soldiers know it, and lean upon it as upon the Home-Arm. The nation has no right to withdraw this arm. It would not dare to do it outright. And yet, by allowing the strong muscles that have thus far held it out, gradually to contract and shrivel, they may, in effect, and without intending or knowing what they do, paralyze this arm, and find a withered hand where they thought they had a stalwart one outstretched. Nothing but a full treasury has given the U. S. Sanitary Commission its vigor and effectiveness. It has hitherto, for a long period of its existence, had a hundred thousand dollars at least in its treasury, between it and want. It cannot work with energy and success with a dollar less than this in reserve. In short, when it begins to spend the first dollar of its last hundred thousand, it must prepare to close its operations! It is not prudent nor possible for a body whose regular expenses are forty thousand dollars a month, to carry on its affairs systematically on the contingency of funds to come in. From this time, the U. S. Sanitary Commission, which sees its treasury already reduced to $125,000, and which, in one month, will see it below $100,000, must have a monthly subscription of at least $25,000 from the Loyal States, or its day is ended. All the supplies in the world will not obviate the want of money. The more supplies, the more the cost of properly and economically distributing them. We must maintain our machinery, or all the meal that comes to our mill will never be converted into bread for the soldier.

We purpose to make the BULLETIN the place where all information necessary to soldiers or to soldiers' families is to be found. Who are entitled to bounties and pensions, and how to procure them at the least expense, and with the most certainty; how furloughs are obtained; how our prisoners of war in the enemies' hands may be communicated with; how to get convalescents or sick men home; everything about the burial of the dead; these and similar questions will be carefully and reliably answered in our columns. The BULLETIN will be extensively circulated in the Army. It will also be sent to all our associate members—to all subscribers or donors to our funds—to every sewing circle contributing to our supplies—to such clergymen as apply for it for purposes of guiding their efforts—and to such other persons as we think fitted to use profitably, for the benefit of our sick and wounded, the information it contains.

It will be furnished also to subscribers, at $2.00 a year, and to single purchasers at 10 cents a copy.

It will be published twice a month, on the 1st and 15th of each month.

It is ardently desired that the ladies having charge of our home societies would send to the General Secretary such written suggestions or facts as they may think fitted to stir up other women to more abundant labors. Our inspectors and relief agents are admonished to keep notes of such incidents as have deeply interested them, and to forward them promptly to their respective chiefs, for the use of the BULLETIN.

All communications for "THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN" should be addressed to the Office of Publication, 823 Broadway, New York City.

REPORTS.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *Oct. 6th*, 1863.

Rev. H. W. BELLOWS, D.D.,

President of the U. S. Sanitary Com'n:

SIR—Notified by you on the 16th of September of my election as General Secretary of the Commission, I accepted the trust, and have since, in anticipation of the present session of the Commission, been chiefly occupied in ascertaining the condition of its work throughout the country, and the probable requirements of its service in the future.

The present aspect of the work will best be exhibited to you in the reports herewith presented, from a consideration of which, and from the discussions of the scheme proposed by the Committee on organization and the Executive Committee for the partial reorganization of the work, the Commission will be enabled to determine what modifications it should direct for the future.

I may, however, be permitted to call the attention of the Commission directly to certain topics which seem to me worthy of their present consideration.

The question has been raised whether the Hospital Directory justifies by its usefulness the expenditure it occasions. The reports of Mr. Bowne, Superintendent of the Directory, and of Mr. Holbrook, of the Louisville office, present facts and considerations which may determine the Commission's action.

Should the Commission adopt that portion of the programme of work proposed by the Executive Committee, which divides the work of Relief and Inspection, assigning the latter only to the Sanitary Inspectors, directed by a Head not distracted by other duties, a renewed stimulus will be given to inspection and a greatly increased body of facts will accumulate, as data from which the Actuary should be expected to exhibit promptly, when called upon, the determined results of the particular analysis demanded. Unless the range of inquiry is kept restricted within unduly narrow limits, an increase of clerical force in the statistical department will be needed. I submit the question how far the plans of the Commission will admit of expansion in this direction.

The activity of other organizations, State and Federal, in presenting to the loyal communities the claims of their especial work of relief for the Army and Navy, has, in some quarters of the country, overshadowed a just apprehension of the work which is being more noiselessly, but perhaps not less thoroughly, done by the Sanitary Commission. In some instances grave misapprehension of the Commission's disposition and discouragement on the part of its friends, on account of supposed impairment of its usefulness, has been created by the too highly-colored statements put forth by the advocates of competing organizations.

It seems only just to those who have heretofore contributed money and stores to the Commission, that they be from time to time reassured by personal conference with one of its accredited agents as to the wisdom of its plans, and be enabled to exhibit to others its varied beneficence and its judicious methods. To more thoroughly and minutely inform the rural communities on the work and wants of the Commission, as well as to remove misunderstanding and to correct false statements, an increase of the force of canvassing agents, of late months much reduced, is recommended.

* * * * *

The evident necessity of popularizing information as to the Commission's plans and practical workings more fully than it has heretofore been done in its octavo documents, is very apparent. The issue of the *Sanitary Reporter*, at Louisville, has done much in this direction. Though given largely to details of work west of the Alleghanies, it is believed to have excited a growing interest in the Commission in all the loyal States in which it has been distributed. The booklet, "What we did at Gettysburg," by a lady who served us and humanity there; and the story, from the journal of the Special Relief Agent, "The Lord will Provide," have already been enjoyed by hundreds who would never have

been induced to take up Document No. —. The Commission may think it well to consider whether or not it should open another avenue of communication to the heart of the people, by reviving the suspended project of the "BULLETIN OF THE SANITARY COMMISSION," or by affording in some other way the always welcome information of what is done for the Army.

Constant efforts to stimulate the flow of supplies of hospital food and clothing have resulted, during the quarter, in yielding to the Commission's storehouses about the average quarterly product of the past year, and there is little reason to doubt the continuance of this rate of supply. But this is not sufficient to relieve the Commission from the frequent necessity of considerable purchases in the commercial market, which fact may be adduced as another argument, not only for occasional appeals to the loyal people from the Commission, or its Committees, but also for the multiplication of wayside agencies through its district canvassers.

In accordance with your instructions, I, on the 24th of September, caused the oath of allegiance to the United States to be administered, in the following words, by a magistrate, to the employees of the Commission, assembled by order:

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, }
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON. }

We, the undersigned, of Washington County, D. C., do solemnly swear, on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God, without any mental reservation, that we will, at any and all times hereafter, and under all circumstances, yield a hearty and willing support to the Constitution of the United States, and to the Government thereof; that we will not, either directly or indirectly, take up arms against said Government, nor aid those now in arms against it; that we will not pass without the lines now established by the Army of the United States, or hereafter from time to time to be established by said Army, nor hold any correspondence whatsoever with any person or persons beyond said lines so established by said Army of the United States, during the present rebellion, without permission from the Secretary of War; also, we will do no act hostile or injurious to the union of the States; that we will give no aid, comfort, or assistance to the enemies of the Government, either domestic or foreign.

Thirty-seven thus acknowledged their fealty—all who could be gathered. On the next day four others cheerfully took the oath, and one person who declined to do so was, by your order, discharged from the service. These forty-two persons constitute the whole number of individuals who are employed by the Commission in this city. The order has been given to the Acting Associate Secretary in the Eastern Department to cause the oath to be tendered to each person employed by the Commission in the Department, the alternative of promptly taking it being dismissal from the service.

I submit herewith a roster of persons in the service of the Commission, October 1st.

I present also the accompanying Reports. [See list at end of Reports.]

Respectfully submitted.

J. FOSTER JENKINS,
General Secretary.

REPORT ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

GENTLEMEN—In accordance with the request of Dr. J. Foster Jenkins, I beg leave to submit the following as my Report of the work of the Commission so far as it has come under my observation, during a temporary occupation of the Associate Secretary's desk.

On the 29th of July I reported in Washington, with the view of using it as headquarters for my operations in the Army of the Potomac. Dr. Douglas, who was then about starting off on a month's leave of absence, requested me to take charge of such duties as might require the consideration and direction of the Associate Secretary. I have acted in accordance with this request and an order of the Executive Committee (dated Sept. 15, 1863,) down to the present time.

WASHINGTON AND VICINITY.—The Hospitals in Washington and Alexandria have been inspected very carefully by Inspector C. W. Brink, during the months of August and September. His reports, herewith submitted as Documents 1, 2 and 3, will show the exact condition of these Hospitals. They show improvements consequent upon increased knowledge and care on the part

of their officers, and will now compare favorably with the best Military Hospitals which the Medical Department has established for the accommodation of the sick and wounded soldiers of our great Army. Our Hospital Visitor (Dr. G. C. Caldwell) has made stated visits to them all, and issues of stores have been freely made from our local storehouse on requisitions of the surgeons, in accordance with the advice of Dr. Caldwell. The requisitions of the surgeons have been invariably required in order to avoid the injury to discipline which an indiscriminate distribution of stores, through the hands of irresponsible persons, always produces.

In the early portion of September, reports having reached the office concerning the sickness of the camps occupied by the 10th N. Y. Artillery, Dr. C. W. Brink was ordered to make special inquiry into the causes of the ill-health prevailing, and to endeavor to have such changes in location as good sanitary principles would indicate. The result of his inspection is to be found in Document 4.

Annapolis, Md.—Inspector Nichols having been ordered from the Department of Norfolk, reported at the Central Office, Aug. 5. After a few days spent in preparing an account of his work at Norfolk, he was sent to Annapolis, with the view of making an inspection of the Camps and Hospitals at that place. That inspection (comprised in Document 5) will show how shockingly unfit for the accommodation of men was the camp then employed for paroled men. It is a subject of congratulation that this disgrace to the nation has been abolished; that our paroled prisoners are at present located in comfortable barracks on a new camping-ground; and that much of the destructive tendency to body and spirit which surrounded the old camp no longer exists in the new location. The life of a paroled prisoner is one of a dispiriting character. He cannot occupy himself with the daily occupations of a soldier's life—his parole prevents that. Consequently, unless some employment, either mental or physical, be furnished him, he becomes a trifling, worthless man—not fitted for the duties either of a soldier or a citizen. Athletic games, and all the varied drills of a gymnasium, would do away with much of the exhausting *ennui* of Camp Parole. A hundred dollars spent in putting up gymnastic apparatus would be the means of saving the health and the morals of many men now undergoing a process of demoralization and enfeeblement. Would not the establishment of a Gymnasium at Camp Parole be a subject worthy of effort on the part of the Commission?

A word is due here to a representative of the Commission on duty at Camp Parole Hospital. Miss Clara Davis, of Philadelphia, has acted as our representative for four months, taking under her special charge the low-diet kitchen. The testimony of patients and surgeons represents the attentions of this kind-hearted, Christian woman as most acceptable to the men. In this retired place she has devoted herself—administering to the wants and needs of suffering humanity. No words can express the value of such work—they seem at best but feeble mockery when used to describe the self-sacrifice of one who devotes her days to smoothing the pillow of the invalid and extending the little attentions which a mother or a sister would offer the sufferer.

In order to meet a want which has existed for some time in this region, a resting-place or temporary home for the wives and female relatives of the inmates of the Hospitals, the Special Relief Agent has established a "Home" in Annapolis, where they may obtain food and lodging. Of this he will doubtless report to you at length.

Convalescent Camp, Virginia.—I ask the attention of the Commission to the Report of Miss Bradley (Document 51½) on the operations in this Camp, which have been conducted by her as a Special Relief Agent. She has labored untiringly to have abuses redressed, and by her personal exertions has made many a soldier feel that, though absent from home, he was not without friends. Her own simple statement of the nature of her work may well cause surprise that she has accomplished so much by her own efforts. Such agents are an honor to the Commission, through whose auspices they labor in the cause of the soldier.

Special Relief Department.—The operations of this Department have continued

to be of their usual important character. These have been attended to, during the absence of the Chief, by his indefatigable assistant, Mr. J. B. Abbott. They comprise altogether different classes of cases from those coming under the eye of the Corps Relief Agent. The latter distributes under the eye of the Medical Officer, and mostly on his requsition, while the relief agent from the Special Department goes directly to the needy without any such intermediation. My observation of this Department makes me anxious that the most liberal encouragement should be tendered it by the Commission. These special cases can only be properly relieved by those who are trained through an every-day experience, extending through months of close observation, so as to prevent help being extended to the unworthy, or help being kept from the deserving.

Soldier's Lodge in Alexandria.—The Special Relief Department is mentioned in this general way, because a more particular report belongs to another officer. I may, however, mention more particularly one establishment belonging to this Department, as it was established during my term of service, and more especially for the use of the sick and wounded of the Army of the Potomac—I refer to the Soldier's Rest, in Alexandria. This may be considered as holding a relation to the Army of the Potomac analogous to that of the Lodge at Aquia, when the army was opposite Fredericksburg. Finding that numbers of sick and wounded were arriving in Alexandria, and were exposed to much privation on their arrival, I dispatched Mr. James Richardson to ascertain what could be done towards establishing a house for temporary relief. He found in Col. J. H. Devereux, the Superintendent of Military Railroads and Transportation, a willing appreciator of all our plans, and one very willing to aid in their execution. A building was appropriated for the purpose of a Soldier's Lodge, and through the assistance and liberality of Col. Devereux, one of the neatest and most useful Lodges now maintained by the Commission has been placed upon a firm and secure basis. I refer to Mr. Richardson's own report for a very lucid account of the establishment of this Lodge, (Document 6.) Mr. Edgerly's report of its operations from August 13 to September 20 (Document 7) will give an idea of the benefits that have already resulted.

Physiological Examination of Soldiers.—The examinations and measurements of soldiers, for the collection of materials in the Department of Vital Statistics, have been continued at Camp Barry by Messrs. Buckley and Balch. Mr. E. B. Fairchilds has been engaged on like duty at Davids Island, with the Confederate prisoners confined there. By permission of Col. Hoffman, Commissary-General of Prisoners, he will go to Pt. Lookout as soon as transportation can be procured, with a view of prosecuting this work to a greater extent than was possible at Davids Island. The deductions to be made from these measurements being likely to prove of the greatest possible benefit to military and sanitary science, I advise their continuance for at least three months longer. It is only by a large quantity of data that we shall be in condition to discuss their value, and to arrive at reliable results.

Baltimore.—In Baltimore the storehouse has been in charge of Mr. J. T. Pancoast, who has worked with a zeal and honesty of purpose worthy of all imitation, not only in the discharge of his duties as Depot Agent, but as Hospital Visitor. This agency has been of immense importance, as many of the supplies forwarded to Gettysburg and Frederick, during and after the Confederate invasion of the loyal States, were purchased in Baltimore, where Mr. Knapp had located his headquarters for this special purpose. In this complicated business Mr. Pancoast always proved to be most valuable as an aid. The Special Relief Department in Baltimore has been in charge of Mr. Bullard.

A full examination of the Hospitals of Baltimore was made, in accordance with orders from this office, by Inspector Julius Nichols, early in the month of September. From an examination of this (Document 8) a very excellent idea may be obtained of the present condition and capacity of these Hospitals.

Hospitals at Hagerstown, Boonsborough, and Harper's Ferry.—The Hospitals at Hagerstown, Boonsborough, Harper's

Ferry, and Maryland Heights, have been visited at stated terms by Messrs. Hiram Schisler and John C. Stranahan, and such wants as were discovered were freely supplied from the storehouse at Frederick. This storehouse will be closed in a few days, as the necessity for its continuation has ceased. During the twelve months of its existence it has disbursed many thousands of dollars worth of stores to the wounded of the battles of South Mountain and Antietam, and to the needy and sick of the army within a circle of 30 miles radius, since the occurrence of these memorable battles. Its mission has, however, been closed, and I hope the changing fortunes of war will not necessitate its re-establishment. The soldiers have had abundant cause to bless the beneficence of the loyal people, who enabled the Commission to furnish it so abundantly, that all wants of the army, as fast as they have been made known, have been supplied.

Norfolk and Vicinity.—On the 5th of August I ordered Mr. James Gall, Jr., to proceed to Norfolk and take charge of our relief work in that Department. He has faithfully performed the duties of Relief Agent since that date, acquiring much credit for himself and the Commission by his indefatigable labors. His Reports, eight in number, furnished this office weekly, will show how faithfully and with what good results he has labored. (See Documents 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16.)

The sick-rate at Norfolk having increased to 30 per cent., I deemed it important to direct the attention of the Acting Surgeon-General to this important fact. He immediately had a medical inspection made of the Department, and adopted measures to obviate, as far as possible, the causes of disease. Although the sick-rate increased to between 40 and 50 per cent., still I have the happiness now to state that this rate is diminishing. We have issued largely to all the hospitals and regiments in the Department, having been able to keep up the supplies through the propeller Elizabeth, placed under our orders by the Q. M. Department. These supplies have included large quantities of antiscorbutics and the other articles comprised on our supply list.

The arrival of negro troops in this Department, and the existence of camps of contrabands, some in Government employ and others only receiving Government support, demanded instructions as regards the policy of the Commission in this respect. I ordered Mr. Gall to furnish to troops (without reference to color) our supplies on requisitions of medical officers, and to aid moderately sufferers in employ of Quartermasters and Commissaries; but also that beyond these two classes of persons, in my opinion, the supplies of the Commission could not be extended. As this has been the policy of the Commission in the past, so far as I understand it, I presume my action will be approved, as regards the department of Norfolk. It has, at least, given satisfaction thus far.

Mr. Gall has done essential service to us by his efforts to effect the release of our officers who were in the hands of the Confederates. The Report of Dr. Douglas on the battles of Gettysburg contained a full account of the seizure of these officers. Efforts were made to obtain their release, through petitions from Confederate surgeons in our lines, addressed to Gen. Robert Lee, private letters from citizens of the District of Columbia to their friends in Richmond, and a direct communication from myself (dated Aug. 28, 1863) to Robert Ould, Esq., Confederate Commissioner for the Exchange of Prisoners. To these efforts must be added the valuable services of Gen. Meredith, the U. S. Commissioner. Mr. Gall aided in all these, and finally, on the 22d ult., the trivial technicalities on which these officers were retained being removed, they were delivered to Gen. Meredith, and once more breathed loyal air. Mr. Alfred Brengle has, however, still been retained by the Confederate Government, under plea that he was seized because he had conveyed stores to a beleaguered post.

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Newbern, North Carolina.—Dr. J. M. Page, Sanitary Inspector, assisted by Mr. Page as Storekeeper, has charge of this District. No letters or Reports have been received from there during my term of service, excepting regular transmissions of accounts of stock and lists of sick and wounded for the Directory.

Beaufort and Morris Island.—Dr. M. M. Marsh, assisted by Mrs. Marsh, has been in charge of this District. His communications have shown how indispensable have been the supplies which the Commission has furnished to the troops engaged in active operations on Morris Island, and how these have been received by the soldiers as well as officers. General Gilmore has issued a special commendatory order with reference to the efficiency of the Commission, and Dr. Marsh has received full assurances from him of the acceptability of our work. As Dr. Douglas has made a recent inspection of this District, and as all the supplies have been forwarded directly from New York, I pass over this portion of my report, presuming that full information will be furnished from other sources.

New Orleans.—Inspector G. A. Blake has been in charge of this District. It is probable that the Army of this Department will be employed in a movement towards the occupation of Texas. A wide sphere for the operations of the Sanitary Commission will thus be opened up.

Western Virginia.—Finding that the troops under General Kelly's command occupying stations and camps from Cumberland eastward to Point of Rocks were in need of supplies, I ordered Dr. Julius Nichols to inspect these troops, and to report their needs as they met his eye in his course of inspection. He has already made requisitions to meet the wants of the Hospitals in Cumberland and Martinsburg. Thence he goes westward, and will return here next week and report the result of his inspection. Should his report be ready before the adjournment of the Commission, I will send it in for your consideration. [This report was made at the close of the session.]

The Army of the Potomac.—The first labors of the Commission were directed to its sanitary condition, and when the work of furnishing relief to the needy and suffering was undertaken as a part of the Commission's duties, it began the work in this Army with a zeal that has continued down to the present time undiminished in its day of defeat or triumph. Early in May, 1863, the operations of the Commission in the Army were consigned to the care of the present writer, which has been continued to the date of the present report, excepting so much as had reference to the operations for a few weeks after the battle of Gettysburg. Dr. J. H. Douglas, one of the Associate Secretaries, was in charge at the latter place during the period to which reference is made, returning the duty to my hands afterwards.

With the view of meeting wants as they might arise in the field, and of preventing that suffering peculiar to armies separated from their base of supplies, the Field Relief Corps was reorganized shortly after the battle of Gettysburg. A special report has been made on the subject of this organization to the Executive Committee, which is now passing through the printer's hands. The design is to have a corps of gentlemen acting as relief agents, each in a separate corps, furnished with his own means of transportation, and lodging in the field. We have been peculiarly fortunate in our selections. The agents are welcomed as co-laborers in the great war of law and right by the officers. They furnish the needed articles just where they are needed, and personally superintend the distribution, keeping an eye always to the proper use of what they have issued. While laboring for the good of the whole Army, each feels a special pride in seeing that his own special family—the Corps to which he belongs—is kept in the best possible condition. He feels a generous spirit of rivalry towards his fellow-agents, and is not willing that his own work should be, in any manner, inferior to that of his brethren. By a system of weekly reports made to the Chief Inspector, the latter is enabled to control the whole movement of the Corps and to keep up a complete knowledge of the perfection or imperfection of the machinery employed. A package of these reports is herewith submitted to the inspection of the Commission, so that an idea may be gained of the ability of the men employed in this work. Much information is acquired in these reports that has heretofore been furnished by the formal inspection of our inspectors. They have frequently served as a basis of action in regard to the sanitary condition of regiments, as well as the nature of the supplies demanded by the troops.

The promptness with which our agents make their appearance when needed may be well illustrated by an extract from the last Report of the Agent of the Second Army Corps, which was on the advance when the movement was made towards Culpepper. He says: "During the last two weeks of movements, I have the satisfaction of knowing that my wagon was always ahead of any other means of relief; that I dispensed relief to wounded cavalry from the front within an hour after their wounds were received. While our own team was in motion I have passed out articles to surgeons in charge of ambulance trains returning from the front." * * * * * * *

The Medical Inspector of this Army says, "We could not do without the Commission; it furnishes so many things which cannot be obtained from Government." The Medical Director says, "It gives me no trouble; there is no interference."

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With the view of obtaining materials for the discussion of *the effects of long marches and inadequate food on troops*, Inspector W. S. Swalm has been detailed, in accordance with a plan agreed upon by the Chief of the Statistical Department and myself, for this duty. He has nearly completed an examination of two corps, having made between sixty and eighty inspections of regiments. Should any change of plans in the Army bring on another engagement before this work is completed, the data already obtained by Dr. S. will be of the greatest possible importance; but their value will be much enhanced should he be enabled to finish this work.

GETTYSBURG.—Our work with the wounded continues to the present time. Dr. Gordon Winslow, formerly Chaplain of Duryea's Zouaves, was placed, by Dr. J. H. Douglas, in charge of the operations at this place. Samuel Bacon, Jr., has been acting as Storekeeper. This depot has been invaluable. In addition to the enormous distribution of stores mentioned in Dr. Douglas' Report, (Document 71,) the issues have been very large down to the present time. As soon as a want was detected—and Dr. Winslow seems to have been Argus-eyed in this particular—it has been supplied. We have purchased, on Hospital Fund account, everything required for the Hospital which was not obtainable from the Commissary. The bills for these purchases, amounting to over $3,000 up to August 15, were paid by the Commissary. Since that time these purchases have amounted to between $3,000 and $4,000. They will also be paid by the Commissary.

In order to show the esteem in which the Commission is held by medical officers at Gettysburg, the following paper has been signed by them:

CAMP LETTERMAN HOSPITAL,
Near Gettysburg, Sept. 26th, 1863.

The undersigned, surgeons and assistant surgeons of the General Hospital near Gettysburg, take pleasure in expressing our gratification at the manner in which the affairs of the Sanitary Commission have been managed in this place since the late battle. The supplementary articles for the sick and wounded soldiers have been abundant, comprising every requisite which the exigency demanded, and which nothing but a well-regulated system, with much experience and forethought, could have secured. We are furthermore convinced that the system adopted by the Sanitary Commission of disbursing their supplies only on the requisition of a surgeon, is the only proper and safe method. Any other course necessarily supposes an extra force, which is calculated to cumber the hospital with irresponsible attendants, distract the public benefactions, if not divert them from a just and equal distribution among the patients for whom they are intended.

Henry Janes, Surg. U. S. V. In charge of Hospital, Gettysburg.
E. N. Chamberlain, Surg. U. S. V. In charge General Hospital.
S. W. Oakley, Surg. U. S.V., and Acting Medical Purveyor.
J. D. Osborne, Surg. 4th N. J. V., and Executive Officer of Camp.
W. F. Breakey, Assistant Surg. 16th Mich. Infantry.
H. C. May, Assistant Surg. 145th Regiment, N. Y. V.
J. B. Sturdevant, Assistant Surg. Penn. Vols.
Chas. S. Gauntt, M.D., A. A. Surgeon, U. S. A.

B. F. Butcher, A. A. Surg,, U. S. A.
J. A. M'Arthur, A. A. Surg., U. S. A.
W. L. Hays, A. A. Surgeon, U. S. A.
H. H. Sutton, A. A. Surgeon, U. S. A.
E. P. Townsend, A. A. S., U. S. A.
Albert B. Stonelake, Ass't Surg. U. S. A.; in charge of 7th Division.
D. R. Good, A. A. Surg., U. S. A.
P. S. Leisenring, A. A. Surg., U. S. A.

HOSPITAL VISITING.—This subject is so well treated in the Report of Dr. Caldwell that I can do no better than to direct attention of the Commission to the same. I must, however, give my testimony in favor of the honest and conscientious manner in which Dr. Caldwell has executed the delicate duties of a Hospital Visitor. He has temporarily retired from its duties, expecting to resume the same during the coming month. Until that time his place will be supplied by some other employee of the Commission.

ISSUES.—I submit an account of the issues made during the months of August and September from the Washington Storehouse. This will enable the Commission to understand how large the issues have been. Further particulars as to the directions these issues have taken may be obtained from the books of the Central Office.

The issues from the storehouses have been very large, in consequence of our systematic plan of visiting the armies near Washington, and more especially the Army of the Potomac. As the result of this our stock of some woolen goods is becoming low, and in the item of stimulants we have been obliged to purchase largely, but (I believe) on fair terms, in the Washington market. I am satisfied that the amount misused is now as near the *minimum* as is possible. The agents are, as a general thing, careful in this respect, and from experience have learned whom to trust.

In closing this Report, I must express my belief that the Commission has done all that could have been reasonably expected from it during the last two months; and that more may be expected hereafter in consequence of the experience acquired in the past, if a sufficient amount of supplies and funds be placed at its command. Officers are working with a quiet enthusiasm which could not be obtained for money, or any other reward; and every employee will find it a source of incalculable pleasure, in the future, that he once labored in its ranks, at the command of a great people, whose souls' heartiest wish and desire was that no suffering should exist in the Army of the Union which might be prevented by anything procurable through money or kind words.

With due respect,
Your humble servant,
LEWIS H. STEINER,
Chief Inspector A. of P.,
Acting Associate Secretary.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1, 1863.

REPORT OF THE HOSPITAL DIRECTORY BUREAU.

SANITARY COMMISSION,
Oct. 1, 1863.

TO DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS,
Gen'l Sec'y:

SIR—In my last Report, of June 9th, I had the satisfaction of saying that the Hospital Directory of the U. S. Sanitary Commission was receiving regular returns from every General Hospital of the U. S. Army. This remark still holds good. I have to report no increase in the number of Hospitals from which Reports are received at the Central Office, or its several branches.

The number of names recorded on the books of the Hospital Directory from June 9th to Oct. 1st have been as follows:

At the Washington Office	64,635
" New York "	18,771
" Philadelphia "	12,213
" Louisville, from May 9..	96,433
Total	192,052
Add number of names on record June 9th	215,221
And we have a grand total of..	407,273

Recorded as follows:

Washington Office, to Oct. 1, '63	169,007
New York " " "	27,320
Philadelphia " " "	24,513
Louisville " " "	186,433
Total	407,273

The number of applications for information and the number of answers rendered, from the organization of the Directory to Oct. 1, 1863, have been as follows:

Washington	Office,	No. Inq.	6,712	No. Ans.	4,524
New York	"	"	656	"	474
Philadelphia	"	"	547	"	348
Louisville	"	"	5,852	"	4,016
Total No. Inq.			13,767	Tot. Ans.	9,362

The Monthly Abstract Sheets are being regularly tabulated, as reported in my last, and as the new form of the Morning Report from Hospitals recently recommended by the Surgeon-General is being adopted throughout the Army, the continuation of this branch of the Hospital Bureau will require an increase of the clerical force of two, and perhaps four, competent persons for the work of tabulating.

The tabulated returns of casualties as rendered to this Bureau, of the actions at Gettysburg and Morris Island, July 18th, are herewith presented.

An interesting incident, showing how the Hospital Directory can be of aid to the soldier, has just transpired.

One —— ——, Co. C, 64th Regiment New York Volunteers, has by the death of relatives abroad become heir to a fortune of half a million of dollars. But where is private ——? He has not been heard from for a long time, and it is not known whether he is alive or not. It was suggested that the Sanitary Commission be applied to for information.

The reply to the inquiry was as follows: —— ——, Co. C, 64th Regiment, New York Volunteers, was admitted to U. S. General Hospital, Camp A, Frederick, Md., Nov. 26th, 1862, transferred to Camden St. Hospital, Baltimore, May 17, 1863, and again transferred to Fort Schuyler Hospital, New York, April 24, 1863. On the 17th July following, he was detached to the 1st Battalion Invalid Corps, and is now on duty at Jamaica, Long Island, N. Y.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN BOWNE,
Superintendent Hospital Directory.

REPORT OF SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
CENTRAL OFFICE, U. S. SANITARY COM'N,
October 1st, 1863.

DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS,
General Secretary:

SIR—My last report upon Special Relief was dated December 15th, 1862. The present report furnishes the statistics of the work from that time to the present date, October 1st, 1863, a period of nine and a half months.

The main purpose kept in view in this work of Special Relief for the past two years has been this, as indicated by previous reports:

First. To supply to the sick men of the newly arrived regiments such medicines, food, and care as it is impossible for them to receive, in the midst of the confusion, and with the unavoidable lack of facilities, from their own officers. The men to be thus aided are those who are not so sick as to have a claim upon a general hospital, and yet need immediate care to guard them against serious sickness.

Second. To furnish suitable food, lodging, care and assistance to men who are honorably discharged from service, sent from general hospitals, or from their regiments, but who are often delayed a day or more in the city, sometimes many days before they obtain their papers and pay.

Third. To communicate with distant regiments in behalf of discharged men whose certificates of disability or descriptive lists on which to draw their pay prove to be defective—the invalid soldiers meantime being cared for, and not exposed to the fatigue and risk of going in person to their regiments to have their papers corrected.

Fourth. To act as the unpaid agent or attorney of discharged soldiers who are too feeble or too utterly disabled to present their own claim at the paymaster's office.

Fifth. To look into the condition of discharged men who assume to be without means to pay the expense of going to their homes; and to furnish the necessary means where we find the man is true and the need real.

Sixth. To secure to disabled soldiers railroad tickets at reduced rates; and, through an agent at the railroad station, see that these men are not robbed or imposed upon by sharpers.

Seventh. To see that all men who are discharged and paid off do at once leave the city for their homes; or, in cases where they have been induced by evil companions to remain behind, to endeavor to res-

cue them, and see them started with through-tickets to their own towns.

Eighth. To make reasonably clean and comfortable before they leave the city, such discharged men as are deficient in cleanliness and clothes.

Ninth. To be prepared to meet at once with food or other aid, such immediate necessities as arise when sick men arrive in the city in large numbers from battle-fields or distant hospitals.

Tenth. To keep a watchful eye upon all soldiers who are out of hospitals, yet not in service; and give information to the proper authorities of such soldiers as seem endeavoring to avoid duty or to desert from the ranks.

On this basis of objects aimed at, I report concerning the work during the past nine months in general terms:

1. Most of these old methods of relief have been continued with satisfactory success.

2. Some new methods of relief have been resorted to, which, in their practical working, have justified their introduction.

3. The class of men rightfully claiming this Special Relief assistance of the Commission has enlarged, embracing with those to whom help was previously given, others whose newly-developed or increasing needs naturally brought them under our care.

4. The arrangements which are made by the Commission in this direction (Special Relief) has evidently become still more generally known, and applied for, and appreciated throughout the Army.

5. The co-operation of the Medical Department of the Army, as also of the Quartermaster's, Commissary's and Paymaster's Departments, has been still more ready and cordial even than before.

6. The cost of maintaining this branch of the Commission's work during the past nine (9) months has somewhat diminished relatively to the number of men who have been assisted, and the amount of assistance rendered to them; although the total amount is about one-half larger than in an equal term of time before.

7. While nine (9) months ago the direct call upon the Commission for help from disabled discharged soldiers, after they had returned to their homes, was but infrequent, it has now so largely increased (through applications made to the Special Relief Office) as to justify me in presenting to you in detail—appended to this report—some of the facts of the case, as also some statistics which I have collected bearing upon the subject; and to call your attention to the urgent necessity which evidently exists for having, from some source as early as possible, a comprehensive and practical system matured and instituted, which will provide for this class of men; unless we would have throughout the community a host of mendicants who, pointing to their honorable wounds and disabled bodies, will have established their necessity and right to live upon the charity of the people.

Having made these general statements, I will now report, in detail, but briefly as may be, upon the several branches of Relief;—and first, at Washington:

1st. "*The Home*," 374 *North Capitol Street.*—Increased accommodations for securing room and comfort at the Home, referred to in my last report, have been obtained; and now, instead of 140 beds, we have at the Home 320, besides a large baggage-room, a convenient washroom, a bath-house, &c. Two of the additional buildings, one 16 feet by 60, the other 28 feet by 90, were put up by the Quartermaster's Department. The third building, 30 feet by 50 (with an L 20 by 35) for a "Hospital," this was at the expense of the Commission, at a cost of about $800. The necessity for this building, devoted exclusively to Hospital purposes, is found in the fact, that although the men who come under the care of the Commission are mostly on their way to their homes, and might therefore be supposed to be not so very feeble as to need specially "Hospital" treatment, yet, as a matter of fact, many of them are weakened to such a degree by disease, that by the time they reach Washington, or the railway station from the front, or from the various hospitals, their strength is nearly exhausted, and they are only restored, if at all, by such care as hospital treatment affords; and frequently they are too far gone to make even that available, as is indicated by the record, which shows that from February 23d to October

1st, there were received at the Home 665 men, very sick, who were placed in the new Hospital, of which number thirty-eight died there. This was from February 23d, when this new building was opened; but dating back to December 15th, there has been under the charge of the Commission, including those just named, some 900 men who were very sick and feeble, of which number a total of sixty-one (61) have died at the Home. These were nearly all men having their discharge papers with them, and they had, consequently, given up their claim upon the General or Regimental Hospitals, and had taken the first stage of their journey towards their homes. If they had not found the care which the Commission thus offered to them, these same men must have died in the cars along the way, or at some stopping-point on their journey. Of the remaining 840 of these very feeble men, we have reason to believe that many, except for the care and rest secured to them by the provision of the Commission, could not have lived through their journeys.

This unusually large proportion of very sick or dying men who came into our hands is accounted for by the fact, that at the time of the advance movement of the Army in the spring, and the breaking up of the Corps Hospitals near Aquia Creek, discharge papers were granted to many soldiers who, in their earnest desire once more to reach their homes, counted upon more strength than was left to them, and so they came to us, and waited there till, with straining eyes, and one hand reached out towards the friends they had hoped and longed to see, they died. And allow me here to record this fact, that although these men died thus waiting, hoping, watching to catch the light which almost fell upon them from their firesides at home, yet from the lips of no one of those sixty dying men has a murmur or complaint been heard; tender messages did they leave to be sent on, but not one word of repining at their fate; no syllable of regret that they had joined the ranks—discharged from the service they were, but soldiers still—they died in their country's cause.

In charge of this "Home Hospital" is an experienced and kindly nurse as Matron, Miss Charlotte Bradford, who served faithfully last summer upon the "Hospital Transports;"—there are day and night watchers, and all facilities for giving cheerfulness and comfort to these men detained by the way.

The surgeon now in charge of the Home is Dr. T. B. Smith, whose report accompanies this; his labors are successful. Dr. Smith is also Medical Examiner for Pensions, for the Commission. The former surgeon in charge, Dr. Grymes, who for nearly a year and a half had given his whole soul and strength to the work, died in January last. He was at his post almost till the hour of his death, though too feeble to walk without support. He had a loyal and a loving heart, and the Commission as well as the soldiers certainly have cause to remember him with the deepest, tenderest gratitude.

In order to show more in detail the work of the "Home," I make the following extracts from the Report of Dr. Smith, included in the Report of Mr. J. B. Clark, the Superintendent:

"On many occasions, either during my visits to the sick, or just previous to their departure for home or their regiments, have soldiers spontaneously, and with emotions of gratitude, exclaimed, 'Doctor, this is very unexpected kindness,' 'I have seen no such care and comfort since leaving my home.' One recently said to me, while sitting in the Hospital and looking upon the completion of arrangements for his departure, 'Doctor, I have been so kindly treated here, and been helped so much more than at any time before, since my sickness, that I am almost afraid to go beyond that door.' These are a few of many grateful expressions which the comfort they have enjoyed has called forth from the soldiers under treatment in this Hospital; and not from these only; for we keep at the Home constantly a supply of beds, stretchers, and comforts of all kinds, to be placed on board the cars when needed there—articles which are daily sent for from the railroad station, where notice is given that all these aids are ready, near by, for any sick soldier who needs them on his journey.

That the community at large are only partially informed of the character and

amount of good work done in this institution, I am well satisfied, judging from the expressions of favorable surprise made by citizen visitors and relatives of soldiers who come in from abroad, and thus see and judge for themselves. The procuring of pay, pensions, and transportation for the men while they lie comfortably in the Hospital under treatment, would alone be accomplishing much, the omission of which would cause indescribable suffering, and loss and anxiety to the disabled soldier."

"Many within the past four months have reached the 'Home' in a dying condition. Such have invariably, I believe, been carefully watched; their own names, and parents' or friends' names and residences obtained and recorded; their effects secured, labeled, and stored away safely. When thought wise, on account of time requisite to reach this city, their friends have been informed of all these circumstances by telegraph. The dead are in all instances afforded a proper burial in the Government grounds, and each grave properly designated; or, if so requested by friends, the bodies are forwarded."

"In June last many of the two years' regiments went home, and on their way through this city, their wounded and sick who were too feeble to go forward with the regiments, entered our little Hospital. Over 120 have in this way either stopped, to be subsequently properly disposed of in General Hospitals, or simply to have their wounds dressed and eat a meal, to invigorate them for the tiresome railroad journey before them."

"The doors of the 'Home' are open night and day; yet vigilant watch is kept, not to harbor any man who ought to be with his regiment, or reporting to some Medical Officer. Otherwise, the 'Home' would quickly become what of course there is, as we are ready to acknowledge, apparent and real danger of its becoming, unless wisely managed, viz., *a philanthropic interference* with Army discipline, pleading its humanity as an excuse for its intrusion. To unite tender kindness and cordial welcome with the exercise of a discriminating judgment, and often stern authority, is not easy; but I believe that in our Special Relief work the presence of the one does not exclude the working of the other, and that not the soldier only, but the Army, is the stronger because of the 'Home.' The name of every man who enters there is recorded, his papers examined, and how he came there, found out. Whenever there is a doubt about the man, a thorough investigation of his case is at once made, which sometimes results in turning over to the military authorities deserters, and men who think that within the walls of a charitable institution they can find a ready shelter for a mean shirking of duty.

"I enter this record because it is needed to answer the honest objection which, on the ground of its 'tendency to weaken military discipline,' might be made to the fundamental principle on which the Special Relief work of the Sanitary Commission is based, and on which the Homes and Lodges, scattered now all over the East and West, are founded. The authority and importance of military discipline are not set aside or lost sight of; on the contrary, they are always rigidly insisted upon. In this work the Sanitary Commission, as the representatives of the people at home, seeks to do precisely what it believes would gladly be done—were it right or possible to enter into this kind of work—by the Military and Medical authorities themselves, under the administration which the people all so cordially desire to support."

To turn again to the records of the Home.

Number of different individuals received there from Dec. 15th, 1862, to October 1st, 1863	7,187
Number of nights' lodging furnished	26,523
Number of meals furnished	65,621

Almost all the men received here have been men discharged from the service on account of disability, wounds, or continued sickness. Of these, one-half at least were delayed in the city on account of imperfections in some of their discharge papers, the final statements, on which to draw their pay, requiring often a number of days for their correction.

The Superintendent's report divides the 7,187 men received recently at the Home as follows:

Maine	374
New Hampshire	194

Vermont	177
Massachusetts	865
Rhode Island	63
Connecticut	152
New York	2,063
New Jersey	410
Pennsylvania	1,658
Delaware	29
Maryland	35
Virginia	36
California	3
Michigan	259
Ohio	178
Indiana	118
Illinois	55
Wisconsin	199
Minnesota	10
Colorado	3
District of Columbia	5
U. S. Army, (Regulars)	262
U. S. Navy	1
Quartermaster's Department	8
Political Refugees	7
Contract Nurses	53

Next in order after the "Home" is *Lodge No.* 2, in "17th" Street: this was no longer needed, and was closed in March; larger accommodations more centrally situated rendered its continuance unnecessary.

Number of nights' lodging given them from Dec. 15th to March 12th	1,550
Number of meals	2,130

Lodge No. 3, in "F" Street. When this Lodge was built, the office for the payment of discharged soldiers was near by, in "F" St.; that office having been removed to "H" St., this Lodge has been closed: (it now is used as the local storehouse of the Commission, and furnishes excellent accommodations.)

From Dec. 15th until it was closed, this Lodge furnished nights' lodging	3,760
Meals	17,960

Lodge No. 4, in "H" Street. This is the new Lodge with large accommodations, immediately connected with the office of the Paymaster for discharged soldiers. It was opened about the 1st of February.

Number of nights' lodging furnished at Lodge No. 4, from February 1st to Oct. 1st	9,832
Number of meals furnished	50,096

This relief station consists of six buildings. A dormatory of a hundred beds: a dining-room, seating about one hundred, with a large kitchen attached: a baggage-room, where all the discharged men coming in to be paid off can deposit their baggage, receiving a check for it: a storehouse: quarters for the guard: and a building containing the office of the Free Pension Agency, office of the Medical Examiner for pensions, and ticket office for the Railroad agent, selling through-tickets to soldiers at reduced rates of fare.

All disabled soldiers discharged directly from the Army of the Potomac or from the Hospitals in this vicinity come to the Paymaster's office, which is within this same inclosure, to be paid off. Government can no longer hold itself directly responsible for these men, and here is where we take them up. Yet Government cordially cooperates in our work, furnishing to the Commission part of these very buildings, and giving such army rations at this Lodge as we can use for these men advantageously with our other supplies.

The object of the whole thing at this Lodge is this, viz.: so to supply to the discharged soldier close at his hand and without a cent of cost, all that he needs—food, lodging, assistance in correcting his papers, aid in looking up his claims, help in obtaining his pension and his bounty—such that there can be no excuse or opportunity for the soldier to put himself or be put into the hands of claim agents and sharpers, or to go out and expose himself to the temptations of the city.

To secure this end, every man who comes to the paymaster with his discharge, at once receives a ticket insuring him care and a helping hand; and by an arrangement with the paymaster, whenever a man appears with defective papers, he is at once referred to the Relief Office for assistance or advice. The work at that office occupies three persons constantly, besides those who go with cases that have to be looked up personally at the hospitals or with the regimental officers in the field, and cannot be arranged by correspondence.

To indicate something of the kind of work done here, I make the following extract from the report of Mr. J. B. Abbott, who has served most faithfully and efficiently as Assistant Special Relief Agent, with his office at Lodge No. 4, and upon whom almost the entire responsibility in this department for the past year has rested.

"At this office and Lodge No. 4, from Jan'y 1st to Oct. 1st, 1863, the number of discharged soldiers whose accounts against the Government have been settled through our assistance, men who were too feeble to attend to settling their own accounts, or who were unable to obtain their pay, because of some charge against them on the pay-rolls, or some errors in their papers, 2,130."

Information and directions have been given relative to settling pay accounts, collecting arrears of pay, extra duty pay, commutation money to about 9,000 men.

The aggregate value of the 2,130 cases amounted to $130,159.01. This amount was collected and paid to the soldiers through this office.

But for the gratuitous aid thus afforded these soldiers discharged from the service, disabled by wounds or worn down by long marches and exposure in the field, or enfeebled by disease, anxious to get home, would have applied to "Claim Agents" for aid in obtaining speedily their dues from the Government, submitting willingly to pay a commission ranging from 10 to 40 per cent. These agents, with some rare and admirable exceptions, in four cases out of every five, impede the settlement of accounts instead of facilitating them.

Taking 10 per cent. as an average, which is the lowest commission usually charged by Claim Agents, the amount saved to the soldiers in adjusting the 2,130 cases of which a record has been kept, is shown to be $13,015.90. Add to this 10 per cent. of the probable aggregate value of the 9,000 cases in which information and directions have been given, (for in most of these cases the soldiers would otherwise have gone to Claim Agents,) and the amount saved to the soldiers through the Commission by this office is shown to be at least $70,000 during nine months ending Sept. 30th.

The number of letters written in adjusting the above cases of sufficient importance to make a copy necessary, 2,224.

Many of the cases have been very difficult to adjust, requiring several weeks to complete them. Below I add extracts of two or three cases from a day's record of the Journal, which will show explicitly the character of the cases we adjust and the difficulties we meet with in completing them.

"Serg't Edward W. M. Passage, Company F, 16th Reg't Mich. Vols. Enrolled at Plymouth, Mich., in July, 1861, to serve three years or during the war. 'Discharged by reason of a Surgeon's Certificate of disability, given at Convalescent Camp, April 30th, 1863.' The Commander of the Post being unable to obtain from his Company Commander his descriptive list, the date of last payment could not be given in his final statements, nor his clothing account, except the amount ($3.60) of extra clothing drawn at Convalescent Camp. Left his regiment in June, '62, just previous to the battles before Richmond, having fallen a victim to the malarial fever; was put into one of the corps hospitals for a few days, and then sent to Fortress Monroe, where he remained a short time. He was then transferred to General Hospital in Philadelphia. In this Hospital he received a furlough for thirty days, and went home to Detroit, Michigan. At the expiration of his furlough, being unable to report back to Philadelphia, he reported, as soon as he was able, to the nearest military post, St. Mary's General Hospital, Detroit, Michigan; but not aware of the proper form, did not notify the surgeon in charge of the Hospital in Philadelphia, where he received his furlough; consequently he was marked '*deserter*,' and so reported to his Company Commander, who has borne him as 'a deserter' upon the subsequent pay-rolls.

"While in St. Mary's Hospital, having partially recovered his health, he received papers from Michigan authorizing him to recruit men for the service, at the same time receiving a furlough for twenty days, which was twice extended twenty days. At the expiration of his furlough extensions he reported to the commander of the Military Barracks at Detroit, who reported him for duty and forwarded him to Washington. From Washington he was sent to Convalescent Camp, and there pronounced unfit for military duty and discharged from the service."

"This man was not aware that he was marked 'a deserter' till he applied to the Paymaster-General to get indorsed upon his final statements the date of his last payment. Then he was informed that he was entitled to no pay, being borne 'a deserter' upon the pay-roll. He denied the charge, and was referred by the Chief Clerk to this office for assistance in getting the charge removed.

"We obtained a certificate from the surgeon or physician who attended him after the expiration of his furlough until he reported to St. Mary's Hospital, stating that during this time he was unable to report

because of disability. This certificate was given under oath before a Notary Public. Certificates were also obtained, one by one, from the several military posts where he had been, covering his time from the date he was marked a deserter to the date of his discharge. Upon these certificates we got the charge removed and secured his pay."

"Wm. Benty, private, Company F, 16th Regiment U. S. Infantry, enlisted at Clayton, Iowa, November 6th, 1861. 'Discharged on a surgeon's certificate of disability,' given at Camp Parole, Annapolis, Md., April 7th, 1863, 'because of a gunshot wound, the ball never having been extracted.' The wound has not healed, and it troubles him very much; he is anxious to get home; says he 'cares very little about his pay, if he can only get home.' He was wounded at Pittsburg Landing, Tennessee, sent to Hospital, Newport, Kentucky, where he remained nearly three months. The surgeon considered him unfit for military duty, and was willing to give him a discharge, but could not, as he could not obtain his descriptive list. At his own request, the commander of the post gave him a pass to go to his regiment, then in Northern Alabama, to get his descriptive list. On his way back he was taken prisoner by guerrillas, (this was about the 22d of August, 1862,) his money and effects taken from him, and his papers destroyed. He was sent to Chattanooga, thence to Macon, Georgia, and after nearly two months' confinement, was sent to Richmond and paroled on the 18th of October, 1862. At the expiration of his pass, given by the commander of the post at Newport, Kentucky, he had been marked 'a deserter,' as nothing had been heard of him, and so reported to his commanding officer, who marked him 'a deserter' upon the regimental pay-rolls.

"We obtained a certificate from the Commissary-General of paroled prisoners, giving the date of his capture and parole, gathered up one by one all the important facts of the case, and forwarded them to his Company Commander, so that at length we obtained a certificate, certifying that the man had been wrongly marked 'a deserter." Upon this evidence, the charge was removed and his pay secured, amounting to nearly one hundred and fifty dollars.

"This man we furnished transportation home, from money of the 'Ware Fund,' and when his account was settled, we forwarded him a draft for his money."

"George Poole, Company K, 3d Maryland Vols., enrolled in Company C, Baltimore Light Infantry, in Dec., 1861; he was subsequently transferred to Company B. In June, 1862, the Baltimore Light Infantry was consolidated with the 3d Indiana Vols. He was put into Company K, a new company formed at the time of consolidation. Discharged on a surgeon's certificate of disability given at Convalescent Camp; claims pay from the 28th of Feb'y, 1862, to the date of his discharge, except for the months of January, February, March, and April, 1863, for which months he was paid, except from the 29th of Jan'y to the 19th of Feb.; for this period his pay was deducted, he being marked a 'deserter.' I obtained an official certificate showing that he was not a deserter for this period, and got the charge removed, which entitles him to the amount deducted from his pay. To secure his back pay or get it endorsed upon his final statements, we were obliged to get statements from rolls in the 2d Comptroller's office, 2d Auditor's office, and offices of two regimental paymasters, besides examining several rolls in different accounts on file at the Paymaster-General's office, to verify his statement, or to obtain evidence that he was really entitled to the pay which he claimed.

"Having shown satisfactory evidence to the Pay Department that he was entitled to the pay which he claimed, it was endorsed upon his final statement, and his money secured, amounting to $186.85."

"We are daily completing such cases as the above, and some more complicated, which, except for the aid afforded by the Commission, would have been placed in the hands of claim agents before referred to, who usually charge in such cases from $25 to $50; or the soldiers would have disposed of their claims to some sharper for a passage home, as many of these men are very willing to do, after having been confined in hospitals for months, and anxious to reach their friends; and in such cases the man leaves with the word 'deserter' affixed to him."

"We are greatly indebted to the uniform kindness, consideration, and co-operation that has invariably been extended to us by the officers and clerks of the various Government offices with whom we have had business to perform. I desire especially to mention the names of E. H. Brooks, Esq., chief clerk, Paymaster-General's office, and Major D. Taylor, Paymaster of discharged soldiers."

"In submitting this report, I desire to bear testimony to the faithfulness of my assistants, and their constant interest in the work."

Lodge No. 5, near 6th Street Wharf. This was a small building, but it has rendered valuable service, giving food and shelter to sick or wounded men arriving on the boats from Aquia Creek, and furnishing food to be carried into such boats as, loaded with wounded, had no adequate provision for feeding the men on board.

An ambulance was stationed at this Lodge to take men to the Home, or to Hospitals: the Superintendent of the Lodge visited every boat immediately on its arrival at the wharf, and rendered all assistance and gave all needed information to the sick or wounded, taking those unable to walk in ambulances, and guiding the others to the horse-cars, and furnishing them with tickets to go to the Paymaster's office, or to the Home, or elsewhere, as the case might be.

There was one week, at the time of the breaking up of the Corps Hospitals near Aquia Creek, when we gave coffee and food to over five thousand (5,000) men on board the boats which arrived at the wharf.

The boats came up in such rapid succession, that with all the efficiency of the Medical Director, (and surely no man in the whole Medical Department—I am safe in saying—does or can more fully and admirably unite wise and energetic efficiency with kind and generous humanity, than does Dr. Abbott, the Medical Director at Washington), with all his promptness in having his entire train of ambulances at the wharf waiting night and day, it was simply impossible but that many of these men, numbered by thousands, should be detained often some hours before their turn would come to be removed. Meantime, they needed just the care we were ready to give to them.

This necessity existed, as is seen, from no oversight in having all reasonable provisions made.

And in this connection I may fitly refer, both for the sake of justice to the Medical Department, and as an apology for our own *existence*, to the frequent inquiry uttered, often in a tone of censure, how it is possible, if the Medical officers do their duty, that there can be any opportunity even for this supplementary work of relief.

The question shows utter ignorance of the terrific weight of work of the most complicated and delicate character, which the officers of the Medical Department had upon their hands, and of their constant liability to be called upon at any moment to meet great and unexpected emergencies. The fact is simply this: that while the Medical Department has made a larger and wiser provision for the comfort of the sick and the wounded than the world ever before saw, there is not, and cannot be, a minuteness of detail and a waiting at every corner to give to a fainting soldier a cup of water, such as friends at home in their anxious love ask for. Yet this work needs to be done, and therefore we, who are simply the hands to the people's heart and bounty, do the work. But if the Medical Department were to attempt it in all its minutiæ of detail, their power for their own hundred-fold greater work would be weakened in a way that would find no justification.

But to return from this digression: this Lodge, No. 5, was removed a month since to Maryland Avenue, near the R. R. Station, where it is doing the same work for the sick or wounded arriving by cars from the Army, which was formerly done on the wharf, for those arriving by boats.

The whole number of nights' lodging furnished at this building from Jan. 1st to Oct. 1st..... 1,620
Meals 14,590

Closely connected with the work at the Relief Station in Maryland Avenue is the Lodge at Alexandria, located within the stockade, near the railway track and junction, where all the cars to and from the Army stop. Here there is a Lodge 16 feet by 90, with an L 24x32, furnished with all conveniences of gas and water, and admirably arranged and conducted by Mr. James Richardaon, Special Relief Agent. Alexandria is now the "Gateway of the Army of the Potomac," and whenever a train of sick or wounded is coming in, a telegram is sent in advance from the front, and when the train arrives at this point food is ready for them and distributed among them while the train is waiting. Here, too, are often gathered at night sick men who arrive too late to go on to Washington, or who are unexpectedly delayed. A sign upon the office of Col. Devereux reads, "All sick, wounded, and invalid soldiers are requested to report to the Sanitary Commission Lodge."

The necessity for the existence of this Relief Station is indicated by the fact that during the first week after it was opened 1,761 meals were given here.

In January last "The Nurses' Home" was opened, under the care of Mrs. Dr. Caldwell, in Washington, near the Special Relief Office.

The Nurses' Home has proved a source of immense relief to nurses arriving in the city, and to those worn down by service at the hospitals and needing a few days of quiet and rest, and also to the wives and mothers, and sometimes daughters, of soldiers, who have come on seeking their husbands, or sons, or fathers, in the various hospitals. We have had a very large number, during the past two months, of this latter class to care for, who, utterly ignorant of the cost of the journey, and of obtaining board and lodging, even for a day or two, in the city, were utterly destitute and helpless. A number who were weary and almost broken-hearted have been received here as at a home. A number of refugees, also—mothers and little children —have been received here and warmed and clothed. This has proved in its working one of the *kindest* charities of the Commission.

Since the "Nurses' Home" was opened, in January, the total number of nights' lodging given here has been.....	1,583
Meals furnished.....	3,040
Number of different women sheltered and admitted.....	1,190
Total cost to Commission, about....	$2,300

In regard to the Free Pension Agency, I make the following extract from the Report of Mr. Bascom, the Director:

"The Pension Agency of the Sanitary Commission commenced its work on the 10th of February, 1863, and up to this date (Oct. 1st) 985 applications for invalid pensions have been made from this office, and the necessary papers filed in the Government Pension Bureau."

The Agency has proved a beneficent one to the soldiers in many ways.

1. "It has saved to them already an aggregate expense of more than *six thousand dollars*, ($6,000,) and at the same rate will save in a year over ten thousand ($10,005.)

2. "It has rescued them from imposition, annoyance, and a great amount of trouble, in ascertaining in what way to procure their pensions.

3. "It has aided a considerable number of soldiers to obtain complete testimony to sustain their claims after their regularly appointed and paid attorneys have refused, unless with additional fees, to procure essential evidence.

4. "It has also come to the relief of several who had employed and paid attorneys whom the Pension Office has refused, on account of some misconduct, to recognize as attorneys in any case.

"Finally, the Agency has been of no small service to the Government, in procuring and forwarding *all* the testimony bearing upon a claim—that which makes against a case, as well as that which makes for it. In this way it will undoubtedly save many hundreds of dollars to the Government in a moderate length of time."

Agency for getting Back Pay for Soldiers in Hospitals.—It was found that very many soldiers in hospitals had various amounts of back pay due them, which their families sorely needed, but which was so tied up, that it could not be collected without an amount of investigation and labor which the Paymasters had no right to bestow upon individuals.

An agent of the Commission, authorized by the Paymaster-General's Chief Clerk, has entered upon the work of obtaining the necessary information in each such case, so as to enable the Chief Clerk to furnish to the man a certificate of the pay due to him, so that he can draw his money upon it.

The report of Mr. Neal, the agent of the Commission, shows that in Stanton Hospital alone, during the first week of his work, the back pay of 56 men was thus collected. Some of it had been due six or eight months, and the men had been mustered and paid for intermediate months, leaving this which was due in the position of an old debt. The total amount of money thus put into the hands of these 56 men (almost every dollar of which, as I learned, was sent to their homes by the chaplain,) was over $3,000. The detail of this work involves much painstaking labor, but its results amply repay for the time, expense, and care.

Another agency connected with the Special Relief Office has been the work of seeking to guard the discharged soldiers while scattered through the city from being robbed or foully dealt with. For this purpose during the past six months we have employed, besides a relief agent, a "Detective," who visits the R. R. Station and all the places of resort, and whose duty it has

been to watch for and bring to justice all persons who were imposing upon the soldiers, detaining them, leading them astray, or committing fraud upon them; and the city is full of men who are thus lying in wait for the soldier. This detective, by means which need not be specified, has rendered great service, and his work is not ended.

The Relief Station and branch of the "Home" at "Convalescent Camp," Alexandria, near Fort Albany, is still under the care of Miss Amy M. Bradley, formerly matron of the "Home."

The whole work is managed efficiently and with great success. She has the confidence and co-operation of all the officers in charge of the *Corps*, and daily she comes with ambulances into Washington, to the Paymaster's office, and to the "Home" and Railway station, bringing the sick and discharged men who have been receiving her care.

Miss Bradley's report of the past nine months' labor in this camp of some five thousand men, shows what an amount of work can be done, relief afforded, influence exerted by one individual thoroughly in earnest, and with resources at hand.

Tickets directing the bearer to call at the Sanitary Commission Lodge, for such articles as the Surgeon may specify, are put into the hands of all the surgeons and officers in the camp, and as occasion calls these tickets are filled out and given to the invalids who need supplies. In this way, since June 1st, (four months,) Miss Bradley has distributed from the stock kept constantly on hand, some four thousand of shirts, drawers, socks, &c., besides some 10,000 smaller articles, such as towels, handkerchiefs, slippers, and the like. Previous to April, at which time regular hospitals were first established here, Miss Bradley, in hospital tents attached to the Lodge, attended to the very ill, receiving there during that time 125 sick men.

She accompanied to Washington to the Paymaster's office during four months, and assisted many of the more feeble in getting their pay, discharged soldiers whose united pay amounted to over $100,000.

In the camp she visits and writes letters for the sick, and in all ways practicable ministers "special relief."

It has been a good work, and I may fitly mention, that under the wise executive management of Lieut.-Col. McKelvey, the name "Convalesent Camp" no longer is associated with suffering, but is synonymous with care, comfort, and kind and liberal provision for all that the convalescent soldier needs.

The cost to the Commission of maintaining this branch of its work in Washington and vicinity, from Dec. 25th, 1862, to Oct. 1st, 1863, has been about $24,500. This does not include nine hundred and eighty dollars used from the "Ware Fund," so called, money placed in my hands for purposes which do not so legitimately come within the original work of the Commission, but which yet has an earnest claim. Thus with that money we have sent to their homes discharged soldiers who were destitute, or almost entirely destitute of means:—many fathers, mothers, and wives of soldiers;—some families of refugees who came to us in the saddest condition of want, and Army nurses from the front, sick or worked down by devoted labor.

Could I give a simple picture—in one group, as they pass before me—of all the persons who have been helped by the few hundred dollars, entering with their anxious faces, their camp-worn or travel-worn garments, some in mourning, some very aged and bowed down, and some as little children, it would be a picture that with warm breath would breathe a blessing, which could be felt by the very heart of all those who have furnished the means for these additional charities.

(The remainder of this report upon Special Relief, embracing a statement of the work at the North and West, will appear in the next number.)

REPORT FROM THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

STEVENSON, ALA., Oct. 10, 1863.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,

Sec'y Western Dep't U. S. Sanitary Commission, Louisville:

DEAR SIR—I regret that I am as yet unable to furnish you a detailed report of the operations of the Sanitary Commission in connection with the battles of Chickamauga

on the 19th and 20th ult. For the present I must beg you to gather an idea of the situation, so far as the Commission is concerned, from the hastily written letters and telegrams I have sent you from time to time, and from Rev. Mr. Heywood, who accompanied me to the front, and who returned some time since to Louisville. I can only at present give you an outline sketch, which I beg you to "fill in" with material already on hand.

Ever since the occupation of Chattanooga by our forces, our sole means of communication between that point and the railroad at Stevenson and Bridgeport have been by wagons over the Cumberland Mountains by two routes, the one being about 45 and the other about 60 miles from this place. The difficulties in the way of transportation were great, but not insurmountable. On the 17th of September seven army wagon-loads of well-selected stores were safely landed in Chattanooga, and on the 23d—thanks to the energy and perseverance of Mr. Murdrell, hospital steward of the 93d Ohio, three more loads were added to the stock. These stores constituted almost the entire dependence of the hospitals at Chattanooga until the Tuesday and Wednesday succeeding the battles. On those days trains containing portions of the Medical Purveyor's stores reached the front; thus furnishing another instance of the necessity of independent medical transportation.

On Monday the 21st, partly because of the pressing necessities of the hospitals, partly because of possible military contingencies, the order was given to distribute all the sanitary and medical stores on hand among the hospitals, and by Tuesday evening the Commission's rooms were cleared of their contents, and were occupied by our wounded men. Those who had not fallen into the hands of the enemy were made measurably comfortable. Dr. Read, who had been ailing for some time, and who had now, in addition, a wounded son thrown upon his hands, started on Tuesday, the 22d of September, with his son, and accompanied by Mr. M. C. Read, for the rear. The doctor, as I learned, (I passed him on the road without seeing him,) spent some time at Nashville, and then proceeded in search of much-needed rest at his home in Ohio. Mr. M. C. Read established his quarters at Stevenson, the principal depot for supplies, and commenced the reorganization of his department at this point. Mr. Redding, the storekeeper at Chattanooga, finding his occupation gone for the time being, returned to Bridgeport with the intention of accompanying such stores as could be transported over the mountains. Having started Mr. Larrabee to accompany six loads from Bridgeport, he came on to Stevenson, procured and loaded ten more wagons, and started with them for Chattanooga. On the day succeeding another wagon was added to another train, thus placing seventeen army wagon-loads on the road at one time. Various causes, among which was a remarkably heavy rain, conspired to delay the foremost trains, and at the time of the rebel raid five trains containing these seventeen wagons had accumulated near the foot, and on the hither side of the mountain. All were burned except a few loaded with forage, which were so wet that they could not be thus destroyed. Mr. Redding escaped, as did also Mr. Wm. Andrew. Larrabee had missed his train entirely, and reached Chattanooga before the attack. Dr. Barnum, the only remaining agent of the Commission at "the front," reported to Dr. Perin, the Medical Director of the department, for such duty as might be assigned him in caring for the wounded, and was assigned to temporary duty at U. S. General Hospital No. 1. On Tuesday Mr. Eno having inquired by courier from Bridgeport, as to the special wants at Chattanooga, dispatched some fifteen ambulance loads which were taken possession of at the General Field Hospital on the north side of the river. On Friday morning I reached Bridgeport, accompanied by Rev. Mr. Heywood and Mr. Bishop, and reached Chattanooga on the evening of Saturday, the 26th of September. The report of the former you have already received verbally, and those of the latter have been transmitted to the Hospital Directory as opportunity offered. Mr. Bishop has been very materially assisted in the labor of collecting the statistics of the killed, wounded and missing by Mr. M. D.

Bartlett, of Wisconsin, and has received some aid from others who came to the front as the accredited agents of the Sanitary Commission.

* * * * * *

One peculiarity of the situation here is the difficulty of transportation already alluded to, but, because of its bearing upon our work, of sufficient importance to call for more special mention. By the destruction of the bridge at Bridgeport, and the occupation of Lookout Mountain by the rebels, we were deprived of railroad communication with Chattanooga on the one hand, and on the other were cut off from the best route for wagon transportation. Two wagon roads over the mountain on the north side of the Tennessee River, which would elsewhere and under other circumstances be considered almost impassable, furnish the only available routes for the transportation of the *materiel* of war, the subsistence of troops, &c. This has very much impeded the work of the Commission in connection with the movements of the army beyond Bridgeport. Notwithstanding that every effort possible has been made at both ends of the route, the amount of transportation available for our purposes has been far short of the demand upon our stores, and of our ability otherwise to meet these demands. On the 17th ult., as already mentioned, seven wagon-loads, on the 23d, three wagon-loads, and on the 26th one wagon-load, and on the 29th fifteen ambulance loads of stores were all that could be got forward to the front during the month of September. Thus far this month we have been able to get but eight wagon-loads to Chattanooga. Besides these, four have gone in our service to the foot of the mountain with the appliances for the Lodge, and fifteen loads started for Chattanooga yesterday. Besides this, matters are now so far systematized that we can certainly depend on a certain amount of transportation in every train. All the stores which have gone forward were carefully selected, and have been of incalculable service. Besides these there have been frequent, and in some cases quite liberal distributions from the depots at Bridgeport and Stevenson upon requisitions of corps and division surgeons for the front: to the post hospitals at these places, and all along the route as far as Nashville, the wounded who were able to get forward have been constantly receiving such aid and comfort as were adapted to their necessities.

Thus much in a general way; the reports from Dr. Barnum, Dr. Castleman, Mr. Read, and of the disbursements from the various depots, all hereto appended, will give you the exact particulars connected with the supply department.

Such general inspection as I was enabled to make during my stay, indicated a very satisfactory state of health and feeling among our troops. Though not "exultant," or "panting to be led against the enemy," as newspaper reporters would have it, (there are few raw troops in this army,) they are in good heart, and ready to move at the word of command wherever their duty leads. Where half the time is spent in the trenches, and the other half in camps crowded together to the utmost state of compactness, perfect neatness of person and surroundings is impossible. They manage, however, to make themselves moderately comfortable with the appliances at their disposal, and their quarters show that considerable attention is paid to the observance of the conditions of health.

* * * * * *

In no one matter has our operations been more delayed by the difficulty of transportation than in the establishment of our "Mountain Lodge." On the 28th ult. I laid the plan for the establishment of a resting and feeding place on the ambulance route, for the benefit of the wounded in transitu, midway between Chattanooga and Stevenson, before Surgeon Perin, Medical Director of the Department. It at once received his hearty approbation, and the promise of every necessary aid. I readily procured the consent of Rev. O. Kennedy, Chaplain of the 101st Ohio, an excellent man, with a head, a heart and a hand always ready for any good work, to take charge of the Lodge, and have taken the liberty to appoint him an agent of the Commission for that purpose. Some delay was experienced in procuring the proper "detail" from his regiment, and he came to this place *via* the ambulance route, selecting the locality for the [illegible]

After much delay and many disappointments he started on the 9th with the tents, stores and furniture, and we can say with as much certainty as of any future event, that it will be in complete running order in time for the next train of wounded men. The deprivations and sufferings of those on the two trains which have already come over that dreaded passage, have convinced every one of the necessity of the Lodge, and there is no room for fear for the future in this regard. It is expected that each ambulance train will so arrange its movements as to stop at that point, where there is an abundance of wood and water, and will be abundance of wholesome, palatable food, and of kind attention, for a good night's rest. The Chaplain has been indefatigable in his efforts to get the matter speedily and properly under way, and his former labors in connection with his regiment and in the hospital service furnish every necessary guarantee that this service will be administered faithfully and well.

Mr. Bishop has been busily engaged, in the face of many discouragements, in procuring accurate lists of the casualties in the recent battles; pressing into the service such aid as was available. You will remember that he started from Louisville immediately after the battles, with two assistants for that special service, Dr. Hillman and Mr. Wharton, both of the Directory office. It was thought best to leave Mr. W. at Nashville to accompany a carload of stores on the next train. At Tullahoma we met a train of eighteen cars, loaded with the wounded who had worked their way to the railroad terminus, and who had been embarked without food or surgical assistance. Quartermaster-Gen. Meigs, for whom the train had been specially dispatched, and who kindly permitted our party to accompany him, ordered the men to be fed by the only hotel in the town, and Dr. Hillman and an Indiana surgeon —name not remembered—were placed in charge to care for the wounded until they could be regularly relieved. Dr. Hillman found so much of that kind of service required along the road, and the difficulties of reaching Chattanooga so great, that he continued rendering such assistance as he could in that direction until Tuesday, the 29th, when he started for the front with one of the trains, which afterwards fell into the hands of the enemy. I regret exceedingly that I am unable to give further tidings of him. The General Hospitals have already commenced the transmission of reports to us, and as rapidly as possible all the hospitals will assume a more or less permanent form, and report daily to the office at Louisville.

I returned to this point from Chattanooga on the 5th inst., and expect to start for Louisville in two or three days. The work of the Commission has been reorganized here, and the force is distributed as follows: M. C. Read and Mr. Redding are at Chattanooga; Chaplain Kennedy and Larrabee are to manage, assisted by the necessary number of detailed men, the "Mountain Lodge;" and F. R. Crary has charge of the stores and work of the Commission at this point, assisted by Ira Place, the depot at Bridgeport having been withdrawn. With the exception of Chaplain Kennedy, of whom I have already spoken, you are well acquainted with the working character and abilities of these various representatives of the Commission in the field. Besides these, it is proper to make special mention of the labors of William Andrew, Esq., of Indiana, sent out by you to inspect, on the ground, the workings of the Commission; and of Mr. James Calvert, of Kentucky. The former has neglected no opportunity to alleviate the sufferings by which he was surrounded; to this end constantly laboring as a volunteer dresser in the hospitals, and accompanying a train of wounded on its three days' journey from Chattanooga to this point, and another from this to Nashville. The latter, so soon as he had assured himself of the safe deliverance of his three sons from the perils of the late battles, reported himself to me for such service as might be assigned him.

The two pressing wants at that time were the safe transmission of stores and the names of killed and wounded for the Directory; he preferred to undertake to supply the former need.

* * * * * *

On Tuesday, the 29th ult., and on Thursday, the 1st inst., ambulance trains were dispatched to the field for our wounded

left in the hands of the enemy. All who were severely wounded were paroled and brought in—those more slightly wounded being reserved for regular exchange, via Richmond. The men are uniform in their testimony as to the neglect and consequent suffering they experienced. Officers and men, including the surgeons who remained to take care of the wounded, were, in almost all cases, deprived of their blankets, overcoats, and in many instances shoes and other wearing apparel; they were robbed of the contents of their pockets—"greenbacks" being especially sought after. The food left for their subsistence was taken from them, and corn-meal and water furnished in its stead. They likewise suffered greatly from the impossibility of having their wounds properly attended to—the rebels having taken from our surgeons the greater portion of the appliances left for them—including instruments and bandages. The ambulances sent with a flag of truce for the wounded, ten days after the battle, and delivered into the hands of the enemy at their lines, were returned robbed of everything movable, and in many cases broken-down horses substituted for those sent out. These matters are referred to as affording another instance of the chivalrous character of our foe and of the manner in which he *practices* the amenities of war, of which none better than he can *speak*.

Notwithstanding the disagreeabilities, general and special, which have attended this campaign, and succeeded these battles, our soldiers are still the rare heroes they have hitherto shown themselves to be after the battles on the Peninsula, before Vicksburg and at Stone River. Suffering is borne with a bravery which is truly splendid; there is everywhere the *camaraderie* of veteran campaigners, and self-abnegation is often manifested worthy of the highest type of the Christian. That such a people battling in such a cause as ours should so suffer at the hands of such a foe, fighting for so infernal a cause, must even remain *here*, among the most inscrutable of the dispensations of an all-wise and all-good Providence.

Very respectfully,
GEO. L. ANDREW,
Medical Inspector.

REPORTS PRESENTED AT THE 14TH SESSION OF THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION, HELD AT WASHINGTON, D. C., OCT. 6–9, 1863.

1.—Report of the Executive Committee.
2.—Report of the Committee on Reorganization.
3.—Report of the Treasurer.
4.—Report of the Auditing Committee.
5.—Report of Dr. J. Foster Jenkins, General Secretary, communicating the following reports:

A.—Report to the United States Sanitary Commission on the operations of the Eastern Branch, by Lewis H. Steiner, Chief Inspector of the Army of the Potomac, and Acting Associate Secretary, accompanied by the following reports:

a.—Report of Dr. C. W. Brink concerning the Hospitals in Washington, August 8th, 1863.

b.—Report of Dr. C. W. Brink upon Hospitals in the District of Columbia, August 17th, 1863.

c.—Report of Dr. C. W. Brink on the Hospitals in Alexandria, Va., Sept. 10th, 1863.

d.—Report of Dr. C. W. Brink on the 10th Regiment New York Artillery, garrisoning forts beyond the Eastern Branch, Sept. 13th, 1863.

e.—Report of Special Inspection at Annapolis, Md., by Dr. Julius Nichols, August 20th, 1863.

f.—Report of Dr. Julius Nichols, Sanitary Inspector, on Baltimore Hospitals. Sept. 2d, 1863.

g.—Thirty-four Reports from Relief Agents, Army of the Potomac, as follows:

Mr. N. Murray, 2d Corps. August 17, and September 27.

David S. Pope, 6th Corps. August 22, 16, 30, and September 5, 13, 20, 27.

Wm. A. Hovey, 1st Corps. August 8, 15, 22, 29, and September 5.

Clemans Soest, 3d Corps. Sept. 1 and 28.

John A. Anderson, 12th Corps. September 6, 3, and 7 to 22.

E. M. Barton, 5th Corps. September 6 and 13, and 6 others.

h.—Report of Dr. Gordon Winslow; account of work at Gettysburg, September 25, 1863.

i.—Eight Reports from James Gall, Jr., Relief Agent, Norfolk, Va., from August 9 to September 27.

j.—Report of George C. Caldwell, Ph. D., on Hospital visiting for the months of May, June, July and August.

k.—Report of Dr. Alexander McDonald, Field Inspector, on his capture and imprisonment in Richmond, Va.

l.—Report from Rev. Mr. Scandlin, Relief Agent, same subject.

m.—Report from Gen. Kelly's Department of the Cumberland, October 8, 1863—Dr. Julius Nichols.

B.—Report of F. N. Knapp, Special Relief Agent, accompanied by the following reports:

a.—Report of the "Home," J. B. Clark, Superintendent.

b.—Report of the "Home," T. B. Smith, Surgeon.

c.—Report of Special Relief Station at Convalescent Camp, Virginia—Miss A. M. Bradley.

d.—Report of Special Relief Work at Alexandria—Rev. James Richardson.

e.—Report of Special Relief Work at Baltimore—Sumner Bullard.

f.—Report of Special Relief Work at Annapolis, Md.—Rev. H. C. Henries.

g.—Report of Pension Agent—W. F. Bascom.

h.—Report of Special Relief Work at Boston—John S. Blatchford.

i.—Report relating to local provision for the relief of discharged disabled soldiers and their families, and its administration in Boston, Mass.; prepared under the direction of the Executive Committee of the Boston associates.

C.—Report concerning work in the Statistical Department.—T. J. O'Connell, Chief Clerk to Actuary.

D.—Report of Superintendent of Hospital Directory—John Bowne.

E.—Report concerning the success of the Commission's arrangement for furnishing to the hospitals of this District fresh supplies of meat and vegetables, by F. N. Knapp.

F.—Report concerning supplies and supply-correspondence, by Mr. A. J. Bloor, Assistant Secretary.

6.—Report of Dr. J. S. Newberry, Associate Secretary, concerning the work of the Commission in the Western Department, accompanied by the following reports:

a.—Report of M. C. Read, concerning operations of the Commission at and near Chattanooga, Tenn., Sept. 24th, 1863.

b.—Report of Dr. Wm. Fithian, of operations of the Commission in Mississippi and Arkansas, Aug. and Sept., 1863.

c.—Report of H. S. Holbrook, Chief Clerk of the Hospital Directory at Louisville, Ky.

d.—Report of Rev. F. H. Bushnell, Hospital Visitor at Louisville and New Albany.

7.—Report concerning the work of the Philadelphia Associates, including a statement of the operations of the Protective War Claim Agency of the United States Sanitary Commission in Philadelphia, by C. J. Stille, Esq., Associate Member.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from Dr. E. A. CRANE, Inspector of the Sanitary Commission.

HILTON HEAD, S. C., Oct. 18, 1863.

MY DEAR DR.—I am just in from Morris Island; I had hoped to be in season to mail report by the Fulton, but she sails this morning, and I can send you but a line.

During the past fortnight I have visited and inspected —— regiments—the whole command—two regiments excepted, on Morris and Folly Islands.

The results of these inspections are very interesting. Some of the facts developed are such as I had not expected.

Scurvy does not now exist in the command before Charleston, nor has it existed to any great extent among our troops since operations against Charleston have been commenced.

I doubt whether intermittent and remittent fevers are more prevalent than in the Army of the Potomac.

The health of the troops is much above the average obtaining in commands so long employed in field service.

The prevailing diseases are diarrhœa, dysentery, and disabilities peculiar to overworked troops.

Since the reduction of Wagner and Gregg and the lessening of field service, the health of the troops has been steadily improving. * * * * * *

Yours truly,

E. A. CRANE,
Inspector.

Letter from Mr. A. B. DAY, Relief Agent.

MORRIS ISLAND, S. C., Oct. 15, 1863.

DEAR SIR—In addition to the wants of the Commission here of which I advised you in my last, per Arago, I beg to add:

Tea, bed-pans, pillows, bed-sacks, bed-clothing, astringent medicines, Brown's Extract Ginger, and woolen clothing.

We are nearly out of Boston and farina crackers. Antiscorbutics of any kind will be very useful. We still have diarrhœa, dysentery, and malarial fever. Diarrhœa is our chief malady. Our cherry brandy and blackberry cordial is nearly out. We are now sending a barrel full of water, vinegar, sugar, and ginger mixture every day to Gregg and Wagner for the men to drink. They esteem it quite a godsend. If you could send us a cask of ginger, it would be eminently useful. Curried cabbage nearly gone.

Some very complimentary resolutions were passed by the 3d N. H. Regiment at a regimental meeting, and a copy handed in here expressive of their obligations to the Commission. Others, I learn, are coming in soon. * * * * * *

In haste, yours, &c.,

A. B. DAY.

Letter from Chaplain WAYLAND, 7th Regiment Connecticut Vol's.

7TH CONNECTICUT VOL'S, MORRIS ISLAND, S. C., Oct. 14, 1863.

REV. H. W. BELLOWS, D.D.,
President U. S. Sanitary Commission:

DEAR SIR—I beg leave to inclose $130, (one hundred and thirty dollars,) subscribed by the officers of this regiment, as per subscription paper inclosed.

We are grateful for the relief afforded by the agents of the Commission, among whom I would particularly mention Dr. Marsh, whose efficient action and whose conscientious boldness in preventing any misapplication of the bounty of the Commission, and whose ready and unwearied humanity, were peculiarly noteworthy.

Wishing to your noble charity every success, but yet more fervently hoping that soon its labors may be needless,

I remain, dear sir,

Very truly yours,

H. L. WAYLAND,
Chaplain 7th Conn.

Extract from a Letter from Dr. GEO. A. BLAKE, Inspector at New Orleans, La.

NEW ORLEANS, *Oct.* 16, 1863.

* * * * The other day I supplied deficiencies occasioned by the neglect of some officer, that could be supplied from no other source. The medical department decided to try an experiment—a sea-voyage for convalescents. One hundred and twenty-five soldiers were selected to make a trip to New York and return, on the "Evening Star." The officers of these men left them at Convalescent Camp, without their descriptive rolls, and that being the basis of every issue, no Quartermaster would furnish them even the necessaries of life, much less its comforts. Col. Beckwith, U. S. A., commanding defences of New Orleans, asked me to furnish the men with whatever articles were indispensable for their health and comfort. Accordingly, I visited the barracks—the men were paraded, an inspection made, and their several wants ascertained. I delivered stores to the officer in command, which were distributed to the men aboard ship. The men generally were in a sad plight, without shirts, socks, or blankets, and with thoroughly ventilated pants! Had there been no U. S. Sanitary Commission to give them these substantial comforts, woolen shirts, drawers, socks, quilts, blankets, pants, &c., I believe the experiment of sending feeble, shivering convalescents to a northern latitude, at this season of the year, would have been less productive of good.

Two days ago I received a telegram from

the Medical Director of the 19th Army Corps, at New Iberia, La., to forward, if possible, some woolen shirts and drawers. I sent at once about four hundred. * * * I inclose a communication to the "Stamford (Conn.) Advocate," of Sept. 25, received from some one unknown to me.

"MR. EDITOR—There is in our village a society called Soldiers' Aid Society. In its present plan I believe auxiliary to the Sanitary Commission, U. S. A. Within the past eleven months I have had large opportunities of watching the practical workings of this institution in one of its outposts, and think perhaps a plain statement of a few facts, as I have learned them, might afford encouragement to the ladies engaged in it.

"My first acquaintance with the Sanitary Commission came through a small pamphlet, sent me by its agent, soon after our arrival at Camp Parapet. Following up the invitation contained in it, I made the acquaintance of its agent, and found that through him I could obtain, without circumlocution, the essentials for the housekeeping department of a military hospital, whether in active campaign, or guard duty, or the more settled condition of post, or city hospital, and whether the patients were suffering from disease incident to the locality in which they were situated, or from wounds received in battle. And, Mr. Editor, I wish to bear testimony to the fact that, in all these various conditions, the Sanitary Commission furnishes to the suffering soldier just that kind of delicacy or substantial which a judicious mother or wife would furnish if they had opportunity. I have seen empty old buildings, as by magic, assume in a day the air of comfort and order of arrangement of long-established city hospitals. Not soon shall I cease to warm over the recollection of some of these transformations. For example, men to the number of several hundreds, after the fight at Bisland, were brought to Berwick City in flat-boats, skiffs, and little steamers, wounded in every conceivable manner. They had received all the attention that good medical skill could afford amid the din and smoke of actual conflict, but were so dirty, black, and uncomfortable, as not to be recognized by their most intimate friends, until the renovating hands of tender nurses had washed away their blood and dust, and put on them and their beds clean clothes; all which, not excepting a piece of soap or a row of pins, were furnished by the *model department* of the Gulf, and the Sanitary Commission, sent thence eighty miles over a slow railroad, but in time to do all I have intimated. And I must say, that he who had looked, on the morning of April 18, at the interior of that deserted building in Berwick City, store below and tenements above, its large and small rooms, dusty, cobwebbed, gloomy, and also at the large hall of an adjoining building in the same condition, making in all a floor area of about 1,500 yards, had seen on the following morning every available yard of this space covered with wounded men, *our country's braves*, suffering anguish such as a wounded soldier only knows, without the shadow of comfort; on the same evening again seen all these sufferers arranged in trim rows, on iron bedsteads and good mattresses, clean wounds, clean bandages, clean lint, dressings, &c., clean shirts, clean drawers, clean sheets and pillow-cases, clean wards, with towels, and bowls, and brushes, and rows of pins in their places, tables supplied with vases of flowers, pitchers of ice-water, tumblers, bowls, vials, packages, all in their places, and the poor sufferers sleeping quietly under their musquito nets, all order, all cleanliness, all beautiful, at post hospital No. 2. Anybody, I say, that saw, as I saw, all this, and was not moved with deep gratitude towards the institution that furnished the means for all this magic change, is a character for a cage in a menagerie. This post hospital, No. 2, is but an illustration of Nos. 1, 3, 4, at Berwick City, at the same time, also at Brashear City at different times; also at Lafourche Crossing. In short, it but illustrates what may be at every hospital, extemporized or appointed, in the field or in the city, all over the Department of the Gulf, as no doubt is the case in every department; and if all or any of this is wanting in any case, it is due to negligence on the part of officers in charge of hospitals, not to want of means furnished by Medical Department and Sanitary Commission.

"In conclusion, I would say to friends of the soldier everywhere, send your gifts through the Sanitary Commission, always. They are carefully husbanded and judiciously distributed to those who need them most. Not, as often happens when otherwise sent, some articles accumulating to the extent of a nuisance, in one place, while other articles of real comfort are entirely absent; all unequal and unsatisfactory, to say nothing of the greater liability of the articles sent irregularly being devoured by the army gulls, men, sometimes officers, having no interest in the hospital, through whose hands they must pass.

"God bless the Sanitary Commission, is ever the exclamation of those who know it best.

"W. H. TROWBRIDGE,

"*Ex-Surgeon, 23d Regt. C. V.*"

MEMPHIS, Oct. 18, 1863.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,

Sec'y Western Dep't U. S. Sanitary Com.:

DEAR SIR—Yours of the 28th ult. arrived here two days since, during my absence at Corinth. I paid a flying visit to this and other points along the railroad, finding no small demand for sanitary stores, especially vegetables. This demand was, as I anticipated, greatly enhanced by the presence in the district of Gen. Sherman's Army Corps on its way to the Department of the Cumberland. At Lagrange this corps had deposited over 100 sick, and at Corinth 300 and more. Besides which were still a small number with each regiment, to remain until the troops should move across the country. The advance of the corps was at Iuka. The 200 barrels of vegetables shipped to Corinth by me one week ago to-day, arrived in time to be largely shared by this corps, and did the maximum amount of service. The only thing I regret is, that the 200 had not been 1,000. It will still be some days before these troops get entirely out of my reach, and after that, many a weary day for them before they get within reach of sanitary stores again. The sick they leave behind will receive prompt attention by the United States Sanitary Commission. But I must have at once a larger amount of stores here. Already the fine large cargo left by the Clara Bell is run low; the vegetables reduced to 20 barrels. We have distributed within the week 500 barrels. I send this morning to Helena 40 barrels on the earnest request of Dr. Weeks, backed by Dr. Fithian, who has gone on an exploration to Little Rock. This leaves me the 20 barrels aforesaid. I shall clearly be compelled to make another draft on the Clara Bell when she arrives, although I had designed to send the whole of her next cargo below. But the demand is lively in this district, aside from the addition created by the movement referred to. Our latest weekly disbursements will show some solid figures. Disbursement reports are forwarded up to last Wednesday; Hospital Directory to the 10th inst.

I saw Surgeon-General Hammond and had a moment's conversation with him. He is undoubtedly restored to favor, although the fact seems not to have transpired yet. He issued an order while here for the erection of one large hospital to be provided with from 1,200 to 1,300 beds. On its completion it is understood that the other general hospitals in this city will be vacated and abandoned. Such purpose being subject, of course, to the modifying changes in the features of war. The work on the new hospital is to commence without delay. Meanwhile, I want potatoes and onions, &c., &c., for immediate use.

Canned milk and canned beef are entirely gone; ditto bedquilts and sheets; ditto shirts and drawers, minus a few. Now or never, let these come.

Yours respectfully,

H. A. WARRINER.

PRISONERS IN RICHMOND.

The following correspondence relative to the forwarding supplies of clothing, &c., to soldiers confined in Richmond, was suggested by the report made to the Commission by Dr. McDonald and Mr. Scandlin. These gentlemen, the one an Inspector and the other a Relief Agent of the Commission, were taken prisoners near Emmettsburg, Md., just after the battle of Gettysburg, while they were on their way to the Army of the Potomac with supplies. They were taken to Richmond, and were inmates of "Libby Prison" and "Castle Thunder" for nearly three months. While there they sought every opportunity to benefit their fellow-prisoners, and to get such information as would be of service to those who should hereafter be there confined. They were assured that all supplies sent to the proper authorities would be applied according to the desires of those sending them.

Former experience had given confidence to the Commission that these assurances could be relied on, as invoices previously sent, of clothes and medicines, had reached the parties to whom they were sent. A new basis of exchange required that the present *status* should be inquired into. Hence the correspondence here given:

SANITARY COMMISSION,

CENTRAL OFFICE, 244 F STREET,

Washington, D. C., September 29, 1863.

GENERAL—I am informed by Dr. Alex. McDonald, of the Commission, late a pris-

oner at Richmond, (and who, with his companions in captivity, Rev. Mr. Scandlin, also of this Commission, and Leonard Brink, are so much indebted to you for your efforts towards their release, and your personal kindness to them while passing into our lines,) that he was told by Dr. Wilkins, Surgeon in charge C. S. Military Prison Hospital No. 1, (Libby Prison,) that if supplies of clothing, bedding, and reading matter should be sent to his (Dr. Wilkins') care, he would guarantee their distribution among the Union prisoners; and that Capt. G. W. Alexander, A. A. G. and A. P. M., Castle Thunder, made a similar promise as regards reading matter, within his own precincts.

From the statement of Dr. McDonald and Mr. Scandlin it appears that the above supplies are greatly needed by our men now imprisoned there, and that a distribution of such would be of inestimable benefit to them. It is questionable, I suppose, whether, even if once passed within the enemy's lines, they would be permitted to reach their destination; but this Commission would gladly take the merest chance of their doing so, and would willingly risk any trouble and expense in forwarding them over our own lines, provided such a course should involve no violation of military rules and exigencies on our side. Of this you are the judge. In behalf of our brave and unfortunate officers and soldiers now pining, amid want, squallor, and mental inoccupation, in the noisome prisons of the enemy, will you kindly favor the Commission with your decision on this point? If favorable to the project, any suggestions you may see fit to make towards its accomplishment will be welcomed, and, if possible, acted upon.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
ALFRED J. BLOOR,
Asst. Sec'y.

GEN'L S. A. MEREDITH,
Comm'r for Exchange of Prisoners,
Fortress Monroe, Virginia.

OFFICE COMMISSIONER FOR EXCHANGE,
Fortress Monroe, Va., October 1, 1863.

ALFRED J. BLOOR, ESQ.,
Washington, D. C.:

SIR—On making application to the rebel authorities, I am informed that blankets, clothing, &c., forwarded to our prisoners in Richmond will be duly delivered to them. I yesterday forwarded a statement to this effect to the Commissary-General of Prisoners at Washington. I do not think there is any doubt as to our prisoners receiving what is sent. I would respectfully suggest that you obtain permission from the Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War, to send these things; that obtained, I can assure you nothing would give me more pleasure than to forward them, if sent to my care to this place. Very respectfully,

Your obed't serv't,
S. A. MEREDITH,
Brig. Gen'l and Com'r for Exchange.

SANITARY COMMISSION,
CENTRAL OFFICE, 244 F STREET,
Washington, D. C., Oct. 2*d*, 1863.

SIR—I have the honor to transmit copies of a correspondence between Gen'l S. A. Meredith and myself with reference to this Commission forwarding supplies for the use of Union soldiers now in the hands of the enemy in Libby Prison and Castle Thunder, and to respectfully request your sanction for so doing.

I may add to the information contained in the within correspondence, that Messrs. McDonald and Scandlin—(who were captured by the enemy on the 5th of July, while pushing on from Frederick City to Gettysburg with supplies from the stores of this Commission for the sick and wounded, and were only released last week)—have had, during their nearly three months' imprisonment, first in Libby Prison and afterwards in Castle Thunder, the amplest opportunities for testing in person, as their worn frames and shattered health too plainly testify, the insufferable hardships and humiliations endured by the loyalists in these places of confinement, and for judging to what an extent relief might be afforded by the appliances of this Commission. I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,
ALFRED J. BLOOR,
Ass't Sec'y.

HON. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON CITY,
October 1863.

MR. ALFRED J. BLOOR,
Ass't Sec'y San'y Com., 244 F Street, Washington, D. C.:

SIR—In reply to your letter of the 2d instant, transmitting correspondence with General Meredith in reference to forwarding sanitary supplies and reading matter to the Union prisoners at Richmond, the Secretary of War directs me to convey to you his consent for the transmission of the articles named through the lines as requested.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
JAS. A. HARDIE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

The following articles were sent to Richmond, in accordance with this agreement, on the 19th inst.:

600 Woolen Shirts.
600 Canton Flannel Drawers.
600 pairs Woolen Socks.
1000 Handkerchiefs.
2 cases Reading Matter.

That these stores have been delivered to the Confederate authorities we have assurance in the following letter:—

NORFOLK, VA., Oct. 26th, 1863.

DR. L. H. STEINER,
Acting Associate Sec't'y San. Com.:

MY DEAR SIR—I called on Gen'l Meredith yesterday, and ascertained that our Richmond supplies had gone forward all right. As soon as Gen'l M. has been notified that the supplies sent by the Government have been received, he is authorized to send whatever Gen'l Dow may think necessary for the comfort of our men on Belle Island and in Richmond. The Gen'l thinks that it will hardly be necessary for the San. Com. to send any more clothing, as the Government has authorized him to supply whatever is needed in that way, but to confine ourselves to articles of food, delicacies, &c. Very respectfully yours,

JAMES GALL, JR., *Relief Agent.*

Letters to prisoners at Richmond should be of one page, sent open, to care of Brig. Gen. S. A. Meredith, Commissioner for Exchange, Fortress Monroe, Va.

SELECTIONS.

Extracts from a Chapter on WATER in SURGEON-GENERAL HAMMOND'S TREATISE ON HYGIENE.

Drinking Waters.—The only waters which are fit for drinking (excluding from this head the mineral waters, which are properly medicinal) are rain water, river water, and spring or well water.

A water to be suitable for this purpose should be free from any considerable quantity of organic or mineral constituents, and consequently colorless, and without any peculiar odor or taste. At 30° Fahrenheit and 30 inches of the barometer one hundred volumes of water contain about five volumes of air. The large quantity of water imbibed by an individual renders it a matter of great importance that substances of a deleterious character should not be present, or if they are, that they should be capable of being readily removed.

The army surgeon is frequently called upon to decide as to the fitness of water for the use of the troops, both for drinking and washing, and he should therefore be enabled to make a correct decision, and to suggest the means that may be available for the purification of such water as requires it. For these purposes very few appliances, in the way of apparatus and tests, are required.

All waters of the class under consideration, except rain water, contain lime and chlorides, and frequently other mineral substances, in solution. The lime is in combination with either carbonic or sulphuric acid, or both, and the chlorides are those of sodium, magnesium, or potassium. It is probable that so far from being injurious, these matters, when not present in too great proportion, are rather beneficial to the organism than otherwise. When, however, they exist in large quantity, they produce intestinal disturbance, and the lime salts undoubtedly give rise to calculi in the kidneys or bladder. River water is also often, as has been said, loaded with other impurities. Some of these are of such a character as to cause serious diseases in those who use the water in which they are found, and are sometimes so abundant as to be destructive to the fish living in them.

The earthy matters which are so abundant in some of our western river waters almost invariably cause diarrhœa in those who are unaccustomed to their use, though this effect gradually ceases to be produced if the drinking of the water is persisted in.

In the selection of sites for camps, hospitals, barracks, etc,, the medical officer is often consulted with reference to the char-

acter of the water. In the field it is frequently impossible to camp troops in positions which afford good drinking water, but in the location of hospitals and permanent works this end can generally be insured. It should be recollected that no one sanitary element is of more importance than the one under consideration. I have known stations selected without the least regard to the character of the water; where this was so loaded with saline matters that the men were almost constantly affected with diarrhœa, or so contaminated with organic substances that putrefaction commenced in a few hours after it was brought to the quarters. * * * *

Organic matters are frequently present in water, and give it qualities which render it deleterious. They may be either gaseous or morphological, as portions of decomposing vegetable or animal remains, infusoria, algæ, fungi, etc. Water in which such matters are found readily becomes putrescent, and is most noxious to the health of those who use it as a drink, producing diarrhœa and fever. * *

Examination of Drinking Water.—By ascertaining the specific gravity of the water to be tested, a rough idea of the *quantity of solids* contained in it can be obtained. Kirwan gives the following formula for this purpose, which he states will generally indicate the proportion within one or two per cent.

Deduct from the specific gravity of the water the number 1000, and multiply the difference by 1-4, the product will represent the quantity of solid contents. It gives the weight of the salts in their most desiccated state, and consequently freed from their water of crystallization. The weight of fixed air must be also included.

Thus, if the water under examination possess a specific gravity of 1015, the 1000 subtracted from this sum leaves 15, which multiplied by 1-4, gives 21, the number of parts of solid matter in 1000 parts of the water. A better plan is to evaporate to dryness a certain amount of water, and to weigh the solid residue.

Sulphuric acid is most readily detected by solution of chloride of barium, by the action of which a heavy white precipitate of sulphate of baryta is produced.

Chlorhydric acid is indicated by solution of nitrate of silver, by which a flaky precipitate of chloride of silver, soluble in liquor ammoniæ, is thrown down.

Sulphuretted hydrogen, if present, forms, with solution of acetate of lead, a brown precipitate of sulphuret of lead. In water containing *lead*, sulphuretted hydrogen, when passed through it, gives a like precipitate.

Lime gives, with oxalate of ammonia, a white precipitate of oxalate of lime.

Magnesia is indicated by liquor ammoniæ, which separates it as a light flaky precipitate.

Iron forms, with tincture of galls, a black precipitate of tannate of iron; with ferrocyanide of potassium, a dark-blue precipitate of ferrocyanide of iron is formed.

Organic Constituents.—The organic constituents of water when not in solution are readily detected by means of the microscope.

Organic matters, when in solution, can be most satisfactorily discovered by means of solution of permanganate of potassa. This salt gives a bright-red color to the distilled water in which it is dissolved, which hue is entirely removed on subjecting it to the action of organic matter. We have thus a valuable means of detecting impurities which would otherwise escape observation. The method of proceeding is very simple. A drop of saturated solution of permanganate of potassa, or of Condy's disinfectant fluid, (which consists of a solution of alkaline permanganates,) added to a half pint of distilled water, gives to it a beautiful pink color, which will remain permanent for a long time; but if the same quantity be added to any ordinary drinking water, the permanganate is decomposed by the organic matter present, and the characteristic color is destroyed as soon as found. If there be much organic matter present, more of the solution will be required to produce any color at all; and, by the quantity used to cause the formation of a permanent pink tinge, we draw our conclusions relative to the purity of the water examined. The presence of minute particles of organic matter is also readily indicated by this reagent. * * * *

BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG.

[From Prof. Jacob's Rebel Invasion of Maryland and Pennsylvania.]

This battle of three days will compare in magnitude and far-reaching consequences, with any of the great battles of modern times. In the battle of Waterloo, the Allies had 72,000, the French 80,000 men; in this the rebels had 90,000, the Federals about 60,000 men. The British had 186 cannon, the French 252; the rebels had upwards of 200, and we an equal number. The Allies lost 20,000 in killed and wounded; the French 40,000 in killed, wounded, prisoners, and deserted; the Federals lost about 4,000 killed, 12,000 wounded and 4,000 prisoners, or in all about 20,000; whilst the rebels lost 5,500 killed, 21,000 wounded, and 9,000 prisoners and 4,000 stragglers and deserters, or a total of about 40,000. The proportion of men and of losses in both battles is nearly the same.

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., President, New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Vice-President, Washington, D. C.
J. Foster Jenkins, M.D., General Secretary, New York City.
George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
G. W. Cullom, U. S. A.
A. E. Shiras, U. S. A.
R. C. Wood, Assistant Surg.-Gen'l U. S. A.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., New York.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clarke, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, Jr., Philadelphia, Penn.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Prof. Fairman Rogers, Philadelphia, Penn.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, and the New England States, address "Office Women's Central Union, No. 10 Cooper Institute, New York."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

The office of the Directory will be open daily from 8 o'clock, A. M., to 8 o'clock, P. M., and in urgent cases applicants ringing the door-bell will be received at any hour of the night.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army. The hospital statistics in this department of the Sanitary Commission are very complete and exact, and daily prove of incalculable value to the soldiers, their friends and relatives.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 22 Summer Street, Boston, Mass.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 4th Street, Pittsburg, Penn.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, Ohio.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

General Superintendent, Rev. F. N. Knapp, Washington, D. C. Chief Assistant, J. B. Abbott.
Soldiers' Home, near Baltimore Railroad Depot, Washington, D. C.
Lodge No. 4, H Street, between 13th and 14th Streets.
Lodge No. 5, Maryland Avenue, near Railroad Station.
Nurses' Home, Washington, D. C.
Soldiers' Home, Third Street, east of Broadway, Cincinnati, Ohio—Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill.—C. N. Shipman, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky.—James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn.—L. Crane, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio———, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio—Clark Warren, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn.—C.W. Christy, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Lodge, Vicksburg, Miss.—T. Way, Sup't.

AGENCY FOR PENSIONS.

William F. Bascom, Pension Agent, Washington, D. C.

HOSPITAL CARS.

Between Washington and New York—Sol. Andrews, M. D., Surgeon in charge.
Between Louisville and Murfreesboro'—Dr. J. P. Barnum, Surgeon in charge.

SANITARY STEAMERS.

New Dunleith on the Mississippi River, and Elizabeth on the Potomac River.

THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 15, 1863. No. 2.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 10,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

THE LESSON OF THE REPORTS.

The reports from Chattanooga, which we publish in this number of the BULLETIN, throw so much light both on the value of the work which the Commission is doing and of the difficulties with which it has to contend, that we ask for a careful perusal of them, as the best mode of appealing for public sympathy and support. There could not be a better illustration of our relations with the army than is afforded by the state of things which existed there after the battle of Chickamauga. The occupation of Lookout Mountain by the enemy left our army dependent for all its supplies on a common and very bad wagon-road, nearly eighty miles long, which incessant use and heavy rains soon rendered all but impassable for wheels. This at once placed the whole force on short rations, and of course condemned numbers of sick and wounded to death. It cannot be too clearly remembered that when a crisis of this sort occurs in military operations, the first duty of a general is not to take care of those of his men who are disabled, but of those who are fit for duty. His business is to bring the campaign to a successful issue at all costs, and if he can do so and at the same time have proper attention paid to those who have been stricken down by battle or disease, humanity requires that he should do it. But if attention to the sick and wounded is at all likely to interfere with the proper conduct of the military operation, the saddest, sternest, but most imperative rule of war requires that his whole resources in transportation, and in everything else, should be devoted rather to keeping the healthy in health than to restoring the non-effectives. Ammunition, and bread for those who can use it, are the prime requisites of an army under all circumstances; and when an army gets into difficulties like those of our army at Chattanooga, they only become tenfold more requisite than ever. At a crisis of this sort, the medical department finds itself too often paralyzed for want of stores and transportation. The whole energies of the military authorities are devoted to keeping the ranks full, and in forwarding reinforcements and munitions; so that it may be said that the surgeon finds that as his wants increase the means of supplying them diminish.

All these difficulties have been aggravated in the West by the nature of the country in which the operations are carried on, and by the immense distances at which the armies frequently find themselves from their base—distances which have had no parallel in European warfare, or only in the campaign of 1812 in Russia. Instances have occurred of troops having been dependent for all their supplies upon a line of three hundred miles of wagon-road. And these long lines, it must be remembered, generally lie through regions desolated by two years of war and incessantly harried by guerrillas, in which subsistence, forage, and often even the shelter of a roof, are wanting. That, under such circumstances, the medical department of the army should

frequently find itself unable to meet the demands upon it, is nothing wonderful; the wonder would be if it did not. When the fierce shocks and sharp blows of war come, and the fate of the whole army, or the fate of the cause itself is at stake, the hospital is naturally and inevitably sacrificed to the field.

It is the business and the aim of the Sanitary Commission to gather together from every quarter the money and the stores contributed by those who, from their position, can play no part in the war beyond seeking to alleviate its misery, who have nothing to do with military exigencies, and can therefore pay undivided heed to those of humanity; to keep these stores and money in its hands and follow the army with them in its march, husband them until a victory, or defeat, or retreat has flung a load of suffering on the regular departments which they are unable to cope with, and then to step in and as far as possible fill up all deficiencies. This seems a simple matter, but it is not by any means. After all the work of collecting stores from every corner of the Union has been accomplished, even after they have hurried down to what seems to be the very edge of the battle-field, comes the hardest task of all—that of getting them conveyed to the exact spot where they are needed, to the very hospital where the sick are struggling for life on hard-tack and bad water, or to the very field on which the wounded lie starving and untended in their torn and bloody clothes. The difficulties of transportation, even for the medical department in our army, are immense; and they are of course still greater for the Commission. There ought unquestionably to be separate transportation provided for the former. It ought not to be dependent on the quartermaster for its wagons, to have its sole means of bringing up its stores liable to curtailment or total stoppage every time there is any unusual demand for wagons and mules on the part of other branches of the service. But then, as we have already remarked, it is more than doubtful whether it would be possible to organize means of transport for it which would under no circumstances be exposed to the pressure of that necessity which is, after all, the supreme law of an army. What general would agree under all circumstances to keep his hands off wagons which might save him from a disastrous retreat, even if their seizure and conversion to other uses involved the death of thousands of wounded men? The Sanitary Commission is also constantly forced in the West to rely on the quartermaster for its means of sending forward its stores, and exposed to precisely the same risks and delays as everybody else. Let the necessities of the wounded be ever so great, its means of supplying their wants ever so abundant, it has to take its chance of reaching them in precisely the same way as the regular medical directors. The accident which happened to the seventeen wagons which were captured while under Mr. Redding's charge, furnishes an excellent illustration of the obstacles which have to be overcome in the West. Its help was probably never more sorely needed than at the moment that this supply was going forward, and yet one swoop of the rebel cavalry converted to the use of drunken troopers stores that would probably have saved the lives of hundreds and hastened the recovery of thousands.

The robbery of our stores by the teamsters is one more proof of the hundreds we have had in the course of the war, of the imprudence, to use no stronger term, of employing civilians to take charge of the army wagons. The teamsters are simply hired men, and are not subject to military discipline. The wagon-master who accompanies the train has no authority over them except that of an employer over his servants—and the value of this, in time of war in the West, may be readily imagined. They belong, however, generally to a drunken and reckless class, and burden themselves with very little responsibility about the property of the Government committed to their charge. When one remembers that any one of these men has it in his power, by upsetting his wagon on the road, to delay the advance of a train, it may be a mile or two in length, for half a day, and thus perhaps endanger the safety of the whole army—and instances of this have actually occurred—one cannot help regretting deeply that some effort has not been made to organize a military force for the transport service. In no European army is the bag-

gage committed to the custody of civilians. Every one of them has a corps enlisted for this duty, and officered by picked men. The Military Train in France, and the Land Transport Corps in England, are considered amongst the most arduous and responsible branches of the service. It will be observed that the worst that could befall the scoundrels who gorged themselves on the road to Chattanooga upon the stores, for want of which the sick and wounded were perishing, was dismissal from their employment. But it will be readily imagined that, to men who could be guilty of such an act, this was no very severe punishment.

The thing which our agents in the West most urgently demand is vegetables; this is the great want in all the hospitals, and the want of them is a serious bar to recovery in certain kinds of disease. We beg the attention of our readers to the remarks in our reports on this subject. Vegetables are of course amongst the things that are not procurable at the seat of war, and they have to come from the Northern States, mainly from the vicinity of the large towns. Donations of them in sufficient quantities are certainly not to be expected from the growers, and they are therefore, in the dried form, amongst the supplies for which money is absolutely necessary. Mr. Bloor's letter to Miss Collins, which will be found in another column, indicates very clearly what our wants are likely to be during the coming winter. It must not be forgotten, however, by those who read it, that let us have ever so large quantities of the articles for which he calls, the distribution of them still remains to be done. They have to be sent in the track of the army over hundreds of miles of wasted country, gathered together at depots all across the continent, and which have to be carried by some means or other to those who most need them; this is the hardest part of our task, and for it money is absolutely necessary; and the larger the donations of supplies the more money we need.

The Commission cannot receive packages for individuals, for here, as in its general relief service, it must bestow the peoples' aid where it is most needed.

THE RICHMOND PRISONS.

The following report from Dr. McDonald is very interesting, from the light it throws on the condition of the Richmond prisoners, which, judging from recent accounts, has since become worse than he describes them:

WASHINGTON, *Sept. 25th*, 1863.

DR. LEWIS H. STEINER,

Army of Potomac:

DEAR SIR—My report of proceedings since July 1st will necessarily be composed mainly of brief extracts from the meagre diary which has been preserved, and such statements as may seem fitting; nearly all our papers having been lost or destroyed while we were on the march.

July 1st.—At Washington, awaiting a chance for a safe forward movement, military men assuring us that the roads to Gettysburg were not in a safe condition for travel, without an escort.

2d.—News of a battle reached us during the evening, and our time till 12.30 A.M. was employed in loading goods on the cars for Westminster.

3d.—Started at 1 P.M. with Mr. Scandlin, Mr. Gall, two teams and drivers, and a negro boy; reached Rockville at 6 P.M., where we fed and rested our horses, and from whence we started between 8 and 9 P. M. for Frederick, at which place we arrived at 5.15 A.M. of July 4th, after having traveled all night.

The same evening, at 6 P. M., Mr. Gall started with an empty four-mule team and driver for Westminster, there to load from the cars and proceed to the field; Mr. Scandlin and myself, with a load of stores, driver and black boy, made all possible speed towards Gettysburg; 11 P.M. passed General Kilpatrick's cavalry at Mechanicstown, where we halted for the night.

Sunday, 5th.—At 8 A.M. started for Gettysburg, and about 9.30 A.M. were met by a squad of cavalry wearing U. S. uniforms and equipments, who commanded us to halt, and after inquiring who we were, told us to "consider ourselves prisoners of war," which we soon found, by the numbers of graybacks crowding around us, to be too true. These new friends (?) were all eager to show their affection by appropriating

some part of our property each to himself, without any regard to our comfort or convenience; truly, we had "fallen among thieves." General Stuart appropriated the horses, wagon and supplies; a quartermaster laid siege to our saddle horses; the equipments and light articles were soon distributed among the men, and then personal property was demanded; even the Surgeon of the Brigade, who had heard our explanation to General Stuart, and understood in what service we were engaged, came to the rear and haggled with some of the men for possession of a saddle and bridle taken from one of our horses, as he said, "for the purpose of presenting it to a friend in Richmond." His entire soul was wrapped in desire for plunder, and we were consoled for part of our loss by knowing that his grasping spirit had been foiled, and he could not get a share of the spoils. These changes of ownership were very soon accomplished, and we were started over the mountains in the direction of Hagerstown; but towards evening, finding the road in that direction blocked by Union cavalry, we were marched by an unfrequented road to near Smithstown, where a smart artillery duel came off, and so soon as darkness came on a guide was procured who led us over an unfrequented and very rough road to the town of Lytersburg, where we were turned in to grass at 1.30 A. M., and rested three hours; then were marched about a mile, found a check in front, and were moved back to the centre of the town; halted, and here received food from the *Union* citizens, who gave whatever they could spare, and we ate while General Stuart was endeavoring to find an outlet of escape for his forces. At length we were transferred to the care of another commander, and started for Hagerstown; after proceeding about four miles, the road was again found to be blocked by cavalry; we were marched back three miles, and camped till the right of way should be settled. About dark were again "en route," and marched through Hagerstown, to within one mile of Williamsport, where we were encamped at 2.30 A. M. of July 7, and just before dark of the afternoon of this day we received a ration of half a pint of flour and two ounces of beef, but no means for cooking were provided, therefore we ate of unleavened bread and toasted beef; collected a few rails and endeavored to roost as dryly as possible during the rainy night. During the march from Lytersburg Moses had been moved to the rear, and at Williamsport he was placed with other contrabands.

Wednesday, 8th.—Were moved back one-quarter mile to camp with privates; we preferring to remain with them, as there were prospects of our becoming of use in various ways, especially in attending the wounded, of whom there were quite a number. Rained all day and night till 12 M. During the afternoon received another ration similar to that of the previous day; disposed of it in like manner. Wrote to Col. Mayo, requesting an interview with General Pickett, hoping he would release us when our position was known to him, but received no answer.

Thursday, 9th.—Started at 1 P. M. for the ferry, but finding the facilities for transportation were limited, a majority of the men—ourselves included—were sent back to camp. Mr. Scandlin went with me to call on General Pickett during the evening; his reception of us was rather frigid and decidedly formal, he communicating with us by means of his adjutant, and deciding that we must go on to Richmond. On complaining of the insufficient quantity and poor quality of food the men were receiving, we were furnished with an order for more food for ourselves, and a promise of more on the morrow for the men. Our extra rations consisted of two or three small hoe-cakes, and a *knuckle bone* of boiled ham, (all the officer had to give us,) but our men did not get their extra, nor always their regular allowance; however, they got plenty of promises of full rations after crossing to the other side of the Potomac.

Friday, 10th.—Moved to the river at 3 A. M., crossed at 6.45, and halted till 12.30 P. M. The promise of more rations was not kept; their wagon trains had been cut off by our cavalry, and they could not get supplies forward; would give us more when we got down the valley. The faith in these promises was very much weakened by so many similar ones still remaining unfulfill-

ed. At 12.30 P. M. commenced a terrible march, with an escort of cavalry, artillery, and infantry, for fear of recapture or a stampede; the first hour we traveled nearly six miles under a scorching sun, guards and prisoners continually falling by the road-side from the effects of heat and exhaustion. General Imboden, finding that his own men were suffering much more than the prisoners, and that he would soon be left without a guard, rode to the head of the column after the first hour's march and moderated the rate of travel. During the remainder of the day our pace was much slower and more regular till we camped at 9.30 P. M. two miles beyond Martinsburg. While passing through Martinsburg the inhabitants expressed their sympathy by kind words and more kind donations of food, in spite of the curses, threats, and even blows of our chivalrous cavalry guards, some of whom even went so far in their brutality as to strike women for giving us bread and water.

After we were encamped, some of the officers rode back to the town and invited the inhabitants to bake bread for us, and many families, we were told, worked all night preparing food for us, which was loaded into wagons next morning and sent to *Lee's Army!*

Saturday, 11th.—Started at 6 A. M. for Bunker's Hill, where we were halted, received and cooked rations, and at 6 P. M. commenced a night march over a terribly rough road to camp two miles north of Winchester, arriving at 2 A.M. of the 12th. Our escort was vexed with having to guard prisoners during a night march, especially the cavalry, who were exceedingly irascible, rough and uncourteous, striking the men with their sabres, and in some cases even placing their pistols at the heads of exhausted men and threatening to blow out their brains, generally ending by pricking the poor fellows with their sabres till they would rise in wrath and proceed on the tedious journey. Men and guards were this night completely exhausted.

Sunday, 12th.—Had a short interview with General Imboden, and explained to him our position; he "could not release us." We must go to Richmond, and from thence would certainly be sent home by the first flag of truce; meanwhile we would be permitted to board in and have the freedom of the city, and most assuredly would not be confined in prison. Told him the prisoners were exhausted, and could not go further without rest; he promised that we should only travel two miles that day, and that from thenceforth our marches should be short—not to exceed twelve or fifteen miles per day.

Were marched through Winchester in season to meet the inhabitants on their way home from church, and there was an evident desire to make as much display of their captives as was possible. Halted one mile beyond Winchester, where we received rations for three days, or till such time as we should reach Mt. Jackson; viz., one quart of flour and three quarters of a pound of fresh beef.

Monday, 13th.—In line at 6 A. M.; delayed by wagon trains on the road till 9.30 A. M. Had rained all night, and was still pouring in torrents; a bridge on the turnpike had been washed away during the night, necessitating a detour of four miles, on or through a dirt road and woods, in order to ford the stream at a safe place; this detour gave us two miles of double-quick march in mud and water ankle deep, then a tedious march till 7.30 P. M., when we encamped within one and a half miles of Strasburg, soaked through, cold, without shelter, exceedingly tired, almost discouraged, and with a prospect of passing a restless night in the rain and on wet ground.

Tuesday, 14th.—Started at 6 A. M., marched twenty-four miles without food, and camped at 7 P. M.

Wednesday, 15th.—Moving at 6 A.M. for Mt. Jackson and rations; camped at 9 A. M., expecting rations for three days in the same ratio as previously, but didn't get any. Left at 2 P. M., and reached camp south of New Market at 7.30 P.M.; drew and ate a ration. During the day met carriages containing a number of persons marked by badges on their hats, "Committee for the Relief of our Wounded," then proceeding to the battle-field. Remarked to them that we belonged to a somewhat similar organization of the North, but were then held as prisoners, and hoped they would

be more fortunate in their laudable endeavors to succor the distressed than we had been. They were "sorry" for us, and passed on.

Thursday, 16th.—Column was this day marched left in front, affording some rest for those who had thus far been in the rear, and giving them a better opportunity to purchase food of citizens, all of whom we found greedy for greenbacks, as well as the officers and soldiers; camped two miles south of Harrisonburg at 4 P.M., and after a heavy thunder-shower—during which we rested on our boots, sheltering our clothing as much as possible with our rubber blankets, which were still preserved—we were blessed with three crackers and a quarter of a pound of bacon.

Friday, 17th.—After a cold, restless night, were permitted to pay six dollars each for a ride of sixteen miles to a point within four miles of Staunton, where we camped at 4 P. M., and received our three crackers, with one-quarter pound of bacon. An order was issued this day forbidding the purchase of greenbacks by any of the citizens.

Saturday, 18th.—Moved at 6.30 A.M.; marched 5½ miles to a point one and a half miles beyond Staunton, where the men were relieved of their shelter-tents and rubber blankets, received a pint of flour and quarter pound of bacon, and were ordered to camp to await the arrival of cars for an onward move to Richmond.

Sunday, 19th.—Had an interview with Col. Smith, in charge of prisoners' guard, who assured us of our immediate release on reaching Richmond.

Monday, 20th.—At 7.30 A. M. proceeded to the cars, and embarked for Richmond, arriving in that city on the morning of the succeeding day, and being safely ensconced within the walls of Libby Prison at 4 A. M. of the 21st. On entering the Prison, Leonard Brink was assigned to the citizens' room, while Mr. Scandlin and myself were sent up stairs to an apartment (occupied by Union officers) about forty-five feet wide by one hundred and twenty-five in length, of which there were four in the building, each communicating with the other, and well filled, nearly six hundred officers being at that time confined in Libby. Soon found a bare spot of floor, and lay down for a short rest, having only a rubber blanket and Mr. Scandlin's overcoat for a bed. At daylight were awakened by the sounds of many feet, and found the room alive with human beings; and, as we afterwards learned, much to our discomfort, each conveying about on his person and in his clothing quite a stock of living beings.

Breakfast came during the morning, and proved to be nearly all the ration for twenty-four hours—one-half pound of bread and two ounces of boiled beef. This, with a pint of soup made from spoiled bacon and a little rice, was our daily allowance during the first two weeks of our incarceration, after which we were permitted to purchase vegetables, were furnished with cooking-stoves, and ordered to do our own cooking, which was a great improvement to our fare.

Our bed, as on the morning of our arrival, consisted of Mr. Scandlin's coat, a rubber blanket, and the clothes we were in the daily habit of wearing.

Vermin were plenty, and our most strenuous efforts failed to keep them in abeyance.

Water was brought from and retained all the peculiar characteristics of James River; there was generally a sufficient quantity, though occasionally the supply would be partially cut off, causing considerable vexation of spirit. The floors were well swept twice each day, and were washed once a week. The apartments were thoroughly fumigated as often as every alternate day, and most of the rooms were fairly ventilated.

Were detained in this Prison till the morning of August 10, on which day Rev. Josiah Peterkin called to see us, and offered to do all in his power for our release and comfort; and soon after his departure we were sent into the hospital, with an order that we be made as comfortable as possible until the arrival of the next flag of truce, when we were to be paroled and sent North.

Mr. Brengle and Leonard Brink were at this time brought from the citizens' room and placed in hospital with us. They were much emaciated from want of fresh air and sufficient diet, but soon recovered a part of their former flesh and elasticity of spirit.

While in the hospital, everything was done that circumstances would admit of being done for our comfort; the surgeons were gentlemanly, kind and attentive to our necessary requirements, doing all they could to modify the restraint of prison discipline, and to make us feel as contented as was possible. Remained in hospital till September 2d, at which time an order was issued for the removal of all citizens to Castle Thunder; and though Mr. Scandlin was at the time suffering with a scorbutic limb, and I was ill with dysentery, we were moved to the Castle just about dark, and placed in a damp, vacant room on the ground floor, without beds, blankets, or any conveniences whatever, there to remain as best we could till morning should reveal our whereabouts, for it was dark when we entered. The morning light revealed to us a room about forty by twenty feet, with two grated windows on one side, a grated door at one end, a tub partially full of dirty water, intended to be used for drink, another nearly full of the excrements of thirty-two persons, who had been confined there during the night, many of them suffering from diarrhœa; two or three sailors' chests, which some of our number had brought with them, and a squad of tired, emaciated men. Breakfast, a large piece of bread and 4 ounces of boiled meat, was served in this apartment, without any means having been adopted to purify the atmosphere or remove the noisome tubs, and then we were examined preparatory to being sent to different parts of the building, as fate and the inspector might decree. Mr. Scandlin succeeded in having all our party (four persons) placed in the same room, (I was too ill at the time to care where we went,) and the Commissary very kindly loaned me a mattress to keep my bones from the floor; the prisoners in the room with us were very kind, and my own party were unremitting in their care of me.

During our sojourn in Libby we had managed by means of letters, some of which are appended to this document, and messages, to keep the authorities aware of our confinement, but on reaching Castle Thunder all communication with the outer world seemed to be cut off. But, thanks to Mr. Scandlin's energy and perseverance, a way was found to make our presence felt, and permission was obtained for a personal interview with Commissioner Ould. At this time I was very lame, and the active duties devolved on Mr. S., who had partially recovered from his lameness, and he went to see the Commissioner; returned with a promise that we should be released and sent North by the next flag of truce boat that took prisoners; this was about the 10th of September, and we waited patiently as possible the arrival of a boat. About September 15th a boat came up, but went back without prisoners, and we were compelled to wait till the night of the 21st, when we moved to Libby, paroled "not to bear arms or perform any of the duties of a soldier until regularly exchanged," and were sent into the hospital to remain till morning. One of our number, Mr. A. F. Brengle, was retained, he having been captured while returning from Harper's Ferry, and the Commissioner deciding that he was not a regular employé of the Commission; that he was taken while in the act of relieving a beleaguered garrison, and therefore must remain for the present. Our colored boy, Moses Gardner, was left at Libby, the Confederate Commissioner refusing to release him. I learned from some of the prisoners that he had acknowledged to having been previously a slave.

Tuesday, September 22d.—At 5 A. M. were off for the cars, and were soon on the road to City Point, where we arrived at 11 A. M. Found that General Meredith had been part way down the river the previous day, but had very kindly returned to await the arrival of Gen'l Graham and our party, whom he welcomed in a true friendly spirit; his kind and thoughtful act of returning to City Point saved us a series of inconveniences, and hastened our arrival in Washington several hours. During the trip he was very attentive and courteous, expressing his warmth and depth of feeling not by words alone, but by impressive action.

At Fortress Monroe were greeted by Mr. Gall, (in his own words,) "the last employé of the Commission to part from us on our departure for, and the first to greet us on our return from, Richmond."

Wednesday, 23d.—Left Fortress Monroe

at 6.30 P.M.; arrived in Baltimore at 5.30 of the succeeding morning, whence, after a warm greeting from the agents of the Commission at that place, we proceeded to Washington, arriving about 12 M., and immediately reported at the Central Office.

Having secreted and secured our money from capture, we were enabled, by remaining with the privates during the march, to relieve some individual cases of suffering by furnishing food, by cheering the desponding and encouraging the weak; also by caring for the sick and wounded, so long as they remained with us. It has been our endeavor, during the entire term of imprisonment, to perform our duties as agents of the Commission whenever opportunities were presented; and we have not always waited for the work to come to us, but have endeavored to go to it.

The day succeeding our arrival at Libby, I dispatched a note to "Capt. Turner, Commandant of the Prison," requesting a personal interview with him; the request was granted the following morning, and I then detailed to him the objects for which we were sent out, the operations of the Sanitary Commission in times past, and the circumstances attending our capture, requesting his advice and influence in obtaining our release. By his advice, I immediately forwarded to Commissioner Ould, by the hands of Capt. Turner, a letter, dated July 31st, the substance of which is contained, as nearly as I am able to remember, in my letter to Lieut. Latouche, August 28th. Hearing no word from Mr. Ould, I sent another similar communication some days later to Gen'l Winder, and August 15th received a verbal message from Lieut. Latouche, then acting Commandant of the Prison, requesting a statement of our capture, which I sent immediately, and at the end of which I enumerated the amount of property taken with us. August 27th this statement was returned, endorsed, "*Get a complete statement of the details. The writer of the inclosed seems* MORE *troubled about his* PROPERTY *than his* LIBERTY. What say the others?" or words very similar.

I sent the letter of August 28th to Lieut. Latouche in answer to the above, and inclosed in it an article cut from the *Philadelphia Enquirer* of July 22, entitled "Hospitals at Gettysburg." The next day received letter from Mr. Gall, of Aug. 27th, a copy of which accompanies the other documents, and immediately commenced collecting certificates, of which I transmit copies, also a statement of their disposition. We were not idle in sounding our trumpet in the call for Liberty, and but few days of our captivity passed without some of the Richmond officials being made aware of our presence in their citadel and capitol. I must add a few words of commendation for the patient, self-sacrificing zeal of my companions in captivity.

Mr. SCANDLIN proved to be all, and *more* than all he professed; constantly engaged in some good work, cheerful under the most adverse circumstances, ever ready to render aid and comfort to all in distress, he has become endeared not only to the agents of the Commission with whom he has been so long associated, but to most of the officers and men whom chance and the fortunes of war have placed in his path. He sought out the sick and inquiring, gave them freely, cheerfully, temporal and spiritual comfort at all times and in all seasons. He has proved himself to be an honest, faithful worker and a TRUE man, "the noblest work of God."

Mr. Brengle had been confined in the citizens' room from the time of reaching Richmond till August 10th—a period of about twenty days—had become much reduced in strength and size from the effects of hard fare and close confinement, yet was always cheerful, hopeful, and disposed to make the best of everything. It was with feelings of deep regret that we learned of the determination to hold him prisoner, even after our release. There is at present a faint hope of our being able to effect a special exchange for him soon.

Leonard Brink had also been confined with the citizens till the time of our removal to hospital, and his frame showed a decided want of fleshy covering when he joined us in our new quarters. Decent prison fare soon proved a benefit to him, and his patient, contented disposition aided greatly in restoring him to something like his former dimensions.

Hoping the results of this expedition

may prove of benefit to the cause for which we are laboring, with many thanks to the several members of the Commission who have labored so assiduously in obtaining our release, and with the sincere hope that there may never again be cause for such exertions.

WHAT WE HAVE AND WHAT WE NEED.

SANITARY COMMISSION,
CENTRAL OFFICE, 244 F ST.,
Washington, D. C., Oct. 3, 1863.

DEAR MISS COLLINS—The time is at hand when the chill autumn nights, to be followed by the frosts and snows of winter, will take the place of the heats of summer, and the cry of the army patients and surgeons will be for warm clothing and bedding, instead of for cotton garments, mosquito netting and fans. However thankful we may be for the successes of the Union arms, and however certain of their eventual triumph, there seems to be no sound reason for believing that the war will end very speedily; and, while it lasts, we may be sure that the women of the country will insist on their privilege of supplementing, in articles of comfort and delicacies suitable for the sick and wounded in hospital, the necessaries which Government so liberally provides for their husbands, lovers, sons and brothers in the field. While recognizing this, our experience during the last two winters reminds us of the necessity of preparing in season for the extensive calls which will soon commence, and which will continue throughout the winter—for warm clothing and bedding, quilts and blankets, woolen under-clothing and socks, will, judging by the past, be the articles of this kind most in demand; after these, bed and pillow-ticks, warm thick dressing gowns or wrappers, slippers, sheets, pillow-cases, towels and handkerchiefs. Of eatables, the chief demand will doubtless be, as heretofore, for stimulants of every kind; jellies and farinaceous food, dried fruits and preparations of beef, milk and vegetables.

I inclose with this a schedule showing the amount of stock in the Washington depots, at this date, of these and other articles most in demand. In a parallel column is shown their aggregated amount in the storehouses of our branches in Philadelphia, New York and Boston, according to the latest weekly reports furnished by them to this office. By this you will perceive that our stock of blankets, quilts, woolen drawers, bed-ticks, pillow-ticks, wrappers, dried fruit, farina, stimulants, and jellies, is very low; and that, so far as most of the articles are concerned, the same is true of the stock of most of our branches. You will not fail to observe that appearances indicate a return of our old trouble in collecting woolen drawers in quantities sufficient to match the woolen shirts; for while we have on hand 7,978 of the latter, we have only 440 of the former. In view of this indication, according as it does with our past experience on this head, I would suggest the propriety of your calling special attention among your correspondents to the fact, and of requesting them to organize their sewing labors so as to secure proportions of shirts and drawers more nearly equal. You will also observe that we have on hand but 20 pillow-ticks, 20 sponges, 3 bottles of gin and 3 of brandy; while our branches have none of any of them; that we have but 4 wrappers, and 3 barrels of dried fruit; and that the united stock of this depot and those of our branches is of the following articles, only: blankets 401, abdominal bandages 290, bed-ticks 580; (we had yesterday an order from the army of the Potomac for 500 bed-ticks.)

Your experience has doubtless led you to the same conclusion as my own, namely: that for our supplies of made-up dry-goods, by which I refer to quilts, under-clothing, socks, &c., and of made-up eatables—I mean jellies, preserves, pickles, dried fruit, &c.—we shall have to depend in great part on our country contributors; while for imported liquors and wines, preparations of beef and milk, and for fine groceries generally, our dependence must be almost entirely on those in the cities, or rather on the funds contributed by city residents; for the major part—I may say nearly all—of this latter expensive description of stock has hitherto been purchased directly from the dealers by the Commission and its branches. It would therefore be well, I think, that our methods and correspondence should be

simultaneously conducted with reference to these ascertained facts, and that we should make the most of the advantages afforded by what have been demonstrated to be the natural channels of supply, rather than that we should endeavor to force the current into those which our theories incline us to regard as the legitimate ones.

The excess of the stock on hand of linen rags, lint and bandages, over the current demands in almost all the depots tributary to the Commission, was, in the early part of the year, so great that some of the correspondents of this office proposed to sell their overplus to the paper manufacturers, and use the proceeds in the purchase of supplies, of which there existed a deficiency. I was impressed, however, with the conviction that this surplus would be but temporary, and that it simply resulted from the accumulations of old linen made before the commencement of the war in the households of the country; while I thought that the exhaustion of this accumulation, and the high prices for the basis of this kind of stock ruling in the market since the commencement of hostilities, would prove an effectual bar to such supplies in the future. I stated my impressions on this subject to my correspondents, and I am happy to say they were dissuaded from carrying out their intention. On reference to the figures, you will perceive that the aggregated amount of these materials now on hand in this depot and in those of our branches is only 236 barrels.

If this stock should, by the chances of war, be heavily drawn upon within a month or two, I am inclined to think that some exertion will be required to replenish it in sufficient quantities throughout the winter.

In reviewing our labors in the past and anticipating our prospects for the future, it cannot fail to afford matter of remark and congratulation to realize the extraordinary support which has been extended to the Commission, and through it to the National cause, by the loyal women of the country; for while money has been freely provided for its treasury by the rich men of the country, from the Pacific to the Atlantic coasts, the articles of clothing and the delicacies in the way of food provided by the women—rich and poor alike—have tenfold exceeded in cash value the donations of the former. And it will perhaps encourage your correspondents to know what I can assure them is the truth—that of some twenty thousand (20,000) cases of invoiced goods, many of them containing articles valued at several hundred dollars, which have been forwarded to this depot of the Commission, not more than one or two have failed to reach us. And it may also be satisfactory to know that the proportion of money expenditure for their distribution, made by the Commission for the various purposes of the remuneration of its employés, rent, freight, postage, and all other incidental outlays, does not amount to much more than three (3) per cent. on the cash value of the distributions made through its agency to the soldiers of the country.

Very respectfully and truly yours,
(Signed) ALFRED J. BLOOR,
Assistant Secretary.

Miss Ellen Collins, *Chairwoman Com. Cor. and Supplies, Woman's Central Association of Relief, New York.*

THE RATE OF EXCHANGE.

Mr. E. B. Fairchild is employed at Point Lookout in the collection of statistics regarding the physique of the men in the rebel armies, and the following letter recently received from him contains some curious facts as to the comparative value of United States and Confederate money, as settled by the rebels themselves:

Sanitary Commission, Point Lookout, Oct. 27, 1863.

Dr. L. H. Steiner:

My Dear Sir—I received yesterday the table and chairs. They were very welcome. I am getting on pretty well with my work; the cold weather and storm of the past week have interfered with me somewhat. The rebs are quite thinly clad, and they don't like to take off coat and shoes in my tent, where there is no fire. I am about having a fireplace and chimney built, and shall try and make the comforts of my tent a temptation to them to stay with me long enough to be measured. I have been telling them that I expected my spirometer by every boat, and many of them are waiting for that before they are measured. I

wish it might be sent down as soon as possible. The poor rebs suffer a good deal; many are almost entirely without shirts, very few of them have overcoats, and all are obliged to sleep on the ground, most of them in A tents, with three very much worn blankets for six men. There is a good deal of scurvy among them, contracted at Ft. Delaware; there is also considerable small-pox. Yesterday afternoon, as I had little to do, I accepted the invitation of one of them to walk through the camp; the first time I have been beyond my own tent. The main street is their *exchange*, and of all the bartering and "dickering" this beats anything I ever saw. The street was crowded, as I am informed it is from morning to night; here on the side of the street one was making coffee from the *grounds* taken from the cook-house, which he was selling for two dollars and a half "Confederate," or five cents "greenbacks," a cup. Another had half a dozen apples, and was crying out "Here's your nice apples, two for three dollars;" another, "Here's your hard-tack, five for a dollar;" another, "Here's your nice tobacco, one chaw for a dollar." While I was standing still looking on, I was beset on all sides to give tobacco for rings. One fellow wanted to sell me a pipe. I asked him the price: "Two dollars and a half 'Confederate, or *five cents greenbacks*,' I don't care which." They sell everything. I saw one man who had no shirt on, who had just received one from the Provost Marshal, trying to sell it for tobacco. They make bricks of clay, which they dry in the sun, of which they make chimneys with fireplaces to warm their tents. They used to make them for two dollars and a half a hundred, or five cents "greenbacks;" but recently some of our soldiers have been buying them, and they have raised the price to twenty-five cents a hundred, equivalent to twelve and a half dollars a hundred Confederate. I made a bargain with one of them yesterday to build me a chimney. He charged me thirty-four *dollars*, and thought me very liberal when I offered him fifty cents in "greenbacks." There is a good deal of Confederate money among them; some of the men are buying it up. A rebel sergeant showed me $18,000 to-day. I wish you could come down here for a couple of days. It would pay you well if you could spare the time. The last measurement I have taken is No. 555. I have done a good day's work to-day.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) E. B. FAIRCHILD.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION AT GETTYSBURG.

The following has reference to the testimony borne to the value of the labors of the Commission on the field at Gettysburg, by Mr. John F. Seymour, a brother of Governor Seymour of this State:

To the Editor of the Utica Morning Herald.

Our townsman, Mr. John F. Seymour, has spent eight days at Gettysburg and in its neighborhood, ministering to the wants of our wounded soldiers. In a letter just received from him, after speaking of their condition—"some in churches, some in barns, some in tents among forest trees, some in tents on open fields, some under such shelter as a farmer would be ashamed to show for his cows, some under blankets hung over cross-sticks, and some without even so much shelter as that," he says: "The United States Medical Department, which is not excelled by any in the world for efficiency, has made ample provision for 10,000 wounded soldiers—its officers and medicines were on the battle-ground—but when the enemy retreated from Gettysburg they left 11,000 wounded men in buildings, and on open fields, and in the woods; and thus 20,000, instead of 10,000, men were immediately to be cared for in a small village and in a farming country already pillaged or partly exhausted by Lee's army. The railroad, which might have brought supplies, was broken up for miles, and the telegraph wires and poles were down. What of the Sanitary Commission in this emergency? Everything that is praiseworthy. The Medical Department could not have got along without that and the Christian Commission. The soldiers would have starved to death without their aid. As soon as the railroad was repaired the Sanitary Commission sent an ice-car daily from Philadelphia, loaded with fresh meats, milk and vegetables. With its ambulances it poured in among the suffering multitude thousands of pounds of bread and meat, clothing, blankets, bandages, beef-tea, condensed milk, liquors, and, in short, everything that human kindness could devise was gathered up by the wide benevolence of this Commission, and poured out among the wounded soldiers, friend and foe alike, until they were more than supplied. I can-

not sufficiently express my admiration and gratitude for the Sanitary and Christian Commissions. The Sanitary Commission is worthy of all the aid and confidence which its most zealous friends in Utica have ever claimed for it. Fully to appreciate its labors you need to *witness* the wants and sufferings of the thousands of wounded and dying scattered over miles of country around Gettysburg."

Mr. Seymour speaks further of the condition of the wounded, and then adds:

"Imagine, if you can, all these things, and then you may understand something of the value and the necessity of a Commission like this, to which the citizens of Utica have so wisely contributed." He says: "In addition to the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, delegations from Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Michigan and other States have been at Gettysburg, striving to mitigate the pain and where the wants of these wounded soldiers."

Mr. Seymour speaks of the impression which, he fears, prevails in relation to the conduct of the people of Gettysburg after the battle, and concludes thus:

"Doubtless, miserable wretches are to be found there, as in every other place, who have extorted money from soldiers and strangers;—but it should be recollected that the village and surrounding country had been occupied by Lee's hungry army before the battle. The people were worn out by excitement and terror—by the presence and conflict of great armies—and then came 20,000 wounded men, and thousands of anxious friends, all crowding in upon the inhabitants. There was scarcely a house that was not filled with strangers, occupying beds, sofas and floors. The exhausted inhabitants fed and lodged them with the greatest hospitality. That there were instances of shameful impositions cannot be denied; but they would have been practiced anywhere. At Gettysburg they were only the exceptions to a generous hospitality of a people who had difficulty in providing for themselves."

These extracts from Mr. Seymour's letter will, I am sure, be read with interest. If any additional testimony were required of the ceaseless labors and vigilance, the wise and benevolent action, and the indispensable necessity of the Sanitary Commission, it is furnished, at least to us, by what is here said by a fellow-citizen who is so well known and so highly and justly esteemed as Mr. Seymour.

The ladies of Utica who have been so long and so patiently, industriously, and effectively engaged in contributing to the supplies of the Commission, will find some reward for their self-sacrificing labors in Mr. Seymour's statements, and will be excited to continued and increased efforts in behalf of such an instrumentality of mercy, (as is the Sanitary Commission,) to those who are offering up their lives in defence of all that is dear to them and to us all.

Your readers, Mr. Editor, know that subscriptions of monthly contributions to the funds of the Ladies' Society were quite extensively made in the city during the last spring. The sums subscribed are payable to Mr. Thomas Buchanan, at the Savings Bank of Utica. If they are all promptly paid it will enable the society to continue its good work without any labor or anxiety about funds, and without any further call upon our citizens for pecuniary aid. There is a large amount of the subscriptions in arrear. The subscribers are *urgently requested to pay arrearages immediately, and hereafter to pay promptly on the first Friday of every month, according to the terms of the subscription.* Unless this is done it will be necessary to employ a collector, which will involve considerable expense, and so far diminish the fund, every dollar of which should be devoted to the direct object of the society.

THE HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

"ONE INQUIRY AND ONE ANSWER."

The working of this machinery, erected by the Commission for the supply of information with regard to patients in the various United States Hospitals, is well illustrated by the following facts taken from Mr. H. S. Holbrook's report from Louisville, Ky., of Sept. 1, 1863:

An old man enters the office. He has traveled from Northern Ohio to meet his son in this city; he has been told to inquire at the Sanitary Commission rooms for direction to the hospital which contains him. While the clerk turns to the books, he chats of his son and home, of the different articles in his carpet-bag, put in by mother and sisters at home—each had sent some little comfort. He is all animation and hope, as if at the very door which is to admit him to the realization of all his happy anticipations. The *record* says—"died"—that very morning! The *register* says, "one inquiry, one answer." It does not speak of the careful preparatory suggestions that sympathy tenderly makes towards the announcement of the saddening fact. It does not show that strong old man convulsed and weeping like a child. You see not his departure from the office stunned with grief. You feel not the stifled thanks of his farewell grasp—full payment for all your sympathy and care. He goes slowly and sadly away. One of the clerks accompanies him, who procures a burial-case for the remains of his "poor boy," and assists him in all his preparations for his mournful journey

home on the same day. The register says —"one inquiry, one answer."

"A mother from Northern Indiana has received a dispatch that her son is sick in Nashville; she is on her way to see him; she applies for a pass, but passes for ladies are seldom granted, and not without a permit from head-quarters. Her credentials are all right, but she is told that it is more than doubtful if she is permitted to go. She comes to the Directory; her son's name is on the books; "telegraphing is expensive, and the result doubtful." "'Tis too bad," she exclaims, "I have seven sons, and all of them in the army; I do not wish them away, but I do want, if they get sick, the privilege of going to nurse them." "My dear madam, you shall go; that fact will get you a pass," and so it did. The register says, "one inquiry, one answer."

A sprightly young wife is sent from the telegraph office to have a dispatch written for a permit to visit her husband in Nashville. She is quite impatient at the useless delay in consulting the records for his name. "She *knows* he is in Nashville, and all she wants is a dispatch written, and will be obliged for as much haste as possible." "Are you sure he is in Nashville ?" "Certainly." "You would have no objections to meeting him here ?" "You are playing with me, sir; will you give me the dispatch ?" "I don't think you will need one. This 'abstract' will please you better. *There* are directions where to find your husband, a few blocks off." With one look, to be sure she was not being "played" with, she was off from the office down street at what he would have called the "double quick," and found him *not* in *Nashville*. Had she not come to the Directory, possibly she might have obtained a pass to Nashville, and gone; or failing in that, would have gone home without seeing him.

A short time ago this case came under our notice. A soldier in hospital in Nashville writes to his wife that he is very sick, and requests her to come to him. The letter was dated the 5th Sept. Two days afterwards he is transferred to Louisville, but his letter informing her of the change never reached her. She leaves home and stops over night in Louisville, and goes to Nashville on the 15th. There she learns that he is in Louisville. Delayed for lack of funds, she returns to this city on the 22d and finds that he died on the night of the 16th, the next night after she lodged in the same city, so near to each other, yet never to meet. Had she known of the Hospital Directory, and consulted it, this lifelong grief would have been prevented.

A father desires to visit a sick son. His statements accord with our record. The dispatch written for him explains the case.

"To Brig.-Gen. J. A. Garfield, Chief of Staff, Murfreesboro', Tenn.: Had four sons in army; two are dead; two belong to the 89th Ohio, Co. ——. William C—— is sick at Gallatin, hospital four. Please grant pass. A. C——.

J. S. Newberry, Voucher."

The pass was granted.

A father from Pennsylvania presents a letter from the surgeon of a hospital in Nashville, saying that his son will be discharged, and sent to this city in care of the Sanitary Commission, and requests the father to meet him here. He asks, "Where is he ?" We have no note of his arrival. "He must still be in hospital at Nashville. But stay; here is a report just in." The name is there, and died August 9, 1863, the very day the father received the letter, and set out to meet him. His son had sent him word not to bring more money than necessary to pay his fare to Louisville, as he was paid off and had enough. What was to be done ? We loaned him his passage home; made out the necessary papers to get the effects of his son; wrote to Nashville to Sanitary Commission agents to forward them, and he left for home that evening.

We might multiply similar cases indefinitely, each one possessing some peculiarity to vary the service, needed to meet the wants of the applicant. But these must suffice.

HEALTH OF THE BRITISH ARMY.

The following is a summary of the Report of the Deputy Inspector General, which has just been issued, for the year 1861:

It shows that among the troops serving in the United Kingdom, the admissions into hospital were 1.025 per 1,000 of mean strength, the deaths 91.24, and the constantly sick 54.54; a slight reduction from the previous year in all these particulars. Excluding the depots, because in them many are men with health impaired by service in unhealthy climates, the mortality among the troops was lower than that of the male population in the healthy districts of England under the age of 25, nearly identical with it between 25 and 30, but higher than that of the civil population above the latter age. The leading facts of the great prevalence of venereal and high mortality by tubercular diseases remained unchanged; the former having caused more than a third of all the admissions into hospital, and the latter above a third of the total deaths. The admissions into hospital for venereal diseases amounted to 354 per 1,000 of mean strength, equal to more than one man in every three; and the inefficiency thus caused was equal to the loss of the services of every soldier at home for 8.56 days, being a trifle under the amount in the preceding year. The admissions per

1,000 of strength from this cause reached 487 at Manchester, 485 at Portsmouth, 470 at Plymouth, 469 at Belfast, 399 at Woolwich, 361 at Aldershot; in London and Windsor they were 328 among the Foot Guards, but only 135 among the Household Cavalry. Diseases of the respiratory system, influenza, and tonsillitis were less prevalent than in the previous year; they prevail most among the dock-yards and arsenals, a result probably of the greater amount of duty and exposure of the men. There were 33 instances of accidental death by drowning—a strong hint that the men should be instructed in swimming. The infliction of corporal punishment varied in the year from 1 per 1,000 in London and Windsor, to 2.9 in the large manufacturing towns. In the cavalry, artillery, and infantry regiments, the whole mortality in the year was lower than that (7.41) in the most healthy districts of England; but this comparison is made after the elimination of diseased lives from the ranks of the army by invaliding, and the invaliding in all arms except the Household Cavalry, was higher than 1860. The strength of the army having been raised above the authorized establishment, it became necessary to reduce it, and for this purpose a number of the least efficient men were discharged, who, under ordinary circumstances, would have continued to serve. If the deaths of men invalided in 1861, and who died before the end of that year, be included in the calculation, the returns for 1861 show an increase in the mortality of the Cavalry and Foot Guards, but a decrease in that of the Artillery, Military Train and Infantry regiments; and the ratio of deaths per 1,000 of strength becomes 10.54 in the Household Cavalry, 8.43 in the cavalry of the line, 7.73 in the Royal Artillery, 12.19 in the Foot Guards, and 9.05 in the infantry regiments. The mortality by tubercular diseases was very high in the Household Cavalry, but it is an accidental fluctuation, arising from the small numbers under observation. Omitting these troops and the depots, which included men sent home for change of climate, the proportion of deaths by tubercular diseases is remarkable for its uniformity in all the arms, ranging between 2.41 per 1,000 in the cavalry of the line and the Foot Guards, and 2.75 in the Military Train. But it is in diseases of this class that the effect of invaliding, in reducing the mortality, must be most strikingly seen. Combining the mortality and the invaliding, which is the only way of arriving at a correct conclusion, the ratios of decrease (through tubercular disease) by deaths and invaliding, were 8.41 per 1,000 in the Royal Artillery, 8.68 in the infantry regiments, 12.18 in the cavalry of the line, 13.75 in the Military Train, and no less than 18.07 in the Foot Guards, or twice as great as in the artillery or infantry. These proportions are considerably higher than in 1860, but the more extensive invaliding must be borne in mind. Delirium tremens is only entered as the cause of death in two instances in 1861, and it gave rise to fewer admissions into hospital than in the preceding years; so also did "intemperance." The admissions from delirium tremens and ebriositas conjointly, were 3.28 per 1,000 of mean strength in the Household Cavalry, 5.38 in the cavalry of the line, as high as 6.39 in the Royal Artillery, 4.47 in the Foot Guards, and 5.65 in the infantry regiments. In the depots, the admissions for these diseases, the direct result of drinking, were generally considerably higher. It is remarkable that the ratio of admissions into hospital in some corps is double that in others, and that for a considerable part of the year, the most sickly and the most healthy corps were stationed at the same place.*

From the Mediterranean stations the returns are generally satisfactory; but Gibraltar contributes a high ratio of invalids from pulmonary and cardiac diseases; and disease resulting from immorality, though much less than in the army at home, has increased, notwithstanding the police regulations. In Canada, also, there is an increase of this class of cases, but the amount is still much below that shown in the home returns; and the returns of sickness generally, both from Canada and Nova Scotia, present a very satisfactory result when compared with those relating to the troops serving at home. The report from British Columbia indicates a remarkably healthy condition of the troops—a detachment of the Royal Engineers. In a force of 130 men there was but one death—that of a sapper, who was frozen to death while returning to head-quarters from a surveying expedition. From the West Indies, the returns show a great improvement over the previous year, but the mortality among the black troops is still very heavy. In Jamaica, the ratio constantly sick was only 29.87 per 1,000 among the white troops, but 52.23 among the black—a difference which is traced to the circumstance of the black troops being quartered in the low lands, where intermittent fevers are rife, while the white troops were in the more healthy climate of Newcastle. In Western Africa, the mortality of the troops (black) considerably exceeded 40 per thousand—a

* There is very little doubt that the difference in the rate of admissions into hospital in different corps, noted here, is, other things being equal, due to difference in the officers. Great inattention to the health and comfort of the men, in the sanitary condition of the quarters, on the part of the officers, over-rigid discipline, and a harassing amount of drill, it is well known, have a large influence in developing disease, if only by driving the men into vicious courses as a means of distraction.

mortality greatly above the average of the two preceding years. It is attributed partly to the fatigue and exposure of the men in two expeditions of a hostile nature. The returns from the Cape of Good Hope show a considerable improvement in most respects. The principal medical officer notices the prevalence of disease of the heart, and attributes it in great part to intemperance, keeping up an excitement of the circulation, aggravated by high atmospheric temperature. From Mauritius the return is, for that climate, remarkably favorable, owing, it is supposed, to the influence of two hurricanes. In Ceylon, the mortality was high, nearly 20 per 1,000, but still much below the average of the two previous years. In Australia the mortality was as high as 15.44 per 1,000; and in New Zealand also, deducting men killed in action, the mortality was considerably above the average; in both these colonies rheumatism was the chief cause of invaliding. In Southern China the mortality fell to 23 per 1,000; but in the north, where a large garrison was left at Tien-tsin, it was more than double that ratio, and reached 54 per 1,000. The deaths from miasmatic diseases were 31.80 per 1,000 in the north, and only 12.58 in the south. The diseases especially fatal in the north were dysentery, diarrhœa, and cholera. Diseases caused by immorality were only half as common in the north as in the south; in the south the admissions into hospital from this cause reached 511 per thousand; but their prevalence among the native troops, as compared with the European, was in proportion of only one to seven. The average number constantly sick among the European troops, was in South China as high as 283 per 1,000, and in North China 205; 392 men, 63.8 per 1,000 of mean strength, were sent home to England for change of climate, and the number finally discharged the service as invalids in 1861 was 116, or 18.88 per 1,000 of strength. The climate of Tien-tsin is described as remarkably dry, and there is great predominance of blue sky at all seasons; the thermometer ranged in 1861 from 108 deg. to—1.5 deg. Lastly we have the returns from India. Out of an average force of 57,082 of her Majesty's troops, 2,097 men died, 36.74 per 1,000. The chief mortality was in Bengal, and was occasioned by the severe epidemic of cholera, which caused more than half the total mortality in that Presidency. Exclusive of the deaths by it, the ratio of mortality in Bengal amounted to only 22 per 1,000, and the mortality in the two other Presidencies was much lower than in 1860; it was 15.13 in Madras, and 24.72 in Bombay. Nine men died from sun-stroke; 857, 15 per cent. of the average strength, were discharged the service as invalids in the course of the year.

WHERE YOUR GIFTS GO.

It is a white dusty ridge in Alabama; tall, slim oaks sprinkle it, and beneath them, in streets with a strange, far eastern look, stand the tents of one of those blessed cities of mercy—a field hospital. The sun pours hotly down; a distant drum snarls now and then as if in a dream; the tinkling concert of a cloud of locusts—the cicada of the South—comes, like the dear old sleigh-bells' chime, from a distant tree. "The loud laugh that tells the vacant mind" is unheard; the familiar sound of closing doors and children's carol never rises there; the tents swell white, and sad, and still. Within them lie almost three thousand soldiers, marred with all wounds conceivable, wasted with pain, parched with fever, wearily turning, wearily waiting to take up the blessed march. Ho, for the North! That is the word, the ever-abiding charmer that "lingers still behind." It is Stevenson; it is Nashville; it is Louisville; it is home; it is heaven. Alas for it, how they falter and sleep by the way! And every one of these men was *somebody's* boy once; had a mother once, a wife, a sister, a sweetheart; but "better is a friend that is near than a brother afar off," and now comes the blessed mission of woman. True, there are only two here in person, but how many in heart and work!

You have been thinking, my sisters, where is our work in all these scenes? That snowy roll of linen; that little pillow beneath the sufferer's head; that soft fold across the gashed breast; that cooling drink the rude, kind, stalwart nurse is putting to yonder boy's white lips; that delicacy this poor fellow is just partaking; that dressing-gown whose broidered hem those long, thin fingers are toying with; the slippers a world too wide for the thin, faltering feet; the dish of fruit a left hand is slowly working at, his right laid upon our Federal altar at Chickamauga, never to be lifted more. Your tree, my sister, bore that fruit; your fingers wrought, your heart conceived. "What do the women say about us boys at home?" slowly asked a poor wreck of a lad, as I sat by his side. That brow of his ached, I know, for the touch of a loving hand, "and the sound of a voice that is still." At the moment he asked the question he was turning over a little silken needle-book that one of you laughing girls made some day and tucked in a corner of a bag, labeled "United States Sanitary Commission." On the cover of that book you had wrought the words—playfully, perhaps—"My bold soldier boy." I silently pointed to the legend; the reply struck home to his heart; and he burst into tears. I assure you they were not bitter tears he shed, and as he wiped them away with a fine film of a

handkerchief you girls had hemmed for him, his question was twice answered, and he was content. His eyelids closed down, his breathing was regular; he had fallen asleep, and I thought it was the picture of the "Soldier's Dream" over again.

You hear of the mal-appropriation of your gifts, but never fear; one grain may fail, but two will spring up and blossom out into "forget-me-nots." Your work is everywhere. Go with me to that tent standing apart; it is the dead-house tent. Four boys in their brown blankets, four white wood coffins, four labels with four names on four still breasts. Two of the four garments the sleepers wear are of linen from your stores, stitched by your fingers. Verily, the Ladies' Soldiers' Aid Societies should be named "Mary," for are they not like her of old, "last at the cross and earliest at the grave?"—*From B. T. Taylor's Chattanooga Correspondence with the Chicago Journal.*

RELIEF OF OUR PRISONERS IN RICHMOND.

The following report will, it is hoped, supply all needed information as to what can be done, and what has been done by the Commission for the relief of the Union soldiers now confined at Richmond.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 823 Broadway, New York, Nov. 11, 1863.

The Rev. H. W. Bellows, D.D., President of the U. S. Sanitary Commission:

Sir—In reply to your request accompanying the letter of the Rev. —— ——— of the 10th inst., which asked what had been, and what could be done by the Commission for the relief of Union men in the Richmond prisons, I have the honor to report, following the order of Mr. ——'s inquiries:

1. The supplies of clothing and reading matter mentioned on page 30 of the Sanitary Commission Bulletin of Nov. 1, of which I have sent a copy to Mr. ——, were contained in 15 cases. From Gen. Neal Dow we have the acknowledgment of the receipt by him of 13 of these cases, and of his partial distribution of them among the officers confined with him at Libby prison. He was expecting on the 1st inst. to obtain permission the next day to complete the distribution among the privates on Belle Isle.

2. The Commission has, since the receipt of these advices from Gen. Dow, sent to him a consignment of concentrated food, beef stock for making soup, condensed milk, extract of coffee, sweet chocolate, &c. This is evidently experimental. Should these articles reach our braves without being made to pay heavier tribute on the way than did the first consignment, the Commission will of course keep up a steady supply.

3. The Sanitary Commission has been unwilling to assume any responsibility for transmitting packages of either food or clothing to specified individuals at Richmond. Its supplies sent there, as in its general relief service, are sent to those who need them most. Its channel of relief, somewhat limited by the Confederate authorities, would be speedily choked, if it was open to consignments for individuals. To show how important the Commission considers this rule, I may mention that one of its own officers whose kinsman is languishing in Libby, is unwilling to appropriate its privileges for individual relief.

I may here say that Gen. S. A. Meredith, Commissioner for Exchange at Fortress Monroe, Va., is authorized by our Government to send on its account such supplies of clothing to our men imprisoned at Richmond as they may need and as the Confederate authorities will permit. The newspapers also assert that Gen. Meredith will receive packages for individuals, but of this I am not sure.

4. The Commission is not informed as to the methods by which the Government intends to protect its soldiers from sufferings such as they have recently experienced at Richmond, nor as to the prospect of a general exchange of prisoners, but it has asked of the Secretary of War the privilege of sending, with the assent of the Confederate authorities, to the Libby and Belle Isle prisons an accredited agent, who will be devoted to ministering to the necessities of our men there. An efficient and discreet person is now under appointment, only awaiting permission of the authorities to enter upon the mission.

Respectfully yours,

J. FOSTER JENKINS,
General Secretary of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

By the steamer of October 31st, Messrs. J. B. Abbott, O. C. Bullard and W. S. Bullard sailed for New Orleans, to establish in the Department of the Gulf "Homes" and "Lodges" in connection with the special relief work of the Commission. And by the steamer of the 14th inst., Dr. E. A. Crane, sanitary inspector; Mr. Thomas Furniss, store-keeper; and Messrs. Edward Mitchell, Gordon Grant and John Stephens, Jr., relief agents, went out to the same department to reinforce the general working corps of the Commission in the extreme Southwest.

REPORT OF SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

(Continued from our last.)

Leaving Washington, we come next to Annapolis; here, in July last, a "Home for nurses, mothers, wives, and relatives of sick soldiers" was established, similar in its objects and methods to the "Nurses' Home" in Washington. It has met an evident need, and given to many wives and mothers, who came among strangers, seeking their sick husbands or sons, the shelter and welcome of a home. During the past two (2) months the number of meals furnished there has been 2,847; the number of nights' lodging 569. There have been as many as twenty-five women who found their rest here in a single night. The "Home" is conveniently located, and with an experienced matron in charge, is under the immediate supervision of Chaplain Henries, U. S. A.; it is performing a kind mission.

At Baltimore there has been a Special Relief agent, who has taken in hand the defective papers of discharged men, aided in collecting their pay, obtained transportation for those without means, and in general given "aid and comfort" to those needing it. His assistant, with great faithfulness, has visited every boat which has arrived from Fortress Monroe since the 1st of June last, and every train of cars from Washington or from the West, looking after, protecting, directing any soldiers who seem to need assistance; his record-book shows that he has thus given aid, more or less, to 4,627 from June 1st to Oct. 1st, of whom he has taken over 2,000 to the "Union Relief Rooms" of Baltimore, where they have received meals and lodgings with kindly care.

In Philadelphia, there has been much done by the "Woman's Penn. Branch U. S. Sanitary Commission," in the way of Special Relief, although the admirable local organizations of the city left comparatively a small amount to be done in that direction, excepting the work of helping families of soldiers. The "Free Pension Agency" of the Philadelphia Branch of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, under the efficient management of Mr. Ashman, has been doing a most valuable service; up to the present date Mr. Ashman has made out the pension papers for over one thousand applicants, and with painstaking care investigated and successfully followed out many peculiarly complicated cases. He also, without cost, collects all "claims" for discharged soldiers. Notices of this office and its aid are posted in the hospitals in that vicinity, and endeavors are made to secure its benefits to all discharged soldiers needing such assistance as it renders.

In New York, whatever Special Relief work has fallen upon the Commission has been attended to by the "Woman's Central Association of Relief;" with occasional exceptions, this work has consisted in judiciously assigning the applicant for aid to such existing Relief Association in the city as his case pointed to; or if more immediate assistance was needed, as clothes and transportation, such have been furnished. The local provisions in New York for assisting disabled soldiers are large, embracing the New England Rooms and the State Institution, "The New York Relief Association."

The following report from Boston will show the methods adopted there, and the results which have followed.

It is to be considered that this Relief work in Boston was not started until March last, its need until then hardly being acknowledged, yet the absolute necessity for its existence has been asserted by its results every day since. I make mention of this fact and give the report in full, in order to set an example and give the suggestion to the various large cities throughout the land, and I would ask, whether the associate members of the Sanitary Commission in such cities and large sea-coast or inland towns might not wisely and humanely establish "Homes" on a smaller or broader scale, as the case may be. At least they should, I am sure, carefully inform themselves of the nature of the needs in their midst, and the methods in detail by which those needs are to be met.

F. N. KNAPP, *Special Relief Agent U. S. Sanitary Com'n, Washington, D. C.:*

MY DEAR SIR—I submit herewith a brief Report relating to the Special Relief ser-

vice of the Sanitary Commission in Boston.

This service was organized in the month of March, 1863, under the direction of an executive committee, appointed for the purpose by the resident associate members. The establishment, which is located at No. 76 Kingston Street, is in charge of a superintendent and assistants, and has been administered with the following results:

From the date of its organization to October 1, 1863, a period of about six months, aid has been rendered to 3,050 soldiers, classified as follows:

Furnished with transportation at Gov't rates	1,091
" " " paid by Com'n.	142
" " " by Quarterm'r.	450
" carriage within the city	875
" special attendance to their homes	71
" lodging	1,407
" meals—(No. of meals, 4,129)	1,938
" clothing—(No. of garments, 489)	260
" aid in arranging papers	96
" " obtaining pay	91
" medical advice	322
Wounds dressed	155
Procured commutation of rations	73
Loaned money—(amount, $10.02)	19
Gave money—(amount, $9.08)	28
Sent to Hospital	60
Referred to local Relief Associations	25
Enlisted	14
Obtained Pension	1
Procured Coffins	3
Total	3,050

The recipients are thus classified in the order of States: Massachusetts, 1,480; Maine, 926; New Hampshire, 210; Vermont, 31; New York, 54; Pennsylvania, 12; Ohio, 41; Rhode Island, 9; Maryland, 2; District Columbia, 7; Louisiana, 2; Illinois, 5; Iowa, 4; Minnesota, 5; California, 1; Connecticut, 6; U. S. Army, 70; U. S. Navy, 26; Invalid Corps, 45; Kansas, Wisconsin, Missouri, Kentucky, Delaware, Alabama, and Rebel Army, 1 each.

The following articles, drawn from the Supply Department of the N. E. Woman's Auxiliary Association, have been used in furnishing the rooms and for distribution:

Bedquilts, 13; blankets, 13; sheets, 124; pillows, 56; pillow-cases, 63; bed-sacks, 12; flannel shirts, 70; cotton shirts, 48; socks, 218 prs.; towels, 78; slippers, 62 prs.; old shirts, 51; cotton drawers, 106; dressing-gowns, 1; flannel drawers, 42; handkerchiefs, 60; slings, 16; flannel shirts, 24; 1 lot bandages and old pants; 6 tin cups and 2 water-pails.

I am unable to furnish you at present with an exact statement of the cost of the service for the last three months, ending October 1, but hand you herewith a full statement of expense account for the three months ending July 1, 1863, which period includes the first outlay for furnishing rooms, &c.

For the three months ending July 1, 1863, the total expenditure, covering the whole cost of the service, was $1,962 17, classified as follows:

For furnishing Rooms	$ 464 51
" " Hospital	254 82
" Rent and Taxes	118 50
" Salaries	363 59
" Advertising	185 00
" Printing	49 00
" Stationery	70 71
Traveling Expenses	45 00
Postage	8 00
Superintendent's Current Expense Ac't	320 03
Miscellaneous	83 01
Total	$1,962 17

For this period of three months the number of soldiers who received the aid of the Commission was 837.

Deducting from the total expenditure the first necessary outlay for furnishing rooms, $719 33, as shown in above statement of account, and as distinguished from the ordinary current expenses, the cost per soldier is shown to be as 837 to 1,242 $\frac{84}{100}$, or about $1.45 each.

Permit me to add that abundant evidence has been afforded that this service of the Commission, as already administered in Boston, has been attended with the most beneficent and gratifying results.

I am, my dear sir,

Very sincerely yours,

JNO. S. BLATCHFORD,

Sec'y of Boston Ex. Com. Sanitary Com.

BOSTON, *Oct.* 1*st*, 1863.

I pass now from the North to the West. The Special Relief work at the West, at three or four points, was established a year and more ago by the Branches of the Sanitary Commission; while at other points this work had not until within six or eight months its special place assigned to it, but it came in in connection with the general Relief work of the Commission. I have not the reports which would enable me to give the details of these Lodges and Homes at the West. I can only speak of their methods and their work in general terms, and give the gross results of their labors.

In general terms, then, the same Special Relief work is done at the West by the Commission and its Branches which has been described in detail at Washington; modified, of course, at each point, by the circumstances of the case. Thus, at one point there is no occasion for the correction of papers, but the largest occasion for shelter and care; at one station there is no call for clothing and nursing, but the loudest call for nutritious food; at one section a Home or Lodge has no place; in another section its open doors are like open arms to those ready to perish.

And thus, according to the needs which were to be met, have been the methods and amount of Special Relief throughout the entire West. And while I cannot furnish the detail of this work, I can with great confidence assert, that throughout that region an immense amount of Relief has thus been given to thousands and thousands of soldiers; and at all the several points of relief after Lodges have been established the aid has been given promptly, wisely, and abundantly. Could the records of these several Lodges and Homes have been copied they would, I am sure, make a living history, telling of how much soldiers have to bear, and yet what kindly helps are at hand to aid in making their burdens light; how much, with all alleviations, soldiers have to suffer, yet how nobly and patiently the suffering is borne; of weak limbs bound in with strong hearts; of eyes looking towards home, yet with feet firmly set towards the camp or battle-field.

I can, however, merely give in figures the numbers cared for at these Homes, as indicated by the number of Lodges and of meals furnished there to Oct. 1st. Part of these Homes, as I said, have been opened only seven or eight months—others from nearly the beginning of the war.

The following are some of the figures furnished by Dr. Newberry, Associate Secretary in charge of the Western Department of the U. S. San. Com. at Cleveland, Ohio:

Nights' lodging furnished	2,569
Meals given	12,227
Home at Chicago, Ill., (opened in July last.)	
Nights' lodging furnished	3,109
Meals given	11,325
Home in Cincinnati, Ohio.	
Nights' lodging (about)	10,000
Meals given	40,017
Home at Louisville, Ky.	
Nights' lodging	17,765
Meals given (at the Home)	52,080
" " (at the Station House).	49,933
Lodge at Nashville, Tenn.	
Nights' lodging	4,821
Meals given	11,909
Home at Cairo, Ill.	
Nights' lodging	79,550
Meals given	190,150
Lodge at Memphis, Tenn.	
Nights' lodging	2,850
Meals given	14,780

This note should be here made: that at Cincinnati, Louisville and Cairo, many besides *invalid* soldiers are included in the number of those fed and cared for. At these points, the Home of the Commandant drawing rations from Government for the purpose, has at times provided for detached companies, or parts of regiments, or even whole regiments; thus meeting the needs which in Washington and elsewhere are provided for at the "Soldiers' Rests," which are under the exclusive care of Government. This fact, in part, accounts for the numbers attached to the record of the Homes at those places, which might seem unaccountably large, if limited strictly to invalid soldiers receiving care.

The Special Relief work upon the Atlantic coast, from Newbern down, has been embraced in the general relief work of the commandant until recently. Arrangements are now made for establishing Homes and all facilities for special relief at all the points on the coast wherever there are large numbers of our troops.

[The appendix to this Report, containing facts bearing upon the question of the provision to be made for disabled discharged soldiers, will be presented hereafter in another connection.]

Mr. Knapp, our Associate Secretary, has just returned from Chicago, too late, unfortunately, for his account of the "Northwestern Fair," held in that city, to appear in this number of the BULLETIN. We shall publish it in our next. He describes the Fair as having been a great success.

REPORTS FROM THE WEST.

The reports this week relate almost entirely to the doings of the Commission in Tennessee. Dr. Warriner writes from Memphis, October 6:

Yours of the 29th ult., inclosing letter from Mrs. A. Hege, dated in August, reached me yesterday. I went immediately to the rooms of the Christian Commission to ascertain their feelings towards our Commission, and to inquire into their methods of operating. They have not received any sanitary stores since their establishment here, and do not wish any. I proposed to turn over to them our miscellaneous reading matter, and receive from them in turn any boxes of sanitary stores which might chance to be forwarded to them. They cordially agreed to such arrangement. They have a very pleasant reading-room, supplied with secular and religious newspapers, including some of the prominent dailies, and an ample list of religious books.

Miscellany they are deficient in, and appreciate its value as an attraction to many who would not otherwise be induced to visit them.

Mr. Burnett has always been ready to assist me and second my efforts wherever in the field I have met him. He is at present absent from here, on a tour of humanity to Chattanooga. His associate here assures me that they are agreed and quite decided on the question of disbursing sanitary stores.

THE LODGE AT MEMPHIS.

Through the kindness of the Medical Department I have secured stoves for warming the Lodge.

Gen. Hurlburt has given me authority for purchasing fuel, to be paid for out of the contingent fund under his control. The Lodge is doing an excellent work. Mr. Christy's management of it is above criticism. He showed me his weekly report, forwarded to-day. There has been hitherto so extreme a caution on the part of authorities here in supplying to the Lodge various little appliances out of Government resources, that the items of expense to the Commission have inevitably accumulated to heavier sums than I had anticipated.

Mr. Christy's accounts are kept with great strictness, and, I am sure, perfect accuracy.

On the whole, it is apparent that this department has a heavier monthly expense than is reckoned in your office. The five hundred dollars brought me by Mr. Fogle did not pay up arrearages by considerable. I shall need as much more as soon as it can be sent to me. If I do not come North in a few weeks, I will make out a full account of all expense, and forward. I keep a strict account of every item spent for the Commission, of course; and somehow I find the Commission all the while in debt to me.

MR. ROBB.

Major Robb has been quite busy disbursing stores since I was here. I have been informed by several surgeons of a paper recently in circulation amongst them for their signatures, highly eulogistic of Mr. Robb, personally and officially; so much so, as to carry an implied depreciation of other Sanitary Agents. The persons who mentioned it to me had signed the paper, but were afterwards so painfully impressed with this feature of it, as to request that the paper be suppressed; they assured me that it had been. I warrant not wholly some use of it, some report of it, or reference to it, has gone to fruitful quarters, without a shadow of doubt. I have not yet felt it necessary to take this method of establishing myself at either end of the line of my operations. Robb has obtained a considerable portion of his late supplies from the Western Commission.

VEGETABLES.

People must be roused forthwith to the importance of sending *vegetables* to the army. We want enough to keep all hands busy disbursing them. We want enough to supply whole commands, and not merely the hospitals. We have none now. We can do no better service than feed the army with potatoes and onions. There certainly must be a sufficient surplus of these in the North to enable us to do it, if we can once get the subject sufficiently impressed upon the loyal producers of them. It has been only at brief and widely separated intervals that we have had supplies of these in adequate abundance to justify this general disbursement of them. Where it has occurred, the results have been in the highest possible degree satisfactory and beneficial. The effects are not to be weighed or estimated. No one thing has done so much to establish the reputation of the Commission with the army. And yet how very seldom we have been able to supplement commissary stores to this extent! If we could do it continually, we should prevent more sickness than our other efforts are able to relieve. I wish this notion could be preached all through the North, clamorously, and with power. Good old brother Chidlaw could do immeasurable good if he would concentrate his whole time and his magnificent good-will power for a season. I trust you will not neglect to call public attention to this express phase of Sanitary labor, and urge the

matter in all effective ways. Potatoes and onions for the whole army—make that the watchword; varying the monotony from time to time, by the addition of cabbage! But don't let people encumber us with other kinds of vegetables, unless, perhaps, tomatoes. Their value is incomparably less than that of those named.

The same gentleman writes again, October 23, from the same place:

Since my last a heavy requisition has come in from Iuka for stores, and especially *vegetables*, for 400 sick left by the moving Army Corps of General Sherman. A post hospital is established there temporarily, to continue according to needs and circumstances. A considerable portion of the Corps was still at Iuka at last accounts, but in an active and mobile condition. I was able to make a tolerably fair response to the requisition. But the rooms now are well-nigh bare again, and the demand eastward will not be likely to diminish for some time to come. I await impatiently the arrival of the Clara Bell. I hear indirectly that she was still lying at Cairo last Wednesday.

DIARRHŒA.

I have been employing my leisure for a couple of days visiting the general hospitals here, and examining some of the severe cases of illness.

The whole number of patients in all these hospitals is to-day 3,020; about 50 of these are cases of extreme exhaustion, and slight prospect of recovery. The exact number of wounded I did not learn; it is small. The remainder of the cases are in more or less advanced stages of convalescence. Increasing coolness of the weather is obviously operating favorably. I gave attention more especially to the all-afflicting scourge of the camp, diarrhœa. I find that men do actually recover from even the chronic stages of the disease. I noted down the cases of cure and death, as they stand on the registers of the several hospitals, commencing with September 1st. The results are as follows:

OVERTON HOSPITAL—SEPT. 1 TO OCT. 18.

	Chronic.	Acute.
Number of cases admitted	199	116
Returned to duty	12	6
Died	9	2

WEBSTER HOSPITAL—SEPT. 1 TO OCT. 1.

	Chronic.	Acute.
Number of cases admitted	160	1
Returned to duty	43	..
Died	13	..

UNION HOSPITAL—SEPT. 1 TO OCT. 19.

	Chronic.	Acute.
Number of cases admitted	176	7
Returned to duty	10	
Died	49	

JACKSON HOSPITAL—SEPT. 1 TO OCT. 20.

	Chronic.	Acute.
Number of cases admitted	95	8
Returned to duty	4	2
Died	34	1

GAYOSO HOSPITAL—SEPT. 1 TO OCT. 19.

	Chronic.	Acute.
Number of cases admitted	45	39
Returned to duty	3	2
Died	..	8

WASHINGTON HOSPITAL—SEPT. 1 TO OCT. 17.

	Chronic.	Acute.
Number of cases admitted	122	23
Returned to duty	21	5
Died	32	..

ADAMS HOSPITAL—SEPT. 1 TO OCT. 21.

	Chronic.	Acute.
Number of cases admitted	274	39
Returned to duty	37	15
Died	32	..

JEFFERSON HOSPITAL—SEPT. 1 TO OCT. 21.

	Chronic.	Acute.
Number of cases admitted	11	40
Returned to duty	..	..
Died	5	2

The other two army hospitals are for special disease, gangrene and small-pox. The naval hospital I did not visit, as I was compelled to make haste with this examination. I omitted many points that may hereafter prove interesting, and even important, and confined myself to the one point of the relative mortality from this disease. I am not prepared, without a much more thorough and prolonged comparison of cases under treatment, to touch the question as to how much the difference in the above results may be due to difference in the treatment or to other conditions and circumstances.

A VALUABLE SUGGESTION.

It strikes me that it would not be a bad job for the Sanitary Commission to undertake a connected and systematic inspection of all the general hospitals in the Northwest, with reference to the mortality or curability of the more prominent camp diseases. Personal inspection would be a necessary adjunct to the study of registers. Is this being done? It may be, and I not know it, naturally enough. Why wouldn't the undersigned be a very proper person to be detailed for a while to such a work? The building of more general hospitals in the North will, no doubt, be commenced at once. You have heard already of Mrs. Gov. Harvey's success at Washington in obtaining an order for a very large one at Madison, Wisconsin. Other applications from Illinois and other States will be speedily, if not already made, and doubtless with similar success. Results of such inspections as I refer to would or *might* be of great service, in indicating locality

for the new structures. At all events, it is plain that most valuable information could be obtained. But it is all but a suggestion.

VEGETABLES AGAIN.

Mr. Carpenter, of Wisconsin, has arrived from Vicksburg. He reports everything in order there and at Natchez, but vegetables well-nigh exhausted at both points, and the demand still feverish. I do not see how we can spare anything for New Orleans, after all, with our present supplies.

And this reminds me to recur to the work of lecturing or talking, or something of the kind, directly to the donors, and stimulating, if possible, a more abundant, more active, and more steady supply. If anything can be accomplished by it more attention should, it seems to me, be given to it.

Our reports from Chattanooga furnish much interesting information touching the state of things at the place during the momentous and critical period between the battle of Chickamauga and the reoccupation of Lookout Valley by Gen'l Hooker. It is doubtful whether our armies in the West have at any period since the beginning of the war been placed in a position of so much embarrassment and perplexity. The loss of the river and railroad surrounded the work of feeding the troops with difficulties that would have been serious under ordinary circumstances, but which were rendered almost appalling by the fact that several thousand wounded were lying at Chattanooga in want of almost everything. The well were on half rations, and the sick were dying for want of delicacies that to them were absolute necessaries.

Dr. Read writes from Chattanooga October 13:

After my last hastily written report, I spent some days at Stevenson and Bridgeport, directing my main efforts to the securing of transportation of stores to Chattanooga. The great want of all ordinary supplies at the latter place, and the interruption of telegraphic communication with head-quarters, made this a very difficult work. Frequently an order would be obtained for ten or twenty wagons, but at the time it was presented they were not at the post, and before they came in a special order would be received by the quartermaster to load all wagons with forage or with rations, which would be construed as countermanding the previous order. We succeeded in getting off a few loads and a considerable supply by ambulances, which were got through in safety and supplied the more pressing demands.

THE HOSPITALS AT STEVENSON.

While at Stevenson, I took the opportunity of going frequently through the field hospitals in charge of Dr. McKibben, and found the sick and wounded there well provided for and very comfortable. The food provided was of excellent quality, abundant, and of good variety, and the cooking excellent. There were two kitchens for each ward, one for the full-diet patients, and one for those of special diet, both well arranged and well furnished. I have visited no hospitals in the department where there was a better variety of well-prepared food than there. Large supplies of vegetables were obtained from the garden at Murfreesboro', including potatoes, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, &c., &c., in abundance, and such other articles as were required from the Sanitary Rooms.

This garden at Murfreesboro' was one of the fruits of General Rosecrans's forethought. It was made and planted during the months of inaction which the army passed at that place.

STATE OF THINGS AT CHATTANOOGA.

On the 28th and 29th, we succeeded in forwarding from Stevenson and Bridgeport seventeen wagon-loads of stores, the trains to make a junction at Battle Creek, and go through in special charge of Mr. Larrabee, who left Stevenson for that purpose; Mr. Redding escorting the train from Bridgeport until they met.

Receiving word from Dr. Anderson at Chattanooga, who was in temporary charge of the general work of the department, to report at that place, I rode through from Bridgeport on the 3d, by the Conner route, expecting to find our rooms full of stores. But they were entirely empty. Our men were living on hard-tack, bacon, and coffee, which could be purchased, only a few rations at a time, of the Commissary; horses and men all on short rations, and hard-tack fast becoming a luxury. A train of about 400 wagons had been destroyed on the 2d, and with it our 17 wagons, and all other trains temporarily stopped. About this time the last of our wounded were sent in from the rebel lines, who had suffered much in rebel hands, and were in want of all things. Some of them were without shirts, a few without any clothing whatever, the most fortunate with torn clothing, begrimed with dust and clotted with

blood. I purchased at the only army clothing store in town a few shirts, all I could obtain, and mainly with money furnished by the Rev. Mr. Heywood, of the Kentucky Branch, and gave one each to Frederick Coonrad, 65th O. V. I.; Van Buren Young, 3d Ky. V. I.; Joseph Bray, 18th U. S. I.; A. Q. Logsden, 8th Ky. V. I.; John J. Thompson, 92d Ills., and N. Care, 84th Ind. Upon the 6th I received notice that 8 wagon-loads of stores were on the way, and on the 7th procured an order for twenty wagons more to report at our rooms in Stevenson, taking forward stores.

DIFFICULTIES OF TRANSPORTATION.

The work of obtaining transportation I found beset with many and unlooked-for difficulties. The loss of a large train and the interruption of communication had produced some confusion; the army was short of all supplies, and the responsible officers of every department were clamorous for transportation. At the same time it was evident that the wounded men left here, numbering about 1,400, must be saved, if at all, by feeding, and that they must have something better than army rations. The sick also, of whom there are many, not an unusual number, stand in almost equal need of better articles of diet, By engaging to ship only articles of diet for the sick and wounded, and after long efforts cordially and ably seconded by the surgeons in charge of the sick and wounded, I have secured a train of twenty wagons, to be now constantly under our supervision in bringing stores from Stevenson, as long as the necessity shall exist, or until river or railroad communication is opened. I would recommend that a trusty, efficient man be detailed to take charge of this train, accompanying it both coming and going, bringing the invoices of the goods shipped in each wagon, to guard against loss from any cause, to "cooper" packages that may be broken by the way, to see that the drivers are always provided with forage for their mules, that they are always well cared for, and that the wagons are put in thorough repair at the end of each trip. I would suggest also that you send us about 30 small white or yellow flags, marked "U. S. San. Com. Train," one to be carried by each wagon. This will advertise the train and frequently give it precedence over other trains in getting through, and might, perhaps, save a train from being captured, or if captured, prevent its destruction, under the hope of getting it through to Dixie, where there is even a greater demand for such stores than here; and as long as a captured train is not destroyed, there is hope of its recapture.

STATE OF THE HOSPITALS.

On the 9th the eight wagon-loads of stores reached us in good condition. Over 500 shirts were distributed the first day after they were opened, and for all the articles of clothing, dressings and edibles, there was an eager demand, far beyond the supply. I could not hope to distribute this shipment in such a manner as to avoid all complaint, when we were compelled to refuse to issue to many who really needed them, because there were others who needed them much more. Surgeons of regiments desired edibles and clothing for their sick, private soldiers who had lost their baggage asked to be clothed in part, and staff officers asked for shirts and drawers, that they might change those they had worn unwashed since the battle. All such requests we were compelled to refuse, and in accordance with the request of the Medical Director, and our own ideas of the comparative wants, to restrict our issues mainly to the most needy of the wounded, promising all others that their wants should be supplied as soon as it could possibly be done. All have seemed pleasantly to acquiesce in this arrangement, and if there has been any complaint it has not been brought to our notice.

The wounded are generally doing well, and bear with patience the privations that appear unavoidable, but a generous supply of edibles suitable for sick and wounded men, including stimulants, milk, beef, dried and canned fruits, patatoes and onions in large quantities, soft crackers, butter, cheese, pickles, green tea, farinaceous delicacies, &c., &c., are indispensable to their recovery. I trust that a supply of these articles will be ready at Stevenson, to fill at any time the 20 wagons, and as often as they can make the trip, and if more than that are accumulated there, we will undertake to get them through. There is a demand also for flannel shirts and drawers, sheets, blankets, &c., which, while the present pressure continues, we are not to forward in the "Sanitary Train." But let them be accumulated without stint at Stevenson, for we hope that communication by the river and by railroad will soon be opened. And I have requested the surgeons here, while waiting for that event, to make requisitions at every opportunity for articles of the latter description, upon the Agent at Stevenson, and in that way a very fair supply can be got through by ambulances and hospital wagons.

As you are aware, the occupation of the railroad for many days in transporting troops, and the subsequent raids upon it between Stevenson and Nashville, stopped for some time the receipt

of stores at Stevenson. The same events caused an unexpected accumulation of sick at the latter place, calling for large issues of sanitary stores there, leaving only enough to fill fifteen of the wagons ordered to report there. These are now on the way, and we look for their arrival to-morrow, the 14th. And as to the 20 wagons constituting our train having probably already reported at Stevenson, where we suppose there are now abundant supplies, we are in a measure relieved of anxiety, and anticipate a constant and tolerably abundant supply.

I have to-day received a note from Rev. O. Kennedy, who is aiding in our work, that he has reached his post on the west side of the mountain and pitched the tents for the soldiers' "Lodge." But to-day, the route by which the wounded are sent has been changed, and I have sent him directions to remove the Lodge to the foot of the mountain, in the Sequatchie Valley, on Poe's road, where there is a copious spring of good water, and where he will be enabled to feed all the sick and wounded who are sent north. Colonel Goddard is ever ready to aid us, forwarding the letter by a courier, sent with instructions to the couriers at the station nearest the Lodge, and about six miles from it, to forward it at once by special messenger.

Seventy-two ambulances leave with wounded to-day, and about seventy-five to-morrow. It is hoped Mr. Kennedy will get his Lodge removed in time to feed them all. Arrangements are made to secure prompt notice when trains of sick or wounded are to be started, which will be forwarded to Mr. Kennedy, by the couriers and by special messenger from the nearest courier station. This will enable him to be always ready to receive his guests.

THE HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The answering of special inquiries by friends has again become an important part of the work here. All that have been received thus far have been answered, and in nearly every case the information has been definite and positive. But, frequently, considerable delay is inevitable. The hospitals are not yet thoroughly organized. There are three general hospitals for the wounded, while almost every division of the army has its two hospitals, one for the sick, and one for the wounded; yet in each of these will be found some men from nearly all of the other divisions. Frequently each of these hospitals, some of them three miles from the river on the other side, must be reached and then a visit made to the regiment before a definite answer can be returned. *Frequently mistakes in telegraphing the name lead us astray for a time, and in fact, accuracy in the name is the exception, not the rule, in all the inquiries we receive.* Too much care cannot be taken in preparing dispatches that they be accurate and very plainly written. If the rank, company, and regiment is correctly given, and any part of the name comes, the person meant can be identified when found, but any mistake in the name increases very much the difficulty in the way of finding him.

It is evident, unless a successful flank movement is made by the army, that all the most gravely wounded of the recent battles, and the usual number of sick of the army, will here require assistance from our stores for a long time. The greater part of the wounded now remaining must perish or recover here, unless some other route is opened for removing them besides the wagon-road over the mountains. They need and deserve a large and constant supply of such stores as are usually forwarded by the Commission. Without this, many will die, who, with it, would recover. Delicate and nourishing food, with a full supply of vegetables, is what, on the testimony of all the surgeons in charge, is most needed, and is really indispensable.

Knowing what you are doing and can do, I have promised that there shall soon be a supply either equal to the demand, or at least equal to the amount of transportation that can be procured between this point and Stevenson.

The seventeen wagon-loads of stores which were forwarded from Stevenson and Bridgeport, unhappily, never reached their destination. They were all captured on the way. Mr. Redding's account of the incident is as follows:

On the 28th ult., while I was at Bridgeport, Mr. Read sent me word from Stevenson that he had secured some wagons to send stores to the front, and to try if I could not procure ten wagons on an order from Capt. Warren, A. Q. M. at the latter place. I was unable to get them that day, but was promised them the following morning, and immediately telegraphed Mr. Read of the promise. His wagons were then loaded, sent out, and ordered to camp for the night two (2) miles beyond the place, so as to enable my train to catch them at Battle Creek or Jasper.

On the morning of the 29th I secured the ten wagons, loaded them, and telegraphed Mr. Read that there was no one to go in charge, and whether I should go. I waited several hours for a reply—no one came, and I then started my train, with orders to drive as fast as they could until they caught the train from Stevenson. I then telegraphed Mr. Read that I had started

the train, and about two (2) hours afterwards received the word to ride out until I overtook both trains, consolidate them, and place them in charge of Larrabee, then to return. Larrabee had been sent out after the receipt of my first dispatch, to go through with the train.

I then procured a horse, rode on and met the two (2) trains a short distance this side of Jasper, at sundown. We camped at Jasper for the night, and until *bedtime* I searched for Larrabee, but without success. On the following morning, the 30th, I had the two trains consolidated, started early, and kept a constant lookout for Larrabee, but at last concluded that further search would be without success, and decided to go through with the train myself. We camped that night within two miles of the foot of the mountain, and on the next morning, though subjected to a hard rain, started for the mountain. On arriving there, we found several trains already at its base, unable to proceed on account of a train being upon it with bad mules, broken-down wagons, and deep in mud. I examined the condition the train was in carefully, and concluded we would be detained several days by it unless we could find another road by which we could go on. It still continued to rain very hard, rendering this mountain road worse and worse, and the probability of this train getting over the mountain in four or five days very doubtful.

Seeing this, I called upon the Quartermasters of Negley's and Rousseau's trains to discuss the propriety of finding out and taking some other road. The plan was accepted, and horsemen were immediately sent out to look up and examine some other road. In the afternoon they returned and reported another road running through a valley to the left of the road we were on, equally as good as it, but about ten (10) miles longer. It was then decided by us to take this road on the next morning, the 2d.

Before breakfast on the 2d, the two trains spoken of left the mass of wagons at the foot of the mountain—a number having come in after us on the preceding day, and started out on this new road. By an accident, we were detained several hours, but about 9 o'clock we were ready to start, and I rode over to a house in the valley to our left to get some food for the trip. While over there, a man came dashing up to me and stated that a forage train had just been destroyed by the rebels near the foot of the mountain on this new road, and that Negley's and Rousseau's trains were returning, but was unable to give any particulars. I rode over to our camp and spread this news; all, however, believed it to be the work of a few guerrillas; that they would not dare to attack us in camp, as "we have enough teamsters to wipe them out without arms," said they; and they did not believe there could be any considerable body of rebels on that side of the river, believing the river was not fordable. I *knew it* to be fordable, having seen men crossing it for forage on my last trip to Bridgeport. So believing this, I started off to inform the 29th Indiana and another regiment of mounted infantry encamped between three or four miles to our rear, of the capture of the forage train, and of our danger; but after having gone about one mile, a man came dashing by me going to them, and he having a much swifter horse than my own, I gave way to him and returned to camp. I arrived at camp at 11 o'clock, and a few moments after a man came galloping in and stated that the rebels in large force were in sight just over the hill, dashing down the valley—and here allow me to say, that by the thoughtlessness and neglect of the person whose business it is to protect the supplies of this army, there was not a guard to any train present.

There were, according to the estimate of the Quartermasters of Negley's, Sheridan's and Rousseau's trains, about 400 wagons congregated at the foot of the mountain, and not one guard with them. There happened to be four or five companies of the 21st Kentucky on the mountain, which were immediately ordered to the foot to repel the rebels, or hold them in check until the reinforcements sent for arrived. As soon as the appearance of the rebels was made known, I ordered our wagons as near the base of the mountain as they could get, being very much scattered over the plain, thinking that the force present might be able to keep the rebels some distance off, and to prevent their burning them while the fight was going on. This was done, and I immediately started across the plain with the intention of getting in the rear of the rebels, watch the fight, and if they succeeded in whipping our men and in capturing the wagons, to see their commander and plead with him to spare our stores. I believed that if he was not a guerrilla, but had a spark of feeling for suffering beings in him, that I could kindle this spark into a flame, and that our stores should be spared. Although mounted, I made slow progress over the plains on account of the mass of wagons I had to pass through, and when about half way across, the rebels having formed their line of battle behind the hill I was trying to reach, appeared on its top, and without demanding a surrender, commenced firing upon the train. I being in the centre of the trains, or mass of wagons, and mounted, their balls

fell around me like hail. I could not carry out my plan then, without great risk of my life, so I wheeled around and made for the mountain. It was very steep where I struck it, and I had to lead my horse up. The Kentucky Infantry, by squads, formed themselves along the side of the mountain, and poured a sharp fire into the rebels; but their great superiority in numbers, their gradual approach on the train, and the fact that they intended to surround us and cut off the retreat of every man, which I plainly saw they were endeavoring to do, naturally induced me to "*skedaddle*" over the mountain as rapidly as possible. I went down the road for about three-quarters of a mile from its base, and there remained until the firing had ceased, then started back with the intention of saving our stores if they were not already destroyed, if I had to put myself in their hands to do it. On arriving at a point from which I could see a portion of the plain, I saw the main body of the rebels moving off in the direction of Jasper, while another body were moving off with the prisoners in the direction from which they came. I knew then we were defeated, and feared the wagons were already burned. Presently the Wagon-Master of my train, having been in and escaped from the fight, came along and told me that nearly all of our wagons were on fire when he left, the rebels having taken some of them to contain army supplies, I suppose, or they would never have burned them, and that they had found out the contents of some of them, and were feasting upon them. Most of our wagons were filled with fodder, which the rebels did not take the trouble and time to remove; while some had none in them. The former they had burned before the Wagon-Master of my train left, as already stated; and the latter they feasted upon, eating and drinking, and "a merrier set," our Wagon-Master said, "was never seen." He also stated that the rebels had sent a detachment around the mountain to a point where another road joins the road on the mountain, to cut off and capture those that had escaped from the fight, and that unless we could reach that point before they did, we would certainly fall into their hands. A Captain of the 21st Kentucky, who had escaped, asserted the same, and believing it to be useless then to put myself into the hands of a drunken set of brutes for the few stores that probably remained, and considering the consequences of such an act, I therefore decided to start for Chattanooga. We rushed our horses on until beyond the junction of the road spoken of with the one we were on, and the same night, at 10 o'clock, safely reached this place.

The force of the rebels, the attacking body and the reserve, is estimated at from four to twelve thousand. My own estimate and that of nearly all I have seen and conversed with who were in the fight, is about four thousand under Wheeler. Several trains that were in camp with us when the destruction of the forage train was announced, retreated in the direction of Jasper; but the body of rebels spoken of moved off in that direction after the capture of our stores, came upon and destroyed them. Dr. Castleman was in the fight with one or both of these, and was captured. He asserts, that had he known that we had stores at the mountain, he could have saved them. This is questionable, however, as he was several miles distant from the foot of the mountain at the time of the capture of our stores.

October 18th, Mr. Read writes once more of the difficulty of transportation, the great difficulty of this Western campaigning:

I have written you at every opportunity, and frequently by mail, often repeating what I have written on account of irregularities in the mails.

As I have written and telegraphed, I deem it of absolute importance that we have a reliable, energetic, hardy man, to act as Wagon-Master of our train, to accompany it on all its trips over the mountain. A casual agent is good for nothing for such a purpose; for, in every instance thus far, they have abandoned the train as soon as they got within hailing distance of Chattanooga, and come to our rooms to report that the *train was coming*, and left everything to the honesty (?) of drivers and wagon-masters.

The fifteen wagon-loads have arrived and will be unloaded at our rooms this morning, robbed of all the stimulants and many other articles. Col. McRay has sent in a report of the robbery, and I shall do so as soon as I have taken an inventory and know specially what has been stolen. We need goods much faster than they get through, and our means of transportation from Stevenson are in excess over the arrivals there. We shall lose our train unless we can keep it filled.

On the 24th he gives some information as to where the stores captured by the enemy came from.

In my letter of the 12th, I gave you in haste and in detail an account of the capture and destruction of our train of stores; but having seen a statement in the *Louisville Journal* of the 14th, made by Col. Shyrock, of Indiana, which you may not have seen, and

which is incorrect, and, I think, discouraging to some of our "home workers," as it throws the entire loss upon the shoulders of *one single body*, I wish to call your attention to it for correction, if you think proper, and also to write a few lines in regard to matters here. The statement referred to, given by Mr. Sargent to Col. Shyrock, was, that "we lost in the attack 39 wagon-loads of stores from the Chicago Sanitary Commission." This is, for the most part, I know, incorrect. There were only eighteen (18) instead of thirty-nine (39) wagon-loads, as you already know; and in regard to the receipt of the stores alone from Chicago, the ten (10) wagons I sent from Bridgeport were loaded about equally with goods from Cleveland Aid Society, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Indiana Commissions, but none from Chicago. In those sent from Stevenson, there may have been Chicago stores, but most I know were either purchased or contributed at Louisville. The number of packages sent from Bridgeport was 69; the number from Stevenson I do not know, as no invoice was sent with the goods, and none has ever reached this office to my knowledge. I merely state this in contradiction to an error or misstatement which it may be well to correct.

SUFFERINGS OF THE TROOPS.

Since writing you last, we have again moved our rooms; the buildings we were in being used as Palmer's Division Hospital, and quite a number of sick coming in from the division, demanded more room; so at the request of Dr. Perrin, Medical Director, we vacated it, having this house first secured us.

The sanitary condition of this army is anything but good now. By reason of the heavy rains we have had for the last ten days, the wagon-roads to Stevenson are rendered almost impassable, and consequently the Commissaries are reduced to almost nothing, and the army is drawn down to half rations. The nights are very damp and cold, and many soldiers appeal here daily for blankets, having lost theirs in the battle, who, under the circumstances, are unable to get them, and have to sleep without covering. We have none, the Purveyor has none, and they are not to be had at all of any one. Sickness is increasing, but diarrhœa seems to be the universal plague, and is increasing, and vegetables! is the great cry; but at the same time, all articles that make good diet are in great demand.

PLUNDER OF THE WAGONS BY THE TEAMSTERS.

On the 10th, a shipment of ten (10) wagons was made at Stevenson, which reached this place (I would say a portion of which) on the 19th, having been subjected to hard rains and pillage. While on the mountain, the teamsters of our train—75 in number—concluded they must have a spree, even at the expense of the sick and dying soldiers, and appropriated or destroyed nine-tenths of all the stimulants and delicacies in the shipment. Only eleven (11) wagon-loads arrived here. The exact amount pillaged I gave in a report to Col. Goddard, who says "they will never drive a team again for the Army of the Cumberland." The amount destroyed is as follows:

346 cans Milk,
236 bottles Wine and Spirits,
21 " Cider,
101 " Ale,
56 cans Oysters,
15 " Fruit,
16 " Beef and 2 Cheeses.
Also, 2 barrels and 1 box Crackers,
1 " Lemon Syrup,
1 " Sundries.

I think these teamsters will meet their reward. By this shipment we received a tolerable good supply of shirts, and over a thousand (1,000) poor soldiers have already exchanged their bloody ones for these.

This being the only shipment made us since I wrote you last, our shelves are again nearly empty, having nothing of consequence except about four hundred (400) cans of milk. There is a fair supply at Stevenson, and so soon as the roads get better, we will receive again. Active preparations are going on for clearing the river of rebels, so as to have boats ply between here and Bridgeport to bring forward stores. *It must be done*, and a desperate effort will be made to do it. I learn from good authority to-day that a division leaves very soon to drive the rebels from Lookout Mountain. Ere this reaches you, I think and believe boats will be running to Bridgeport, and then a depot will again be necessary there.

SANITARY HINTS.

SPECIAL DISINFECTANTS AND THEIR APPLICATIONS.

That there can be no substitute for *fresh air* to meet the physiological requirements of respiration and health, should be indelibly impressed upon every mind. Better that all substances at present employed as disinfectants and deodorants were at once prohibited by the Medical Department, than that such agents should practically

tend to be regarded as *substitutes for a pure atmosphere.* But the necessities and privations of army life, the multiplied agencies of disease, and the vitiating conditions attendant upon wounds and sickness, create necessities for the employment of chemical and other artificial agencies to mitigate, and, in some measure, prevent the otherwise inevitable contamination of the local atmosphere of crowded hospitals, transports, and quarters; and it is only such necessary demands for the employment of disinfectants that justify even the occasional allusion we have made respecting them in preceding pages. They are simply aids in restoring and preserving healthful purity, and not substitutes for cleanliness and pure air.

For the convenience of persons who may have occasion to refresh the memory with the more practical facts relating to special disinfectants, and the best method of their application, the following notes are added in reference to this subject:

The principal disinfecting agents may be classified as follows:

Absorbents and retainers of noxious effluvia, particularly the ammoniacal and sulphuretted gases.	Charcoal, Sulphate of Lime (Plaster Sulphite of Lime, [Paris,) Silicate of Alumina (Porous Clay.)
Absorbents of moisture; chemical agents that act upon organic matter, and recombine some of the elements of noxious effluvia.	Quicklime, Sulphuric Acid, Hydrochloric Acid, Nitric and Nitrous Acids.
Soluble salts that are particularly available for arresting processes of decomposition, and for controlling phosphuretted and sulphuretted gases.	Nitrate of Lead, Chloride of Zinc, Proto-Chloride of Iron, Proto-Sulphate of Iron.
Antiseptics that act diffusively and rapidly, though less permanent y than some others. Active in destroying compound gases.	Chlorine Gas, Hypochlorite of Soda (*Labarraque's solution,*) Chloride of Lime.
The most prompt and efficient antiseptic known.	Bromine.
Antiseptic, and of great power as an oxidizer, and as an available source of ozone.	Permanganate of Potassa.
Antiseptic and deodorant; capable of a great variety, extent, and economy of applications, and acting with considerable energy and permanency	Carbolic Acid and Coal-tar compounds.
Destructive of contagious virus and all transportable infections.	Heat.
Destructive of Yellow Fever miasma, and of the malaria that produces the "Paludal Fevers."	Frost.

Considered *theoretically*, we may regard all disinfecting agents under the following heads, and perhaps this would be the more scientific arrangement of them:—1. *Absorbents of moisture and of noxious effluvia;* 2. *Oxidizers* [ozone the most active,] *and Deoxidizers;* 3. *Other chemical agents that break up noxious compounds;* 4. *Agents that form indestructible compounds with putrescent materials; or that destroy cell-life and the cryptogamic and infusorial organisms.* But as the present state of chemical and medical knowledge only enables us to make such general statements respecting the theoretical action of disinfectants, we will follow our first classification by a few practical statements concerning each of the articles mentioned.

Charcoal.—Freshly burned and broken, this substance will absorb from 10 to 14 *per cent. its own weight* of gases and moisture from the atmosphere during the period of 24 hours; and it is capable of absorbing 90 times its own volume of ammonia, or 55 times its own volume of sulphuretted hydrogen. Properly applied, charcoal is an arrester of putrefaction, and, as such, it is worthy of more extensive employment in the better preservation of animal food when served out in an unwholesome state by the regimental quartermasters. As a disinfectant or deodorant for extensive use in masses of putrescent material, and for local purification, fresh charcoal is of acknowledged value. The British Sanitary Commission, in the Crimea, ordered whole ship-loads of peat charcoal, which they used in the progress of their work of purification in the hospitals, barracks, or camps in the East. A Report of that Commission states that "perhaps the best deodorizing compound was one used by the inspectors in all their works. It consisted of *one part of peat charcoal, one part of quicklime, and four parts of sand or gravel.*" It should be remembered that the preservation of the disinfecting power of charcoal powder depends upon its being both fresh and dry.

Sulphate of Lime, Sulphite of Lime, and Porous Clay.—All these substances are valuable absorbents of ammoniacal and sulphuretted effluvia, and they constitute exceedingly convenient vehicles and auxiliary menstrua for some of the more potent and expensive antiseptics. The much vaunted French disinfectant, known as the disinfecting powder of Messrs. Corné & Demeaux, consists of about 94 per cent. of finely ground gypsum and 5 or 6 per cent. of coal-tar or the "heavy oil of coal-tar." McDougall's powder, and the Ridgewood disinfectant, consist of carbolic acid combined with the sulphate of lime and porous silicate of alumina, respectively, as will be noticed upon a subsequent page. Hyposulphite of lime possesses the property of absoluely arresting fermentation or the catalytic processes. The several substances of this first class, and their compounds, particularly those with carbolic acid or coal-tar, are among the most valuable disinfectants, especially when large quantities of cheap and effectual articles of the kind are required.

Quicklime.—With sulphuretted and with

phosphuretted effluvia, and with humid vapors, freshly burned lime unites with great avidity, and as an absorbent of moisture and a chemical base for many acids, it is of peculiar value; but lime also eliminates or sets free the ammoniacal gases, and, like the acids of our second class of disinfectants, it is of *less permanent* value than some other agents. It is one of the most convenient antiseptics, and for local applications, as in whitewashing, sprinkling, desiccating damp surfaces or putrescent substances, and for temporarily arresting putrefaction, it is invaluable. Lime should be used dry and unslacked, except it be for the special purpose of combining with carbonic acid gas; for the latter object it should be reduced to a creamy hydrate, and, in overcrowded wards and barracks, it may be usefully employed in this way, distributed in shallow plates. Distributed in like manner, *sulphuric acid* may be employed for diminishing the humidity of the atmosphere in a closed and damp apartment; but for this purpose it is usually better to resort to strong currents of air, by means of through and through ventilation, when practicable.

The topical applications of the acids, particularly of the *nitric acid*, in arresting gangrene, are well understood by surgeons. *Nitrous acid* is a valuable antiseptic, and the production and application of its fumes constituted the famous disinfecting process of Dr. Carmichael Smyth.

The *fumes of nitrous acid* that so long had fame for disinfecting purposes in the barracks, hospitals, and navy of Great Britain may be readily produced by heating a mixture of nitrate of potassa and sulphuric acid in an iron or porcelain dish. Persons who resort to this method of fumigation should bear in mind the fact that strong fumes of nitrous acid are dangerously irritating to the throat and lungs. These fuming acids are powerful oxidizers, but their avidity for water, together with their peculiarities of chemical affinity, render their value as disinfectants somewhat uncertain.

Nitrate of Lead.—Practical considerations place this salt at the head of odorless disinfecting salts most available for certain local applications, such as deodorizing a close apartment, and the bedding, &c., of sick persons, by means of a solution distributed on shallow vessels or upon saturated cloths. The nitrate of lead is the basis of "Ledoyen's liquid."

The *permanganate of potassa* is far the most efficient salt of this kind, and its cost alone should limit its employment. It is a chemical agent of different and far greater powers than any of the metallic salts in this third class.

Chloride of Zinc.—Though more powerfully antiseptic than nitrate of lead, it is not as valuable a deodorant. It is most to be valued for its property of promptly arresting putrefactive processes. As "Sir Wm. Burnett's disinfectant," it is widely known.

Both this salt, and that of lead, last mentioned, may be employed to delay decomposition in a corpse, in the absence of an embalmer. This is best accomplished by wrapping the dead body in a folded sheet that is saturated with either of these salts.

The Proto-chloride and the Proto-sulphate of Iron.—These are valuable and very cheap agents for aiding in the control of ammoniacal and sulphuretted effluvia. Being soluble, and very cheap, these salts are capable of varied and convenient applications, separately, or in combination with other deodorizing materials.

Chlorine and its alkaline compounds.—The common preparations of chlorinated soda and chloride of lime act with great efficiency when the carbonic, sulphuretted, or ammoniacal gases are brought into contact with them. As their special uses require no explanation in this place, we simply append brief directions for generating chlorine gas where it may be required more immediately and copiously than it would be given off by the alkaline chlorides or hypochlorites.

Ready method.—Pour dilute hydrochloric, sulphuric, nitric, or acetic acid upon chlorides of lime, zinc, or soda. This may be done gradually by means of a glass or lead syphon, or by the capillary syphon of lamp-wick, dropping the acid upon the chloride, if desirable to evolve the chlorine steadily for many hours.

Cheap method.—Mix 6 parts of peroxide of manganese with 8 parts of table salt (chloride of sodium) in a lead or iron vessel, which should be set freely within another vessel of larger capacity; pour upon the mixture of manganese and salt 13 parts of sulphuric acid, which may be diluted with water to abate the rapidity of the evolution of the gas. Heat the vessel containing this mixture by means of hot water or steam, if more rapid evolution of the gas is required.

Ordinary method.—Mix four parts of fuming hydrochloric (muriatic) acid with one part of coarse powder of peroxide of manganese, adding water, as may be desired, to abate the rapidity of evolution. Apply moderate heat. The vessel may be of a kind to permit the use of the acid and the heat. The heat, however, by this method, is not indispensable.

A very neat method of evolving chlorine in hospitals and transports, is to put a few ounces of the black oxide of manganese into a stout glass bottle of large size, rig a bulbous pipette to a perforated cork or stopper, and fitting an india-rubber bulb

upon the headless bulb of the pipette, fill the pipette with muriatic acid, and evolve the chlorine at pleasure by occasional pressure upon the elastic cap.

Bromine and its compounds.—This most powerful antiseptic has recently been brought into requisition in the military hospitals as a special disinfectant and arrester of gangrene. It is applied both topically and diffusively. Bromine is exceedingly penetrating and energetic in its action, and consequently is to be manipulated and applied with proper caution. It is principally employed in its pure liquid form, or in combination with bromide of potassium. Special caution should be used not to respire the strong fumes or any pulverized compound of bromine, as its effects when inhaled are suffocating. The following concise statement of the best methods for applying this potent disinfectant we quote from Dr. M. Goldsmith, Medical Director of Military Hospitals at Louisville, Ky., to whom the medical profession is largely indebted for its successful introduction as a topical and prophylactic agent for the control of hospital gangrene and erysipelas:

DIRECTIONS FOR USE.

1. *For Fumigation.*—Place vessels, containing *one ounce* of the solution at different points of the ward, and in number sufficient to secure in the latter the constant presence of the odor of bromine.

It should be borne in mind that, if the vapor of bromine comes in contact with the vapor of water, hydro-bromic acid is formed; therefore, when there is much of the vapor of water disengaged in the apartment, the quantity of the vapor of bromine must be correspondingly increased.

2. *Topical Application of the Vapor.*—A piece of *dry* lint is to be placed over the diseased part; over this is to be placed another piece of lint, *moistened with the solution of bromine;* over this, a *third* piece *spread with simple cerate;* the whole to be covered with oiled silk and bandage, so arranged as to retain the vapor in contact with the diseased surface as long as possible. The solution is to be removed as often as it becomes exhausted by evaporation.

3. *The Solution, in Substance, as a direct Application, in Hospital Gangrene, Diphtheria, Gangrene of the Tongue,* and other diseases of this nature:—The parts are first to be dried by the application of charpie; then the sloughs, if thick, should be trimmed out with forceps and scissors as much as possible, for the thinner the slough the more effective is the remedy. The parts having again been dried, the solution is applied by means of a mop, or a pointed stick of wood, in quantity sufficient to saturate the sloughs. If the sloughs undermine the skin, or dip down into intermuscular spaces, the solution must be made to follow, with the pointed stick, or by means of a glass syringe.

If the application has been effectual, all odor from the diseased surface ceases, and the sloughs become somewhat hardened. The remedy should be reapplied every second hour, as long as any odor of putrefaction is present, or as long as the sloughs appear to be diffluent. It is not always necessary, especially when the sloughs are diffluent and thin, to use the solution in its full strength; it may be weakened by the addition of water, as the disease subsides.

The points to be especially attended to, in the use of the solution of bromine, are two: 1. The solution should be applied in strength and frequency sufficient for the impregnation of *the whole of the sloughs;* 2. To secure this end, the application *should be made by the surgeon himself,* and never be trusted to a nurse. If the sloughs are thick and cannot well be trimmed, the bromine may be introduced into the thickness of the slough by means of a hypodermic syringe.

After the topical application of the solution, the parts, when so situated as to render it practicable, should be subjected to the influence of the vapor. (See par. 1.)

Surgeons will do well to bear in mind that bromine is a new remedy for the purposes indicated above. The directions for its use, given here, are those followed in the military hospitals of this city; it may be found advisable to modify them as experience with the remedy accumulates. It is, therefore, earnestly recommended that the subject be studied diligently, that the effects of the remedy be carefully watched, and that the application be varied as new facts are developed in its use.

The investigation of the evidences respecting the antiseptic and prophylactic powers of this new disinfectant has reasonably confirmed the opinion of its great utility. But to secure its beneficial effects, its application should be made with proper care and thoroughness. It claims to arrest the destructive progress of gangrene, erysipelas, etc., and utterly to destroy the personal and the diffused virus of such maladies. To accomplish this effectually, the bromine must be applied to every molecule of the virus, and this is to be effected by means of the pipette syringe, the pointed stick, the scissors, and the solution, for local applications; and by its pungent and volatile vapors in wards and other infected places. This disinfectant certainly promises to be a great boon to our military hospitals.

Permanganate of Potassa.—A special order from the Medical Bureau at Washington [*Circular,* No. 12,] calls the attention

of medical officers to "the virtues of permanganate of potassa as a disinfectant and deodorizer." This is a soluble substance peculiarly convenient of application and remarkably certain and efficient in its effects as a disinfectant. Its employment as a deodorizer and prophylactic is limited mainly to topical applications, to gangrenous parts or putrescent materials, and to general effect upon the atmosphere of contaminated apartments, by means of evaporating cloths saturated with a strong solution of the permanganate. The oxidizing and antiseptic effects of the permanganate of potassa upon organic and putrescent matter are remarkable. It is the most sensitive test for the presence of organic matter, which it oxidizes with wonderful facility. [*See remarks upon this subject in Hammond's Hygiene.*] As this is an expensive and delicate substance, it is to be employed economically, upon saturated cloths or in dilute solutions upon plates. For purifying offensive water for purposes of beverage, etc., a standard solution should be dropped into the vessel of water, *until the tinge of the permanganate begins to appear.* The rapid and effectual oxidation of the organic (*putrid*) elements of impure water and other substances, even of the atmosphere itself, when brought in contact with solutions of this salt, and the consequent and almost instant deodorization of such impurities, render this disinfectant of priceless value for practical purposes. And as all preparations of manganese are therapeutically tonic, probably the minute quantities of this salt that would be taken in drinking the water purified as above described, would only act beneficially. "Condy's Disinfectant," "Darby's Fluid," and all the vaunted preparations of "Ozonized water," etc., are but solutions of permanganates. The salts are cheaper and more reliable than such nostrums, and are now supplied by all medical purveyors in the army.

Coal-tar Compounds — Carbolates. — The carbolate of lime has been employed to some extent in our camps and hospitals. McDougall's powder consists of carbolate of lime, sulphate of lime, quick-lime, etc. The Ridgewood disinfectant consists of carbolic acid, proto-chloride of iron, etc., combined with fullers' earth. Either of these, which are furnished by the medical purveyors, appear to be quite as valuable as the more expensive article of MM. Corné and Demeaux, which is used at the Imperial Camp at Châlons, and was found highly serviceable by Barron Larrey, after the great battles of the late Italian campaign. Coal-tar, in almost any form, is available for disinfecting sewers, etc., and in the dry powders mentioned, it is available for delaying the process of decomposition, whether in a corpse, or in refuse material. Carbolic acid has the antiseptic powers of creasote, and is largely sold for that article. The antiseptic properties of coal-tar, its effect upon mephitic gases and putrescent material, the permanency of its operation, and the cheapness of the article, render it available for extensive application in neutralizing and arresting cloacal and noxious effluvia in the processes of animal decomposition. A distinguished Medical Inspector of our army, when cut off from ordinary medical supplies, effectually and quickly abated the nuisances pertaining to an extensive old fortress, by means of an extemporized mixture of coal-tar, procured from the gas-works upon the premises. For use in chamber vessels, close-stools, etc., a neat fluid preparation may be made, after the formula of M. Demeaux, by mixing equal parts of coal-tar, alcohol, and hot soft soap. With the progress of knowledge respecting the chemistry of coal-tar and other hydro-carbons, the precise value of this class of disinfectants will be better understood. Coal-tar certainly has remarkable efficacy in arresting putrescence and controlling its effluvia.

Heat.—As a means of immediate disinfection of contaminated garments, bedding, and even of close apartments, ships, etc., heat is at once a cheap and most effectual method. The boiling of infected clothing, etc., is admitted to effectually destroy any contagious poison. And practically, upon a large scale in such work, experience proves it is best to employ steam as the means of heating. Upon this subject, see remarks and plans of M. Baudens [*Hospitals and Health of Troops*, Am. ed., pp. 238–204]; also, a Report on Heat as a disinfectant, in the Transactions of the National Sanitary Convention, 1860. It is probable that no circumstance contributes more directly to the perpetuation and spread of the typhus poison, than the accumulation and bad management of contaminated clothing, etc., that ought, under all circumstances, to be purified as soon as it leaves the patient or the bed.

Frost or Low Temperature, when continued a sufficient length of time, will effectually destroy both the miasma that produces yellow fever, and the paludal malaria that produces intermittent and remittent fevers; but such low temperature has no effect to arrest those fevers in the persons suffering them. It is worthy of note, that a freezing temperature does not appear to mitigate the activity of the personally infectious poisons, or contagions; though, with certain exceptions, it arrests putrefaction and the catalytic or fermentative processes.

For the Commission:

ELISHA HARRIS, M.D.

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
G. W. Cullom, U. S. A.
A. E. Shiras, U. S. A.
R. C. Wood, Assistant Surg.-Gen'l U. S. A.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., New York.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clarke, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, Jr., Philadelphia, Penn.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Prof. Fairman Rogers, Philadelphia, Penn.

OFFICERS:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., President.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Vice-President.
George T. Strong, Treasurer.
J. Foster Jenkins, M.D., General Secretary.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Associate Secretary.
J. H. Douglas, M.D., Associate Secretary.
F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, and the New England States, address "Office Women's Central Union, No. 10 Cooper Institute, New York."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 22 Summer Street, Boston, Mass.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 4th Street, Pittsburg, Penn.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, Ohio.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

General Superintendent, Rev. F. N. Knapp, Washington, D. C. Chief Assistant, J. B. Abbott.
Soldiers' Home, near Baltimore Railroad Depot, Washington, D. C.
Lodge No. 4, H Street, between 13th and 14th Streets.
Lodge No. 5, Maryland Avenue, near Railroad Station.
Nurses' Home, Washington, D. C.
Soldiers' Home, Third Street, east of Broadway, Cincinnati, Ohio—Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill.—C. N. Shipman, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky.—James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn.—L. Crane, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio———, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio—Clark Warren, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn.—C. W. Christy, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Lodge, Vicksburg, Miss.—T. Way, Sup't.

AGENCY FOR PENSIONS.

William F. Bascom, Pension Agent, Washington, D. C.

HOSPITAL CARS.

Between Washington and New York—Sol. Andrews, M. D., Surgeon in charge.
Between Louisville and Murfreesboro'—Dr. J. P. Barnum, Surgeon in charge.

SANITARY STEAMERS.

Mississippi River—Clara Bell; Cumberland River—New Dunleith; Potomac River—Elizabeth.

THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

THE GREAT NORTHWESTERN SANITARY FAIR.

Some hundred thousand people of the great Northwest have just been drawn together at Chicago by a Fair, under the immediate auspices of the "Chicago Branch of the U. S. Sanitary Commission." It has been glorious!—this great tide, not of people only or chiefly, but of sympathy and of thought and of feeling, which has rolled in from hundreds of miles over those wide prairies, and along the foot of the distant hills! To one who stood there, looking on, it came like a great whelming torrent of love and power, and solemn earnestness, which was irresistible, carrying everything before it. All who were present unite in saying that they never before realized so fully the consciousness and the exhilarating and invigorating effect of breathing, as it were, an atmosphere which was literally filled with generous emotions and moral earnestness, and where every other element was absorbed or neutralized.

So quietly had the whole affair been arranged, and with such excellent method conducted, that when this immense concourse of people poured in from Illinois and Indiana, from Michigan and Missouri, from Wisconsin and Iowa, bearing their gifts with them, it seemed as if some sudden and mysterious impulse had taken hold of one-quarter of the whole nation, who had suddenly sprung to their feet, seized whatever of goods or riches were nearest at hand, and rushed forth led by music and banners; and when, at last, from all quarters they had met at the gathering-place, to which they had been instinctively drawn in their hurried march, they had, as by common consent, or a certain divine impulse, without asking why, laid down their treasures, simply feeling that God's altar needed these for burnt-offering—so generous, and earnest, and full of a certain kind of contagious faith seemed these men and women who were gathered there; and that was just the secret of the whole, which made it all so real to every one who was present, while to those who were not there, the narration of the facts must needs seem exaggerated and unreal; it was this irresistible evidence, told by eye, and step, and tongue, and hand—evidence of an immense faith—immense as taken in the mass—faith in God, faith in the nation's life, faith in our armies, faith in our leaders, faith in our people at home.

The contributions to the Fair, to be sold for the benefit of our sick and wounded soldiers, were large, were munificent, but it was this tone of deep-seated earnestness which was largest. It was not merely what men and women said and did, but the *way* the thing was done, which carried with it this impression of wholesale generosity of spirit. Delicately wrought articles, such as usually adorn the tables of Fairs, the work of ladies' hands, were not wanting; but then the farmers from miles and miles around kept coming in with their wagons by twenties, and fifties, and hundreds,

loaded down with their bulky farm produce; others came leading horses, or driving before them cows, or oxen, or mules, which they contributed instead of money, of which, perhaps, they had none; others brought live poultry which had been fed for months by the poor man's door; they brought this because they must bring something, and this was all they had. Some wagons were loaded from rich dairies, with butter and cheese by the ton. Then came great loads of hay from some distant farm, followed by others just as large from farms farther off. The mechanics brought their machines, and gave them in, one after another;—mowing machines, reapers, threshing machines, planters, pumps, fanning-mills—until a new building, a great storehouse, had to be erected to receive them; and here were ploughs, and stoves, and furnaces, and mill-stones, and nails by the hundred kegs, and wagons, and carriage springs,—and axes, and plate glass, and huge plates of wrought iron, (one the largest that was ever rolled from any rolling-mill in the world,) block tin and enameled leather, hides, boxes of stationery, and cases of boots, cologne by the barrel, native wine in casks, purified coal-oil by the thousand gallons—a mountain howitzer, a steel breech-loading cannon, a steam-engine made by the working-men in one of the manufactories of engines in Chicago—and on it this inscription—"This engine is donated by the workmen of the Eagle Works Manufacturing Co., every man contributing something—not one Copperhead in the whole institution." There, too, were other machines which had been built by employés of various establishments, who had worked "after hours" to construct something for the Soldiers' Fair. Such, with a thousand other gifts great and small, filled this new storehouse, where liberal purchasers were found waiting. Then, again, the carpenters and joiners, who, in the press of work upon unfinished buildings, could not leave their hammer and saw to go to the Fair, joined together by tens and twenties, and set apart a day of which they would give their earnings to the soldiers. In like manner, different firms would advertise a sale for the benefit of the Fair. Thus, "To the Loyal Stone-Masons of Chicago:" "We propose to donate to the Northwestern Sanitary Fair the entire proceeds of the sale of one canal boat load (20 tons) of our first-class rubble stone. Bids for the same will be received at our office till Friday next."

Signed ——, &c.

Then loaded wagons came in long processions, toiling into the city, from far-off country places, bearing marks of frontier service, and the horses or mules, together with the drivers themselves, most of them told of wear. Many of them were sun-burnt men, with hard hands and rigid features; and a careless observer would have said that there was surely nothing in those wagons, as they passed, to awaken any sentiment. Yet something there was about it all which brought tears to the eyes of hundreds as the old farmers with their heavy loads toiled by. Among the crowd of spectators there was noticed a broad-shouldered Dutchman, with a face expressive of anything but thought or feeling; he gazed at this singular procession as it passed,—the sun-burnt farmers, and the long, narrow wagons, and the endless variety of vegetables and farm produce,—he gazed there as these men with their sober faces and their homely gifts passed one by one, until when, finally, the last wagon had moved by, this stolid, lethargic-looking man "broke down" with a flood of tears, and could say nothing and do nothing but seize upon the little child whom he held by the hand, and hug her to his heart, trying to hide his manly tears behind her floating curls.

Among these wagons which had drawn up near the rooms of the Sanitary Commission to unload their stores, was one peculiar for its exceeding look of poverty; it was worn and mended, and was originally made merely of poles. It was drawn by three horses which had seen much of life, but little grain. The driver was a man past middle age, with the clothes and look of one who toiled hard, but he had a thoughtful and kindly face. He sat there quietly waiting his turn to unload. By his side, with feet over the front of the wagon, for it was filled very full, was his wife, a silent, worn-looking woman, (many of these men had their wives with them on

the loads;) near the rear of the wagon was a girl of fifteen, perhaps, and her sister, dressed in black, carrying in her arms a little child.

Some one said to this man, (after asking the woman with the child if she would not go into the Commission rooms and get warm:) "My friend, you seem to have quite a load here of vegetables; now I am curious to know what good things you are bringing to the soldiers; will you tell me what you have?" "Yes," said he: "here are potatoes, and here are three bags of onions, and there are some ruta-baga, and there a few turnips, and that is a small bag of meal, and you can see the cabbages fill in; and that box with slats has some ducks in it, which one of them brought in." "Oh! then, this isn't all your load alone, is it?" "Why no! our region just where I live is rather a hard soil, and we haven't any of us much to spare any way, yet for this business we could have raked up as much again as this is, if we had had time; but we didn't get the notice that the wagons were going in till last night about eight o'clock, and it was dark and raining at that, so I and my wife and the girls could only go round to five or six of the neighbors within a mile or so, but we did the best we could; we worked pretty much all the night and loaded, so as to be ready to get out to the main road and start with the rest of them this morning; but I can't help it if it is little, it's *something* for those soldiers." "Have you a son in the army?" "No," he answered slowly, after turning round and looking at his wife. "No, I haven't *now*, but we had one there once; he's buried down by Stone River: he was shot there; —and that isn't just so either—we called him our boy, but he was only our adopted son; we took him when he was little, so he was just the same as our own boy, and" (pointing over his shoulder without looking back) "that's his wife there with the baby! But I shouldn't bring these things any quicker if he were alive now and in the army; I don't know that I should think so much as I do now about the boys away off there." It was in turn for his wagon to unload, so with his rough freight of produce, and his rich freight of human hearts with their deep and tender griefs, he drove on—one wagon of a hundred in the train.

As a proof of the interest felt by the people of Chicago in this Sanitary Fair, it may be mentioned that on the day the Fair opened, October 27th, the several courts of the city adjourned over the day, the post-office was closed, the Board of Trade adjourned, the public schools were not opened, the banks of the city closed, business of all kinds, whether in the offices, stores, shops, or manufactories, was suspended.

The following extract from the *Chicago Tribune*, one of the leading papers of the West, gives a living picture of that procession as it gathered up its forces and moved on, three miles in length:

"Yesterday will never be forgotten either in the city of Chicago or in the West. Memorable it will remain both as history and as patriotism. Such a sight was never seen before in the West upon any occasion; and we doubt whether a more magnificent spectacle was ever presented in the streets of the Empire City itself, than that vast procession of chariots and horsemen, country wagons and vehicles, civic orders and military companies, both horse and foot, which converted Chicago for the time being into a vast theatre of wonders.

"From the earliest dawn of the day the heart of the mighty city was awake, and long before eight o'clock the streets were thronged with people—citizens hurried excitedly to and fro; and country women, with their children, came in early in the morning, with colors tied to their bridles and decorating their wagons, and with miniature flags and banners on their horses' heads. On the house-tops, on the public buildings, flaunted the glorious flag of liberty. By nine o'clock the city was in a roar; the vast hum of multitudinous voices filled the atmosphere. Drums beat in all parts of the city summoning the various processions, or accompanying them to the grand central rendezvous. Bands of music playing patriotic tunes—bands of young men and women, singing patriotic songs, enlivened the streets. Every pathway was jammed up with human bodies, so that it was with extreme difficulty any headway could be made.

"The procession was advertised to assemble at nine o'clock precisely, and was composed of nine divisions, formed in the following order:

The First Division formed on Michigan Avenue—the right resting on Lake.

The Second Division formed on Wabash Avenue—right resting on Lake.

The Third Division on State Street—right resting on Lake.

The Fourth Division formed on Dearborn Street—right resting on Lake.

The Fifth Division formed on Clark Street—right resting on Lake.

The Sixth Division formed on Lasalle Street—right resting on Lake.

The Seventh Division formed on Wells Street—right resting on Lake.

The Eighth Division formed on Franklin Street, the right resting on Lake.

The Ninth Division formed on Market Street, the right resting on Lake Street, extending to Madison Street Bridge.

"As near ten o'clock as possible it started, banners flying, drums rolling, and all manner of brazen instruments stirring the air, and the hearts of the vast multitudes of people, with thrilling, exciting music. On it came, that mighty pageant! following the course laid down in the printed programme:

"From Michigan Avenue west on Lake to Market Street; on Market Street south to Washington Street; on Washington east to Clark Street; on Clark south to Harrison Street; on Harrison Street east to Michigan Avenue; north on Michigan Avenue to Lake Street; west on Lake Street to Lasalle; south on Lasalle to the Court-House Square.

"Such earnest enthusiasm as accompanied the procession, from first to last, has rarely been witnessed on any occasion. It was a grand and sublime protest on behalf of the people against the poltroons and traitors who were enemies to the Government, and opposed to the war. Bursts of patriotic feeling came from many a loyal bosom on that memorable and never-to-be-forgotten day. The people seemed to overflow with loyalty, and could not contain themselves. For a long time they had been silent, nursing their wrath, keeping alive their love for the old flag, keeping alive also their hatred of those that hated it—who had so long fired upon it in the rear—finding nowhere, in no event, in no newspaper, any adequate utterance of their passionate feelings. Now the mighty eloquence of that majestic and sublime procession spoke for them! That was the thing which they all along wanted to say—but could not! They were in themselves ciphers, mere units of the nation; but there, in all those thousands of men, they saw themselves multiplied into an incalculable, irresistible host, and felt that their hour of triumphant speech had come at last! That was the answer which they thundered out in trumpet tones to the miserable traitors who had so long torn the bleeding heart of their country.

"'I always knew,' said one old man at our elbow, in the crowd, whilst we were watching the procession, 'that the heart of the people was all right. They didn't know their danger for a long while. Now they've found it out—and this is what they say about it!'

"This procession was remarkable in many respects as a pageant, and particularly in the number of fine horses which accompanied it. A larger number of well-mounted men has rarely been seen in a civic procession. The police came at the head of it, under the command of Captain Nelson; a fine body of men, with capital horses, looking as bold and brave as heroes.

"After these followed, in stately march, the Michigan Sharpshooters; the 1st Regiment of Illinois State Militia, (Chicago City Guard,) a fine lot of fellows! and the whole of the First Division, with their bands, and flags, and panoply of war.

"Amongst these, the carriage containing the captured rebel flags attracted much attention, and excited great enthusiasm. These were the flaunting rags which the rebels had borne on many a battle-field, and which our brave Illinois soldiers had torn from the hands of their standard-bearers. There they were, *bellorum exuviæ*, spoils of war, flaunting no longer in haughty defiance at the head of rebel armies, but carried in triumph at the head of a civic procession in the peaceful streets of Chicago. Many a tearful memory they must have conjured up in the minds of many a spectator there present, whose sons were in the battles where these flags were taken; and many of whom are, ere now, at rest forever in their bloody soil.

"The Second and Third Divisions followed; and it was a most picturesque and pleasing sight to behold the long lines of members of the various Lodges, societies, and associations of the city, in their many-colored regalias. Then came the benevolent societies, the religious orders making an imposing spectacle, which it would require the painter's art to represent, and to which no words could do anything like justice.

"The Fifth Division, ushered by a fine band, and headed by J. Q. Hoyt, Esq., then came trampling by. There were scores of carriages, containing members of the press, the clergy, the municipal authorities, judges and officers of the courts, governors and ex-governors of States, &c., &c.

"One of the most strikingly beautiful features of the procession was a superbly decorated four-horse car, bearing the employés of the liberal-hearted Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing Company, represented in this city by Geo. R. Chittenden, Esq., and suggestive, by the presence of working women and sewing machines at work upon soldiers' overcoats, of the utility of the sewing machine in clothing armies.

"Then the Sixth Division, consisting of wagons choked with children, singing the

song of 'John Brown's Body Lies Mouldering in the Grave!'

"Then the Seventh Division of butchers, horse-shoers—of ponies and oxen, contributed; and last, but not least—nay, greatest and mightiest of all—the sublime spectacle of the Lake County Delegation.

"THE LAKE COUNTY DELEGATION.

"A striking and noticeable feature of the procession was the long string of farmers' teams from Lake County. They came into the city at an early hour in the forenoon, and sufficiently early to join the procession. There were one hundred wagons, loaded to overflowing with vegetables, the staid old horses decorated with little flags, and larger flags pendent from the wagons and held by the stout farmer hands. It was a great and beautiful free-will offering of the sturdy farmers, whose hearts ever beat true to freedom and the Union. No part of the procession attracted so many eyes, and no heartier cheers went up from the thousands who thronged the streets than those given, and thrice repeated, for the Lake County farmers and their splendid donation. There were no small loads. Every wagon was filled to overflowing with great heaps of potatoes and silver-skinned onions, mammoth squashes, huge beets and turnips, monster cabbages, barrels of cider and rosy apples, load after load, with many a gray-haired farmer driving, face weather-beaten, frame rugged, hands bronzed, his old eyes sparkling with the excitement of the project his big heart conceived. And back of the farmer, mounted on the vegetables, were the boys, filled to repletion with fun. At the end of the route of the procession, the teams drove up to the Sanitary Commission rooms, and unloaded their precious freights of stores into the garners, whence they will go to the boys in the field.

"This harvest home was a sight to bring tears to the eyes of any man but a confirmed copperhead. There was an eloquence in it, a moral grandeur which spoke louder than any words. It told that the farmers, the bone and sinew of the country, were yet confident of success, that despair or distrust has not entered into their calculations, and that the boys in the field were worthy the best of their crops. There was no display, no advertisement lurking behind their contribution. It was a free-will offering from their great, generous hearts, for which they will have no recompense, save that best of all recompense, the blessings of the gallant fellows in camp and in hospital. God bless the Lake County farmers!

"The procession arrived at the Court-House about one o'clock, when the bands struck up some patriotic tunes; after which Thomas B. Bryan, Esq., addressed the people. * * * * * * * * * * * *

"AT THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

"The scene presented at the Sanitary Commission rooms was worth going a great distance to witness, and thousands improved the rare opportunity. Here more than 100 wagons were drawn up before the Commission, delivering their treasures to the agents who are to forward them to the boys in the field. The sidewalks and street were filled with boxes, barrels and sacks, and scores and hundreds of by-standers eagerly put their shoulders to the work, and were proud to take part in handling some of this soldiers' produce. Madison Street, for nearly a block, was blockaded for fully half an hour. Judge Fuller came to see what was the matter—why the Madison Street cars were so long delayed; but when he saw the cause, and the effect upon the people, he concluded passengers could well afford to walk around the 'blockade.' This grand donation was worth about $3,000—an immense amount of farm products of every variety—better than gold for the Sanitary Commission, and through them, for the boys in the field and in hospitals."

"The back room of the 'Commission' was filled with wheat; Mr. McVicker tendered them the use of his cellar, which was soon filled; next, B. W. Raymond offered storage room in one of his large cellars, which was gladly accepted, and promptly used. We regret that some photographist was not on hand to take a view of that crowd, and present duplicates of the Fair. They would have sold by thousands."

"While unloading their golden treasure, a messenger approached the farmers with an invitation from the Lady Managers to come to Lower Bryan Hall, and partake of a dinner in waiting for them. These sturdy, warm-hearted yeomen, accompanied by the Marshals of the several divisions, moved to Bryan Hall, where they were warmly welcomed by the ladies and all who were present."

It is impossible to describe in detail the various halls occupied by the Fair. No one hall was large enough. Bryan Hall, beautifully decorated, was filled with articles such as usually crowd the tables of fairs—only here the tables were burdened; and each morning after the sales of the previous day, the abundance was renewed.

This hall was brilliantly lighted in the evening, and crowded from nine in the morning until eleven at night.

Among the articles in Bryan Hall which attracted attention, was the original manuscript of President Lincoln's "Proclamation of Emancipation;" a gift of the Presi-

dent to the Fair. Some thousands of dollars will probably be realized from its sale.

In the large hall below, in the same building, were neatly arranged but richly loaded tables—each table seating some forty persons; and here, every day, some 1,500 or 2,000 persons dined. A matron presided over each table, and the young ladies of the city, tastefully attired, were the "waiters" of the tables. It was a sight not to be forgotten. All these supplies were "sent in" from the homes of the city and vicinity. This was continued with unfailing abundance during the two weeks that the Fair continued.

A third hall was the Supervisors' Hall—where the judge not only adjourned his court and gave up his room to the Fair, but gave himself to superintend that department. The following notice of this all is from the *Chicago Tribune*, as before:

THE CURIOSITY SHOP.

That which will probably prove one of the most attractive features of the Fair is what we shall call the "Curiosity Shop," which is located in the Supervisor's room, in the Court-House. We need not describe it in detail, but will say that about everything ever seen, or read of in modern books or newspapers, can be found there. First, there are the battle-torn flags of the 1st, 2d, 6th, and 10th Wisconsin Regiments. On the first is inscribed, "Chaplain Hills;" on the second, "Fourteen Battles;" on the 6th, "Five Battles;" and on the 10th, "Chaplain Hills." Then there are the battered and torn flags of our own glorious Illinois 19th. On one is inscribed the undying words, "Who'll save the left?" and on the other—"Stone River." Side by side with these, are the blood-soiled banners from Stone River, Arkansas Post, Hatchie, Shiloh, &c. Here are also flags captured from rebels in scores. One from the famous "Mississippi Devils," bearing the motto, "Our rights;" a Virginia flag captured at Gettysburg, on its folds "Dulce et decorum patria mori;" a Virginia State flag, the Rock Rifleman's flag; the flag of the Summit (Miss.) Rifles—"We fight for our rights—presented by the ladies of Summit." Another flag is suggestive of Floyd. It bears the motto, "We collect our own revenue," and it might have been added, others too. There are large numbers of others of this description of trophies of the valor of our armies, which are worth a long voyage to see. Then there are sewing machines, photographs, rebel butcher knives, horse pistols, books, fancy chairs, paintings, minerals, vases, side saddles, bird-cages, flower-pots, scimetars, guns, flower vases, trophies by the hundred, &c., &c., almost every one of which has a history which will interest the purchaser.

A fourth hall was devoted to the exhibition of works of art. Here were collected, and admirably and tastefully arranged, some 400 or 500 oil paintings, many of them works of great merit; carried into the Western world from Eastern, or even transatlantic homes. Some days before the close of the Fair it was stated that twenty thousand persons had visited this gallery of paintings. Here, as in the other halls, was music, added to the presence of ladies. A fifth hall was the new building where the machinery was exhibited, before referred to.

Besides the sales in the various halls there was, from time to time, an auction sale in the street, of hay and grain, and horses, and colts, and cows, and such other gifts as were not fitly placed upon tables.

Thus the Fair was continued until Saturday of the second week, Nov. 7th, the tide of supplies and of people from the Northwest daily flowing in. As a necessary guard against an utterly overbearing crowd, different days were assigned to different sections of the country, when they were notified that it was most desirable for them to come.

Each evening there was some entertainment, which "paid," in Metropolitan Hall, (No. 6 in order.) One evening ladies and gentlemen came down from Detroit, bringing all appliances with them, and presented a most charming set of tableaux. Another evening there were Shakespeare readings; another evening, Miss Anna Dickinson claimed and chained a thronged house, and so on.

Not from the "Northwest" only did friends and gifts appear. But there were persons and greetings from every loyal State and a glad quickening of patriotic sympathy in a work which embraces in its ministry of mercy a nation's army fighting in a nation's cause.

Not content with all of this work at the Fair, the ladies, as a fitting and beautiful close to their two weeks of toil, gave in the lower hall a bountiful dinner to all the in-

valid soldiers in that vicinity who were able to leave tent or hospital and gather there. It was a glad occasion, blessing and blessed.

Enough is said of the marvelous energy and wise business talent displayed by the ladies who had the Fair in hand, when it is stated that from beginning to end, for two weeks, there was perfect system, and no break, no jars in the machinery.

Altogether, this Fair, independent of the money realized from it for sick and wounded soldiers, has in its moral effect performed a grand work. States are connected closer, while the lines between them as States are less sharply drawn, and loyalty to the great idea of "nationality" has to-day a deeper holdupon the whole North-west, and upon the nation itself, than it had one month ago.

THE PRISONERS ON BOTH SIDES.

Whatever the merits of the controversy between the two Commissioners of Exchange may be, they have not the smallest bearing upon the treatment of the prisoners on either side. The claims of the latter to food and shelter are in no way affected by the circumstances, let them be what they may, which have for the present put a stop to their exchange. Even if our Government were ever so much in the wrong, either in its construction of the *cartel*, or in its computation of numbers, the idea of coercing it into the concession of the rebel claims by penalties inflicted on the Union prisoners, would be as novel, and as unprecedented, as it is inhuman. By the strict rule of war, neither party has the right to have its prisoners exchanged. Soldiers captured by an enemy may lawfully be held in durance until the war is over. The custom of exchanging them owes its origin to the desire which happily usually prevails in civilized countries, to mitigate the rigors of a strict assertion of right, whenever it can be done without injury to either of the combatants. But if either of them could believe or show that an exchange would serve his enemy more than it would serve him, or that the refusal to exchange would damage his enemy more than it would damage him, there is no reason in the laws of war why he should not hold his prisoners until the peace. In fact, prisoners, for whom the other side can offer no equivalent, are held, even when there is a *cartel*, and nobody would ever think of accusing their captors of cruelty in doing it. Exchange is, in short, a mere concession made for the sake of sparing brave men the burden of a long imprisonment in a hostile country; and if a belligerent refuses for any cause to make it, nobody has a right to complain except its own prisoners, and least of all the enemy. It follows, therefore, that the treatment to which our unfortunate soldiers are subjected at Richmond has not even the poor excuse of having been resorted to for the enforcement of a well-founded claim. It is, in every sense of the word, wanton and unjustifiable, and the violence of Mr. Ould's language, in his correspondence with General Meredith, naturally leads us to suspect that he knows it to be so. Vituperation is rarely used by men as used to discussion as he is, except in defence of things which are not otherwise defensible.

What renders the conduct of the Richmond authorities all the more heinous is, that their treatment of our prisoners stands in marked contrast to that which they have experienced at our hands, and scarcity of either provisions or clothing at the South puts no new face on the matter, inasmuch as the Government at Washington, and the people of the North through the Sanitary Commission, would from the outset have, on the slightest hint of such a state of things, have been only too glad to take the task of supporting our men off their hands.

We sent an agent to the hospital at Annapolis, Maryland, to examine the condition of the fresh batch who came from Richmond by the flag of truce on the 29th Oct. He says in his Report:

Of the 185 who escaped with their lives from the prisons of the rebel capital, eight died on the passage from City Point; several, almost immediately after landing, expired of inanition. Of 134 sent to the 1st Division Hospital, 43 had died up to Sunday last; and many more, exhibiting frightful signs of starvation, though still alive, are destined not to survive.

On their arrival at the landing, many were in a dying condition; and were *alive* with vermin, filthy, and almost entirely

destitute of clothing. Some had only shreds of a single shirt remaining, others the remains only of an old blanket around the body; such, in fact, was their condition in this respect, that the Surgeon in charge of the Hospital who was receiving them, had to send his wife and a female nurse away from the landing for decency' sake,—so nearly nude were these half-famished men; and so like living skeletons, that among them "a mother would not have not known her son."

Most of them were footsore; 120 were without shoes; and so reduced, many of them, as to be beyond the reach of food or stimulants to restore them.

On visiting them in the Hospital wards, I found many who were too feeble to relate their experience; from others I gathered that they are all unclothed, unsheltered and unfed. Knapsacks are always taken from prisoners, and their contents stolen. The sick only are sometimes allowed to retain a blanket; other clothing, and boots and shoes, almost always are taken. Upon Belle Island there is no shelter for the thousands there, most of whom are sick and half naked, lying upon the ground; sand is incrusted into the sore backs of some; and the unanimous testimony of all with whom I talked about the food was, that it was a "famine ration;" that men "starved upon it."

The rations, meagre as they are, are not served regularly,—but, their distribution is dependent upon the mismanagement and caprice of officers *who sell them*—thus sacrificing the very lives of their helpless prisoners for paltry gain. "I have known," said one officer, an intelligent Englishman, "I have known the Quartermaster *to sell all the bread he could find sale for*-and send the rest to the prisoners."

Some describe their imprisonment as "a long struggle with hunger;" and say, that all who arrive "looking well and robust; soon show signs of physical weakness and exhaustion." In answer to questions as to clothing and shelter upon Belle Island, one man said, "the men mostly sleep in the sun in the daytime, and walk about all night, to keep warm." Among an accumulation of testimony, sufficient to fill a volume, I select the following, as bearing upon the treatment and rations given, and the general condition and *prospects* of our prisoners in Richmond.

George A. Rogers, 1st Vt. Cavalry, (late Captain of Cavalry in the British Army,) was wounded, and taken prisoner at Brandy Station, Va., Oct. 11th. "Soon as I was captured," he said, "I was sent to the rear, where my wounds, (one a severe sabre wound of the scalp,) which bled furiously, were dressed. My boots were taken away, and I was sent to Richmond to the Hospital, which I reached on the 14th." He remained there 17 days. "Prisoners," he says, "are *always* robbed of their shoes, boots and clothing, often all except the cap and jacket, which they never steal, *for fear they would be mistaken for Yankees and barbarously treated.*" "The ration in Hospital is 1½ ounces of meat, ½ pint of their bean soup, and 3 slices of bread daily." "A few fone bandages were distributed among the badly wounded, but no lint, and no medicines." In answer to my inquiries whether food and clothing sent from the North to prisoners reached them, he said, "Supplies sent directly to individuals, to men and officers, are given to them, *but clothing is not.*" He had "seen rebel officers wearing clothing with the U. S. Sanitary Commission's mark upon them, and heard men boast of having stolen them." This was corroborated by another man, a prisoner from Richmond, who heard his statement. "I have seen," he added, "half-starved fellows from Belle Island search about for crumbs on the floor on reaching the Hospital, and devour their first scanty meal like hungry dogs; so nearly starved are they when sent to Hospital, that none of them live more than two days. They all die." He described the destitution of soldiers in Richmond (rebel soldiers) as recently very great; "at one time they were on ¼ rations." "I saw some of our poor fellows utterly crazy from want and ill-treatment." Others had forgotten their names, and the number and name of their regiment." "The antipathy the rebels in Richmond feel for us is such as men feel for not dogs even, unless they are *mad.*" "When entering Richmond, our fellows were half dead with hunger and fatigue, and one of the rebel chivalry stuck a piece

of pork upon his bayonet, and shouted "Come on, you dogs—follow me!"

"On coming away, 185 of us were packed like herrings in a long, narrow barge, without clothes and without shelter, and so filthy that I overheard one of their officers say, "Don't let our poor fellows go on that boat." Both Capt. Rogers and others confirm the statement that *the rule is* to search all who arrive, and take money and other valuables; and books, even rings, are taken from the fingers. The Hospital ration is larger than it is on the Island, and at the Libby Prison, 3 slices of bread being given to the sick. The quantity furnished to officers is also larger than is given to privates."

Harrison Merchant, Private, Co. A, 16th Regiment, Maine Vols., taken prisoner at Gettysburg and sent to Belle Island, says, "They had some old tents there, but now nothing in the way of shelter is left but some old strips of canvas." The daily ration, he says, "was 10 lbs. of beef and bones for 100 men. It was sometimes bad; but we never minded that. One loaf of bread—often it was sour, and had lime in it—was divided in 6 slices; two slices and about ¼ pint of boiled dirty water with a teaspoonful of beans in it, was all we got; but sometimes we didn't get that. The loaf weighed about a pound. The guard got a whole loaf a day. We sometimes got 3 or 4 spoonsful of rice, but it was not boiled enough."

"The soup was made by adding 1½ pails full of soup in which the meat and beans were boiled to 20 pails full of hot James River water;" surely a rare work of art, to show how thin a Yankee soldier could grow and not die! One man said, "the *soup*, as they called it, was so thin, that except for the dirt in it, it would not stain a white handkerchief."

Oscar Eckell, Private, 24th Mich. Vols., was captured at Gettysburg, July 1st. On the 27th arrived at Richmond, and was sent to Belle Island with 500 other prisoners. "We all remained without any shelter, lying on the bare ground; my blanket, rubber blanket, and everything in my knapsack, was taken away. The meat that was served to us was often spoiled. There was such suffering for want of clothes, that the men scrambled for the rags that came off the dead; sometimes the corpses were robbed of all they had on; I saw a good many men on the island that were *insane.* The food we got wasn't enough to keep a baby alive."

William Read, Corporal, Co. K, 162d Regiment, N. Y. Vols., was taken prisoner at Springfield, near Port Hudson, July 2d. "We made long marches, all barefoot; many died on the marches from sun-stroke and exhaustion, for we had no food for 3 days." He reached Belle Island on the 6th August, and describes the vermin as "so great a curse, that the men tear off their only remaining rags, cry like children and go about naked," so intolerable is their suffering from this cause; *the whole earth moves with them.* Men could get paroled, first by paying $5 or $10; one squad of our men raised $280, and a valuable gold watch, which they gave to the rebel officers for a first chance to get away. The Island is very sickly, and is becoming a great grave-yard. We never got as much as two ounces of meat at a time; sometimes we got about a table-spoonful of beans, or rice."

Martin Pennock, Corporal, Co. G, 4th Michigan, says: "The dead are all buried by our own men, most of them without boxes. Sometimes 6 or 8 are sent down, never enough for all the dead. The men are fairly worn out with the labor of burying the dead. *There is no register of deaths kept.* The sick, even those that have been paroled a second time, cannot get away, because they are too weak to walk. To find out whether men have money, that they may steal it, they allow peddlers to come about and go into the prisons and bring food and tobacco for sale, and a spy comes with them."

J. W. Tailor, who was both in the Libby Prison and in the Alabama Hospital, says: "There were sinks in the prison, but most of the men were too ill and weak to crawl to them." The ration, acccording to Tailor, is 1 ounce; or, as he added, "only one mouthful," about ¼ lb. of bread, in the morning; at night, ½ pint of soup; at the prison, clothing, blankets and clothes are often taken from our men. One witness said to me, "Even tin cups were stolen from us, and then sold back to the owner for one dollar." Tailor was in a room in the Hos-

pital, "with 284 others; all wounded, and many with fevers; all in one room, without beds or blankets, or straw even to lie upon."

"Our ration was bread, and *a pint cup-full* of rye, coffee, or the same quantity of soup made of rice and turnip leaves—*for twelve men.* The beans we got were always musty. In one room in the hospital were 81 patients with diarrhœa; 40 of them died. Sometimes officers who were kept in a room above us bought food—potatoes and bread—and passed it down through holes where chains for hauling up tobacco passed. They often poured soup down to the hungry fellows, but they had to knock on the floor, and when the guard found us out we were deprived of our rations."

James Harrison, quartermaster's clerk, has scurvy; was sent to hospital, and remained there 6 weeks; was in charge of a rebel doctor. "They had no lint nor bandages, except some dirty strips like tent cloth. There were 300 cases, the doctor told me, of scurvy much worse than mine. For a few days they gave us raw potatoes—a few slices—and a little vinegar, and some tincture of iron, but they soon gave out. We then had only about a quarter of a pint of rice soup, with turnip-tops boiled in it, and a slice of bread and a little rye coffee once daily; that was all we got." He had no money when taken, but "5 others captured at the same time had $100 robbed from them. One man had a $20 greenback *exchanged* by an officer for $20 in Confed. money; that was taken charge of when we got in Richmond." Before going to hospital he was in Libby prison, and says: "While I was there, the room I was in was washed out every day, so the floor was always wet and muddy. It was our only bed. Some of the sick kept their blankets."

One of the prisoners described the floors of the prison as being "sometimes ankle deep in filth." Several with whom I talked describe the hospital ration as barely sufficient for well men "to keep alive upon; the sick were all too bad and weak to be benefited much by it." "At one time we were a week without salt, and then used to get only a little pinch of it." "Nearly 900 of us were crowded in a room 80 feet by 40." "The water of the James River, which was made into *soup,* when it was taken for the use of our men on the island, was black from the filth of sewers which empty into it. The bread is often sour, and the meat that we get, without salt, is disgustingly fresh. The rebel officers, when they can get salt for us, *sell it.* Our rice is always given to us half boiled. The quartermaster, after the bread is baked, sells all he can get pay for, and gives us our ration out of what is left. Our rations were purposely served after dark, and our meat—a mouthful apiece for 16 men—was thrown upon the floor in all the filth, where we had to divide it. The authorities and officers in Richmond treated us worse than a Christian would treat a mangy dog."

From the accounts recently published, there can be no doubt that there is great scarcity of food in Richmond. But *our* prisoners had only 10 lbs. of meat for 100 men; *their guards* had 25 lbs. *Our* men had their scanty ration served twice a day; *theirs* three times. For *ours,* a loaf is divided into six slices, and in some instances (when the rest is sold) only one slice is given daily; at the same time *their men* had a loaf apiece, and a quantity of rice besides. No one could see the men in the hospitals at Annapolis and doubt they were perishing from inanition. *I spanned the thigh of a man just dead with my thumb and middle finger.* And the longing eyes with which those that reached the hospital watched the food, the eagerness with which they devoured it, all told of starvation.

The Commission has caused a report to be made upon the condition and treatment of the rebel prisoners at Point Lookout, Maryland, one of the principal depots, and it is worthy of attention, if only for the sake of the contrast. Of the hospital the report says:

The hospital was situated in the southern part of the encampment, and was composed of eighteen hospital tents complete, arranged two together end to end, and placed in two rows, a broad street intervening with the cook and dining tent, on the eastern end, and facing the street. In these tents there were one hundred patients, and all, with the exception of five or six, were on raised bunks, and all were lying on mattresses, with at least one blanket for

covering. Eight of their own men were detailed to take care of them; and although they were enlisted men, yet six were graduates of some medical school, and the other two had been students. Four were graduates of the University of the City of New York; one of the School at New Orleans; one from the Eclectic School, Cincinnati; and the other two were students in the University of Pennsylvania — 'seceders;' still little or no attention did they give to their sick comrades, and, except in giving the necessary food and medicine, they scarcely ever visited them. There is either a lack of sympathy, or else indolence enters largely into their composition; and I am inclined to believe it is the latter, for, with the accommodations at their command, with good beds and shelter for the sick, if they had one particle of pride they could render them much more comfortable, especially as regards cleanliness.

Chronic diarrhœa is the most prevalent disease, yet they have mild cases of remittant fever and some erysipelas.

Mortality, none; for when any cases assume a dangerous character they are immediately removed to the General Hospital, and they generally remove from twenty to thirty per day on an average, leaving in Camp Hospital eighty sick."

The rations are very good, both in quantity and quality amply sufficient for any sick man; but there are exceptional cases where they need something more delicate than the regular army ration. The majority are perfectly well satisfied, and very little complaint is made in this particular. I will here give the quantities they receive in full, half, and low diet:

FULL DIET.	HALF DIET.	LOW DIET.
Dinner.	*Dinner.*	*Dinner.*
Beef or pork, 4 oz.	Meat, 2 oz.	No meat.
Potatoes, 4 oz.	Potatoes, 3 oz.	Potatoes, 2 oz.
Hard-tack, 3 oz.	Hard-tack, 2 oz.	Hard-tack, 1 oz.
Breakfast and tea.	*Breakfast and tea.*	*Breakfast and tea.*
Coffee or tea, 1 pt.	Coffee or tea, 1 pt.	Coffee or tea, 1 pt.
Rice, 2 gills.	Rice, 1 gill.	Rice, 1 gill.
Molasses, 1 oz.	Molasses, ½ oz.	Molasses, ½ oz.
Hard-tack, 3 oz.	Hard-tack, 2 oz.	Hard-tack, 1 oz.

Soup and soft bread is also given them at least once a week.

Of their shelter there can be no possible complaint, for they all have good tents, such as wall, hospital, Sibley, wedge, shelter, hospital, and wall tent-flies. The majority are in the wedge tent. Average in a hospital tent, from fifteen to eighteen men; in wall tent, from ten to twelve; in shelter tent, three; in Sibley tent, from thirteen to fourteen; in wedge tent, five; under hospital-fly, from ten to thirteen; under wall tent-fly, from three to eight. Of the shelter tents, only a very few are excavated and boarded at the sides, and almost every tent throughout the camp has a fire-place and chimney, built of brick, made by them from the soil (which is clay) and sun-baked. In a few of the Sibleys holes are dug, fire built, and covered at the top; generally the tents are filled with smoke.

The ration to the well men is:

Pork, 3 oz.
Salt or Beef, 4 oz.
Hard-tack, 10 oz.
Coffee, 1 pt.
} A day's ration.

Soup is also given once a week, potatoes and beans every five days, soft bread once a week; and fresh meat had been issued to them once a week, up to two weeks ago, when, from some cause I could not find out, it was stopped.

The kitchen and dining-rooms are in the northwest corner of the camp, and composed of six wooden buildings one hundred and sixty feet in length, with twenty feet off for the kitchen. Only five of the buildings are in use. The kitchen arrangements are very good, each one containing four caldrons, and in one five, each caldron capable of containing from fifty to sixty gallons. Breakfast and supper they relied upon hard-tack, tea or coffee, and there is no likelihood of their starving. The dining-room contains three tables, and each house feeds fifteen hundred and twenty-nine men, five hundred at a time. Seem to be well supplied with all necessary articles both for kitchen and dining-room.

I will make allowance for the condition of the kitchen, as they were just through serving dinner, and were making preparations for cleaning up; yet there was evidence of a want of care and cleanliness; still I found them in much better condition than I expected; there was such a vast difference that I did not notice as much the number of bones thrown from kitchen on the outside; still there were some.

The sick in quarters average from one hundred and sixty to two hundred, prevailing disease scurvy, yet a great many are troubled with diarrhœa, and as they gradually grow worse, are admitted to the hospital to be sent to the General Hospital. Those men who are sick in quarters, and who are unable to eat the rations given them, have instead, vinegar 3 oz., potatoes 5, rice 1 gill, molasses 1 gill—one day's ration; each man cooks for himself. They are troubled greatly with the itch, and it is spreading throughout the camp; and until sulphur was sent them by the Commission, they had nothing for it.

They have abundance of water in the camp, notwithstanding that several of the wells are unfit for use. The waters of those not in use are strongly impregnated with iron, and will stain white clothing a yellow or light brown. Outside of these there is an abundance of good water, and no excuse whatever for being otherwise than cleanly; but they seem to abhor soap and water; at least their appearance so indicates. A great many are employing their time in making brick, and have now a great quantity on hand. Others employ themselves in making rings, chains, seals, &c., from bone and gutta percha—and notwithstanding the complaint that they do not get enough to eat, you'll find them on the main street, which they call the "'Change," gambling both for money and rations. They have games at cards, reno, sweat-cloth, &c.; also, on this street they do their trading, hard-tack for tobacco, and tobacco for hard-tack. It is here that you will find them in crowds, sitting or kneeling in the dirt, eagerly watching the different games, and see them arise dissatisfied at having lost their day's ration. While thus engaged they are unmindful of the cold.

In the afternoon visited the Small-Pox Hospital, which is about a quarter of a mile north of the encampment, among the pine bushes, under the charge of Dr. A. Broadbent, Acting Asst. Surgeon. This hospital was opened two weeks ago, and up to to-day have received therein one hundred and thirty-three patients, during which time thirty-three deaths have occurred. The sick are in wedge tents, three to a tent, lying on straw on the ground, with a blanket and a half to a man. Their ration is the same, and bean soup is also given every day; to those not allowed it, coffee in its stead. The men are much more comfortable here than in the encampment, and those who are in attendance do not want to go back. I should also state that they occasionally get soft bread. No complaints at all; were getting along as well as they could expect.

THE SUPPLIES FOR THE RICHMOND PRISONERS.

The following letters explain themselves:

FORT MONROE, *Nov. 20th*, 1863.

DR. J. H. DOUGLAS,

Associate Sec'y San. Com.:

MY DEAR SIR—As I said in my last telegram, we were unable to send up all our stores from City Point, for want of sufficient transportation. As the Rebel boat could not return from Richmond until Saturday, the Colonel commanding the Union flag of truce boat deemed it advisable to return to Fort Monroe for another load; Capt. Hatch, of the rebel boat, having promised to bring down another lighter, which would enable him to take up all the freight our boat could carry. The convoy, the same boat that I went up on, will return to City Point to-morrow, and will take up all our stores on hand at Fort Monroe. The hospital supplies, such as beef-soup, chocolate, condensed milk, brandy, &c., I consigned to Dr. Wilkin, Surgeon-in-Chief of the hospital for prisoners, he having assured Colonel Irvine—late of Libby Prison, and now commanding flag of truce boat Convoy—that everything sent in that way should be devoted to the exclusive use of our sick and wounded soldiers; and Capt. Hatch, of the rebel boat, gave me the fullest assurance that the stores would be safely delivered to Dr. Wilkin.

In future, stores sent to the prisoners in Richmond should be divided into two classes—substantial food for the well men, and delicacies for the sick. The first should be marked "Libby Prison," or "Belle Island"—the second, "Hospital for Prisoners," Richmond, Va. The Sanitary Commission Stamp should be marked on each package, and the packages themselves

should be very substantially put together, as they are very apt to get broken with the many handlings which they undergo before reaching their destination.

Triplicate invoices should be sent with each lot of stores—two to General Meredith and one to me. Give the contents of each package and the number of packages sent. As the New York does not go up to-morrow, I shall not go up again for several days, or until we send another lot of stores. My principal object in wishing to go up on the New York was to ascertain all about her accommodations for making the returning prisoners comfortable. I believe they are quite ample, but I want to see for myself. Very truly yours,

JAMES GALL, JR.

MR. F. M. KNAPP,

Associate Sec'y San. Com.:

MY DEAR SIR—The flag of truce New York goes up to City Point this A. M., taking with her all the sanitary stores intended for Richmond, that have accumulated here during the week ———. General Meredith says he will send the flag of truce boat any time with a load of Sanitary supplies, and as the New York will be ready to go up again Tuesday, I would like to be able to send a large supply of substantial food—crackers, beef, potatoes, onions, &c., and of under-clothing, such as drawers, shirts, stockings, towels, handkerchiefs, &c. A supply of soap also is much needed, and would, I have no doubt, be gratefully received.

General Meredith says that for the present the Government will not send any more stores to the prisoners, as the proper disposition of those already sent is very much doubted.

The General says, however, that he has every reason to believe that the supplies sent by the Commission have been properly distributed. I will make every effort to gain information on this point. In the mean time, the Commission, with evidence before it that some of the goods sent have been received, should send forward large supplies of all kinds of substantial food and comfortable under-clothing, blankets, &c.

Very truly yours,

JAMES GALL, JR.

LIBBY PRISON, RICHMOND, VA., *November* 12, 1863.

To the Agent of the Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.:

I have written you more than once through the *regular channel*, but fear the letters may not go. A private opportunity offers now. The goods received from you were of the utmost service to the officers here, a great many of whom were in very sad condition.

We need about 200 more shirts, same number of drawers, and as many blankets, unless we are to be exchanged soon; also some socks. *We have only corn bread (unsifted), a little rice, and a few poor sweet potatoes and water for our rations.* The bread is about half a pound; the rice half a gill. I had to-day eight potatoes; only two were good for anything—medium size—the others not larger than one's finger ! !

We are annoyed and indignant that while we are treated in this manner the Confed. officers in our hands are furnished with abundant rations, excellent in quality and variety, with good quarters, beds and blankets; while we are turned into this building, to sleep on the floor without blankets. Only one room here has glass; all the other windows are open to the full sweep of the north wind. No fires.

If perfectly convenient, I should like from the Commission a small box of preserved meats, fruits, &c., &c.

NEAL DOW,
Brig. Gen., U. S. A.

The *Richmond Examiner* publishes the following in explanation of the alleged refusal of the Confederate authorities to permit Colonel Irvine, in charge of Government supplies for the Union prisoners, to proceed with them to Richmond :

General Meredith, on the 12th, inclosed to our Commissioner the following letter, addressed to "Captain Edward A. Fobes, Libby Prison:"

"FORT MONROE, *November* 12, 1863.

"Captain Edward A. Fobes, Libby Prison, Richmond, Virginia:

"SIR—I send by flag truce, this day, twenty-four thousand rations, the distribution of which I authorize you to superintend. You will please forward me receipts for the same. Should the Confederate authorities allow this course to be pursued in subsisting our prisoners, I will consider

your receipts as evidence of the fact, and will keep up the supply.

"Very respectfully,
"Your obedient servant,
[Signed] S. A. MEREDITH,
"Brigadier-General and Agent of Exchange."

Judge Ould promptly returned it with the following endorsement:

"Respectfully returned to Brigadier-General Meredith. This letter will not be delivered to Captain Fobes. I have to-day, in a letter, informed you that the rations, including candles, will be served to your soldiers. The manner in which that is to be done will be governed by our regulations, not yours. If you are not satisfied with those regulations, you can take back your rations and withhold any in the future. [Signed] RO. OULD,
"Agent of Exchange."

Another letter, written by our Commissioner on the 15th, assured General Meredith that whilst our authorities would not allow directions to issue from Fortress Monroe to a Federal prisoner in Richmond to attend to the distribution of rations, yet the provisions would be distributed in conformity with such regulations as would be established by the prison authorities.

The fact of the case is, that the identical provisions carried back to Fortress Monroe by Lieutenant-Colonel Irvine were immediately dispatched by the same hands to City Point, to be received upon the terms proposed by our Commissioner, and at the very time of the appearance of the *Herald's* editorial were helping to fill the greedy stomachs of the Yankee prisoners.

REPORT ON THE SANITARY STATE OF THE TROOPS AT CHARLESTON.

Gen. Gillmore landed on Folly Island early in July, his army being composed mainly of the troops now on Morris Island. On the 10th of July he crossed over to Morris Island with a portion of his command. On or previous to the 18th July, the day of the unsuccessful assault upon "Wagner," — of the — regiments now on the Island had come over from Folly. The remaining — regiments landed subsequently, after the evacuation by the enemy of "Wagner" and "Gregg."

The labors and duties in connection with the siege have thus fallen not entirely equally upon the regiments now on Morris Island.

Of the — regiments, — have entered the department since January 31st, 1863. Most of these came from North Carolina.

The — regiments on Folly Island reached the department between the 1st and 17th August last, all from Virginia, excepting the two colored regiments, the 1st North Carolina and the 55th Massachusetts.

These troops have been subject to duties less severe and exhausting than those which have constantly been required of the command on Morris Island. I endeavored, but unsuccessfully, to obtain an official statement of the amount and character of the duties imposed upon the troops on Morris Island. The effect of these duties upon the physical and moral condition of the troops has been great, and I regret exceedingly the necessity of confining myself to merely general statements.

An important circumstance in the history of this command is, that it arrived before Charleston at the most unhealthy, sickly season of the year, after a summer spent in Virginia, and after the health of the troops had begun to suffer from unsuitable rations and the hardships of field service.

The sanitary condition of these troops immediately before they came to South Carolina was bad.

MORRIS ISLAND.—Morris Island, or that part of it which is not covered by tide-water, is a ridge or rainbow of sand some four miles in length, with an average breadth of perhaps one-fourth of a mile.

It presents to the sea a broad, firm beach, varies in altitude from a few feet to nearly or quite sixty feet, and has a westward slope more or less rapid towards the marsh, which embraces by far the larger portion of the Island, spreading out for miles towards the west and north, and intersected by innumerable creeks, and covered with a dense growth of coarse sea-grass.

The few straggling and scraggy palmettoes which once grew just above the western limit of tide-water have been cut away, while elsewhere there is little or no vegetation of any kind.

FOLLY ISLAND.—Folly Island, in its general formation, is similar to Morris. The b[redacted]d

away by the unceasing encroachments of the sea. The beach is narrower, so narrow as to be unavailable for camp sites, while the western slope of the bluff either is, or has recently been, covered more or less densely with pines, palmettoes, myrtles and other indigenous trees.

MALARIA.—Morris Island I believe to be quite free from malaria. The absence of vegetation, the sandy character of that part of the island occupied by our troops, the free exposure of the whole island surface to the sun, and the almost unfailing breezes from the sea, are conditions which must at least modify its developments.

Folly I cannot regard with the same favor. The part of the island above tide-water rolls in ridges towards the marsh on its western border, sinks to lower levels, and is more frequently swampy. The sand, over a consideable part of the island, is buried beneath a stratum of rich vegetable mould.

The ridges are covered with pines, and the slopes and ravines filled with palmettoes and a luxuriant semi-tropical vegetation.

WATER.—The water on Morris Island is slightly brackish and insipid, although I know of no reason to believe it positively unhealthful.

The water on Folly Island is quite similar, and in many places is unpleasantly impregnated with organic vegetable matter.

I cannot think that the recent interments on Morris Island can much affect the health of the troops ; if so, it is not by poisoning the water, as has been occasionally reported. The burial-grounds, hemmed in by sand-hills, are more than a quarter of a mile from the nearest camps, while the dead buried elsewhere within the limits of our encampment are probably few in number. I believe the water to be at present pretty much in its natural state. How long it may remain so depends much upon the cleanly habits of the troops and the attention given to camp policing. The water is generally but a few feet below the surface, and the slops, refuse, and filth of our undrained and undrainable camps may be readily reached through the fine silicious sand.

TENTS.—The wedge tent is generally used. I saw no Sibleys. On Folly Island many regiments have been compelled to make more or less use of their shelter tents. One regiment, the 41st N. Y., is scarcely provided with any others. The tents in use on Morris Island are, for the most part, very good. The tents on Folly are by no means as good. Measures have already been taken, however, to furnish the whole command with new tents, so far as they may be needed. Several regiments have just been supplied.

In a few camps attempts have been made to stockade the tents, but as a rule, they have been pitched directly upon the ground. Most of the tents are provided with bunks. In many, however, the earth is simply covered with straw, palmetto leaves, &c.

POLICING.—Policing is too much neglected, as I have observed is generally the case where regiments are encamped by the sea, and waste and filth are quickly trod into the ground, or covered by passing sand-drifts.

The opportunities for policing are much better on Folly than on Morris Island. Still the work is too frequently but indifferently done.

BATHING.—However much the troops, profiting by their proximity to the sea, may have been inclined to indulge in bathing during the summer months, it is very evident that at present they are not disposed to avail themselves of their opportunities. During the fortnight I was with the army, I do not remember seeing but one person taking a bath on the beach. The men were generally represented as washing their hands and faces daily. But even this is by no means universal in any regiment.

CLEANLINESS.—I do not think there is the same general regard for personal cleanliness in this army that I have usually observed in the Army of the Potomac. The term *average*, which I have frequently used in this connection in my tabular abstracts, must, therefore, be understood as referring to a local standard.

In many regiments, the apparent want of cleanliness was excused on the ground of inability to get suitable water. The principal causes, however, are inattention to these matters on the part of officers, and indifference on the part of the men—both occasioned by the excessive duties necessarily exacted of the troops during an active but somewhat protracted siege.

Clothing.—The whole command appears to be very well supplied with clothing. In no regiment did I learn that there was suffering from the want of it. Perhaps the supplies were most limited in the 1st North Carolina (colored). In the hurry of leaving Newbern, a part of the regimental as well as personal baggage of this regiment was left behind. Occasional complaints were made concerning the quality of some of the new issues, and so far as they referred to the blankets, certainly with much justice.

Rations.—The almost uniform response made to my questions relating to the character of the rations issued to the troops was, that they were now fair in both quantity and quality—that fresh meat was issued twice or three times each ten days—that soft bread was quite generally served to the men—that fresh vegetables, potatoes and onions, were frequently issued. The troops who were sent from Virginia in August, very generally stated that they had no where been furnished with better rations. (In the tabular abstracts, I have uniformly represented fresh vegetables as "now issued more freely.") This is a general statement. Vegetables have not been equally distributed to the whole command. Probably no regiment has received less than two rations weekly—several have received as many as eight. They have been issued most freely when there appeared to be the greatest necessity for them. Five rations in ten days may approximate the average issues now made to each regiment.

During the first fortnight following the landing of the expedition, the whole army appears to have been put upon rather short rations, the issues consisting principally of hard bread and salt meats of an inferior quality—particularly was this the case with the former; shortly after fresh meat began to be issued. It was not, however, until some time in September that the Commissaries appear to have furnished the men with fresh vegetables.

Nearly the whole of these issues were made to the army before Charleston. The first potatoes, however, received by the brigade or post division, during the months of June and July, were not issued, and were only obtainable by purchase. (The private soldiers were rarely able to obtain a ration in this way.) During a part of this time vegetables could be obtained in very limited quantities, and at very high prices, from the sutlers. But it was to the Sanitary Commission that the army was for two months almost entirely indebted for its antiscorbutic supplies.

It may be remarked that the greatest want of fresh vegetables existed at a season when the Government agents found it most difficult to obtain their usual supplies in the markets, and that the want was by no means peculiar to the Department of the South. Still the very general and imperative nature of the demand should stimulate the Subsistence Department to either open new sources of supply, or furnish some antiscorbutic equivalent.

I cannot help thinking that the ration which has been issued to our armies during the past two years is one quite unsuitable for men who have been stationed, and are likely so long as the war may last, in warm latitudes. Meats are too freely used, vegetables too sparingly. There is an excess of carbon in the food.

A very considerable proportion of the diseases to which the natives of the North are subject within the tropics originates in a violation of one of the plainest physiological laws, that the quantity and quality of the food necessary to maintain the physical system at a given fixed standard of health will vary as the mean temperature of the atmosphere varies. Now the scorbutic taint which is recognized in all our armies from Virginia to Texas, arises quite as much from an excess as from a deficiency of certain elements in the blood; a fact which we lose sight of too readily.

Cooking.—Bad cooking is almost as great a cause of disease as bad rations. I do not know that the cooking of the soldiers in this Department has been worse than usual in camps; probably it has been about the same; still the Commanding General has thought the matter of sufficient importance to make it the subject of a recent general order, in which the surgeon, with one other officer of the regiment, is required to visit the cook-houses and inspect the cooking, giving directions to the cooks, if necessary, three times daily. When visiting the camps, I

often found the surgeons engaged in this work, and I am convinced much good will result from it, not only from the advice of those who should be able to give it, but by causing the cooks themselves to feel that they have been placed under a more rigid surveillance.

SPIRITS OF THE MEN.—As a rule, the men were cheerful and hopeful. This feeling was most apparent among the old regiments which came to the Department in 1861, and among the colored troops, with whom it rose to enthusiasm. Depression of spirits were acknowledged most frequently among the troops on Folly Island.

HOSPITALS.—The sick in hospital were, without exception, treated in tents. These were generally floored, furnished with frame bunks, tolerably supplied with bedding and clothing, and on the whole quite as neat and comfortable as I have ever seen regimental hospitals in our armies. The condition of the hospitals on Morris Island was perhaps something superior to that generally observed on Folly. Surgeons have at times been short of medical supplies of certain kinds, but at present there is no want. Some difficulty is still experienced in obtaining delicacies for the sick; a difficulty which would be most seriously felt, but for the large issues which are daily made to the hospitals from the storehouse of the Commission.

SICKNESS RATES.—The following statement will show the amount and per centage of sickness prevailing among the troops inspected on Morris Island and Folly. The inspections were concluded during the week preceding the 17th October.

Present strength, enlisted men.....	——
Whole number of sick.....	——
No. sick in hospital, (regimental)....	573
Per cent. sick in hosp. & quarters...	17.8
" " " " (regimental)..	2.9
" " " Morris Island.....,..	18.3
" " " Folly Island.....	17.2
Highest sick rate, Folly Island, 144th N. Y.....	41.1
Lowest " " " 107th Ohio	2.5
Highest " "Morris, 10th Conn.	70.1
Lowest " " " 3d R. I...	4.0
Per cent. sick in colored regiments..	19.3

I am not able to give the exact number of sick who have been sent from the army before Charleston to the General Hospitals at Beaufort and Hilton Head. They cannot, however, increase the average rate of sickness more than two per cent. This would give 20 per cent. as the sickness rate in the army before Charleston in October last.

In estimating the per centage of sickness on Morris Island, I have excluded those under treatment for wounds, who, if included with the sick, would add 1.1 per cent. to the rate of sickness.

The great difference between the per centage in hospital and the per centage excused from duty will be at once observed. In the regiment reporting the largest number of sick, the 10th Conn., only 4 per cent. were in hospital, yet 70 per cent. of the present strength of the regiment were on the sick list. The reports from other regiments show an almost equal disparity between the numbers sick in hospital and quarters. The only conclusion which can be drawn from such facts is, that the diseases prevailing among the troops are of a mild character.

The severe service exacted of the troops on Morris Island may fully account for the higher rates of sickness obtaining among them, and yet, excepting two or three regiments, such as the 10th Conn. and the 30th N. H., there is less sickness than on Folly Island. Thus, eight regiments, the 30th N. H., Indep't Battalion, N. Y., N. Y. Engineers, 100th N. Y., 52d Ohio, 47th N. Y., 104th Penn., 3d R. I., report not over 10 per cent. sick; while on Folly Island but four regiments: 107th Ohio, 41st N. Y., 74th Penn., 13th Indiana, report under 10 per cent. sick.

I cannot satisfactorily account for the different sickness rates in the 107th Ohio, and the 144th N. Y., in the 3d R. I., and the 10th Conn.

The 107th Ohio is a German regiment, and within the past year has suffered severely from disease. This fact has, no doubt, much to do with the present immunity.

The 3d R. I. has always been a healthy regiment, and in all matters of cleanliness a model. Being an artillery regiment, its service has differed from that which has devolved upon the infantry.

PER CENTAGE OF SICKNESS AMONG COLORED TROOPS.—The per centage of sickness among the colored troops was above the average. They have been heavily tasked, and although suffering much less from diarrhœa and dysentery than the white soldiers, are more subject to bronchitis and pulmonary difficulties. Moreover, the number of men suffering from chronic disabilities, which should have excluded them from the service, is unusually large; but especially is this the case with the regiments raised within the Department.

PREVAILING DISEASES—CAMP DIARRHŒA.—The prevailing disease not only in the whole command, but in each regiment, is *camp diarrhœa.* Dysentery is also very common, often following an attack of diarrhœa, frequently preceding it, and unquestionably arising from the same causes.

Camp diarrhœa is a disease probably more largely occasioned by general causes than most of those which the military surgeon is called upon to treat. Let an army be fed upon improper or scanty rations, and an increase in the number of diarrhœa cases will soon follow. Place the troops on the march or in the trenches, and diarrhœa will speedily make its appearance, and if the fatigue duties are burdensome and long continued, it will finally outrank all other diseases in the number of its victims. In a word, *want*—want of food, want of clothing, want of rest, want of spirits, everything which tends to break down the vital power of the soldier, is almost certain to occasion diarrhœa, and it is produced by the same causes with equal certainty, if not equal severity, in all our armies, whether in Virginia, Carolina, or the States bordering on the Gulf. According to the report on sickness and mortality of the army during the first year of the war, "diarrhœa and dysentery caused about one-fourth of all the sickness reported. On the Atlantic border more than half the army suffered, and in the central region the number of cases almost equaled the mean strength."

I believe the present tendency to diarrhœa and dysentery among the troops in the Department of the South to be attributable, in no inconsiderable degree, to special causes, but to result from a combination of such general causes as have been observed to develop elsewhere a similar tendency. Perhaps the most efficient of these general causes has been the excessive duty which the character of the siege has exacted, and which, at times, has fallen heavily upon the whole army. From the commencement of the Teche campaign until the fall of Port Hudson, every new advance and every additional imposition of field duty filled our hospitals and our camps with nerveless, spiritless, exhausted men, sick with diarrhœa.

Another cause common to our whole army is to be found in the unwholesome and unsuitable ration issued by the Government. This subject I have already alluded to.

But it may be asked, Why do these general causes, which must at times have operated with equal force in other divisions of our army, occasion this very great prevalence of diarrhœa among the troops before Charleston? As may be inferred from preceding remarks, I question whether the present prevalence of diarrhœa in the army of the South is unusual among troops whose general history has been the same. I believe diarrhœa to have prevailed in the army before Port Hudson in July last nearly, if not quite as extensively as it ever has on Morris Island.

It would be interesting to compare the reports sent from the two armies to the Surgeon-General's office.

Still, in whichsoever army this disease may have prevailed most extensively, special and local causes may have existed in both.

The army before Charleston is subject to the effects of an insular and semi-tropical climate, the characteristic features of which are a hot sun and a humid atmosphere, moving in strong currents inland from the ocean. The days are hot, the nights cool and damp. Even during the day, although the direct and reflected heat of the sun may be most oppressive in the shade, the seabreeze appears delightfully cool and refreshing.

These differences of temperature of day and of night, in the sun and in the shade, cannot but unfavorably affect men who, engaged in laborious duties, are constantly

exposed to them, and often without the means of guarding against them.

Again, it should be observed that the army landed before Charleston and conducted its difficult and laborious siege operations at a season of the year generally regarded as most unfavorable to active campaigning.

FEVERS.—Fevers have occasioned some sickness and considerable mortality.

The fever most frequently seen is that called typhoid, or typho-malarial; the malarial features of the disease being marked, while the typhoid predominate. Well-marked cases of remittent and intermittent fever occasionally occur, but these diseases can by no means be called prevalent. Several regiments returned but a case or two, and one, the 40th Mass., reported not a case of either, and yet this regiment had over 37 per cent. of its present strength on the sick list. It is an interesting fact, that not a single case of pernicious fever was reported to me as having occurred on Morris Island or on Folly since the occupation by our forces in July last. There have been but few cases of this form of malarious fever reported during the past three months in the Department, and they have, for the most part, originated on Port Royal Island.

Diarrhœa, although prevailing extensively, is neither a very severe nor a very fatal disease. It prevails rather in quarters than in hospitals. During the first year of the war, the mortality from diarrhœa varied in the several Departments from 0.9 to 9.6 deaths per thousand cases. Fevers, on the other hand, more generally send the patient to the hospital. While they constitute but a small proportion of the whole number of cases, they exhibit a large per centage among the sick in hospital, as well as a large relative mortality. During the first year of the war the mortality from "camp fever" varied, in the several Departments, from 60.95 to 101.8 deaths per thousand cases.

This relation is very well illustrated by the following abstract from the records of the General Hospital at Hilton Head, showing the number of cases and diseases admitted into the General Hospital from July 1st to Oct. 20th, 1863, together with the deaths occurring from each cause during the same period:

July, 1863. Diseases.	Patients Admitted.	Died.
Fevers	88	18
Diarrhœa	66	2
Other Diseases	64	4
Bowels	265	17
Total	483	41
August.		
Fevers	70	7
Diarrhœa	27	5
Other Diseases	26	4
Bowels	7	10
Total	130	26
September.		
Fevers	41	4
Diarrhœa	11	3
Other Diseases	8	2
Bowels	2	0
Total	62	9
October.		
Fevers	22	1
Diarrhœa	15	7
Other Diseases	19	1
Bowels	2	0
Not diagnosed	18	0
Total	76	9
Recapitulation.		
Fevers	221	30
Diarrhœa	119	17
Other Diseases	117	11
Bowels	276	27
Not diagnosed	18	00
Total	751	85

The preceding table does not, however, fairly exhibit the relative prevalence of the diseases now under treatment in the general hospitals of Beaufort. On the 25th of October a very large proportion were cases of diarrhœa. The prevalence of diarrhœa has, however, only been remarkable since about the 1st of October, at which time a large number of convalescents were sent North, and the hospitals filled with subjects of chronic diarrhœa, who were gathered together from the different regimental hospitals.

SCURVY.—I consulted the surgeons of 41 regiments, including the surgeons of the 3d R. I. and the 127th N. Y., with reference to the existence of scurvy among the troops. Of these, six only reported one or more cases of scurvy then under treatment; eight others had seen one or more cases since landing before Charleston. Twenty-

seven surgeons had not seen a case in the regiments to which they were attached. The only cases I saw were in the First North Carolina Regiment (colored.) In this regiment there was probably more scorbutic disease than in all the rest of the command.

The disease, however, originated in North Carolina, and had made its appearance among the contrabands on Hatteras Island, before they were enrolled as soldiers. The disease at present is almost entirely confined to the recruits from that island.

The 11th Maine reported more cases of scurvy than any other white regiment. This regiment, just arrived on Morris Island, had been stationed for a long time at Fernandina, where it appears to a considerable extent cut off from its supplies.

Well-marked cases of scurvy are extremely infrequent, and always have been. Indeed, the disease can hardly be said to exist at present; and, yet, there is a sub-scorbutic tendency, or cachexia, resulting from the use of improper, as well as insufficient rations, which more or less modifies the type of all diseases.

MORTALITY.—I have not the data for estimating the rates of mortality obtaining among our force at the time of my inspection, or during any portion of the siege. The deaths reported to me in the tabular abstracts are probably much below the actual number occurring. This certainly is true of several regiments, and renders comparative estimates impossible.

CONCLUSION.—From the facts brought to my knowledge, as well as from the observations personally made while in the Department of the South, I am led to the following conclusions:

First. That the duties exacted of the army before Charleston, difficult and exhausting although they may have been, have not been heavier than those which at times have been required of our troops in other Departments.

Second. That rations, clothing, medical stores and supplies of all kinds, although occasionally of an inferior quality and scantily issued, have yet been furnished to the troops, whether in camp or in the field, as liberally as to any command under similar circumstances in any Department with which I am acquainted.

Third. That no diseases either have prevailed or are now prevailing to an extent greater than has frequently been observed in our armies either during or subsequent to active campaigns; and that the prevailing diseases have originated to but a limited degree in special or local causes.

Fourth. That the hospitals, both general and regimental, are in a most creditable condition, and that our sick and wounded soldiers are well cared for.

Fifth. That the sanitary condition of the army has been slowly but steadily improving for several weeks; the change being not less marked in the reduced number of cases than in the milder forms which the prevailing diseases have assumed.

With supplies now more abundant as the requirements of the service grow less rigorous, as the unhealthy season has passed and the winter approaches, I have little reason to doubt but that the rates of sickness will continue to be reduced, until the sanitary condition of the army of the South may become as satisfactory as usual.

THE COMMISSION IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

HEAD-QUARTERS THIRD REGIMENT
NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTEERS,
MORRIS ISLAND, S. C., *Oct.* 1, 1863.

To the Sanitary Commission:

It is with inexpressible, yet heartfelt thankfulness, that we look back upon the few weeks which have passed since our entering upon this island, and mark the bountiful and benevolent labors of the Sanitary Commission.

In the midst of excessive labor, danger and hardship, when, owing to unavoidable circumstances always attending an active campaign, the wants of the troops can at least be but imperfectly supplied; just at this time of want, the Commission hailed us with open hands and a liberal heart. The wants of our sick and wounded were met, greatly to their comforts—while the entire regiment soon became indebted to the Commission for favors—in view of which, it is with great pleasure and unanimity that, as a regiment, we express to the Commission the following resolutions, our high appreciation of their work of benevolence, together with our most sincere thanks for the many favors received during the past:

1. *Resolved*, That the Sanitary Commission,

as conducted in this Department, has our highest respect and entire confidence.

2. *Resolved*, That, as a regiment, we tender a unanimous vote of thanks to the Commission for its unprecedented work of benevolence, and great amount of good already accomplished, and of which we are witnesses.

J. HOMER EDGERLY,
2d Lieut. and Act'g Adj't 3d N. H. Volunteers.
JAMES F. RANDLETT,
Capt. 3d N. H. Vols., Commanding Regiment.

THE COMMISSION AT CHATTANOOGA.

As doubts have been expressed in some quarters touching the promptness with which the Sanitary Commission met the emergencies arising out of the battle of Chickamauga, there cannot be a better way of removing them than the publication of the following testimonials:

3D DIVISION HOSPITAL,
14TH ARMY CORPS,
CHATTANOOGA, *Oct. 26th*, 1863.

I have no hesitation in saying that the U. S. Sanitary Commission have done much towards relieving the suffering of the brave soldiers of the 3d Division of the 14th Army Corps.

Immediately after the battle of Chickamauga our men were thrown together without the necessary supplies to render them comfortable, and, as far as it was possible, the Sanitary Commission supplied their wants.

What was done by them was done without any reference to locality; the wounded being cared for equally, whatever State they may have originally hailed from. The sick now in this Hospital have been kindly remembered by the Commission. Friends at home, speed on the good work so gloriously begun!

GEO. E. SLOAT,
Surg. in charge 3d Div. Hospital, 14th A. C.

HOSPITAL No. 3,
CHATTANOOGA, *Oct. 26th*, 1863.

It is with feelings of the deepest gratitude and admiration that I recall to mind the donations from the Sanitary Commission to this Hospital, immediately after its opening.

After the battles of the 19th and 20th ult. outside this city, the wounded were brought in in thousands, and this Hospital, in common with the rest, was filled to overflowing. Here was a state of affairs suddenly brought about, and to be immediately provided for—and here was the Sanitary Commission—here the hour of need—here it was an oasis in a desert. Here we received from it dressings for our wounded men, wines, clothing, and several luxuries and necessaries. No one who at this time witnessed the *timely and material aid* of the U. S. Sanitary Commission but must say, "It is truly a heavenly institution—may Heaven bless and preserve its supporters."

PETER H. CLEARY,
Surgeon U. S. V., in charge.

U. S. GENERAL HOSPITAL No. 2,
CHATTANOOGA, *Oct. 26th*, 1863.

It is with great pleasure that I acknowledge the great and substantial benefit the sick and wounded under my charge, since the late battle of Chickamauga, have derived from the kindness and liberality of the U. S. Sanitary Commission at this place, under the charge of Mr. M. C. Read. Although their amount of supplies has necessarily been limited, owing to the great difficulties in procuring transportation, and the large number of wounded requiring assistance, yet the good results from what they have been able to accomplish in supplying the wounded and sick with clothing, dressings, necessaries and delicacies, are almost incalculable. A great deal of suffering and destitution has been relieved through their kindly ministrations, that (under the circumstances) could not otherwise have been provided for.

It is a glorious institution, and deserves the countenance and warm support of every Christian and philanthropist.

FRANKLIN IRISH,
Surgeon in charge General Hospital No. 2.

HOSPITAL No. 1, 1ST DIV. A. C.,
CHATTANOOGA, *Oct. 25th*, 1863.

It is with great pleasure that I avail myself of this opportunity to bear testimony to the great good accomplished by the U. S. Sanitary Commission. The benefits conferred upon the sick and wounded by this benevolent institution are far greater than our friends at home can imagine; and even laboring under the many difficulties by which they are surrounded, they still continue their good work.

Friends of the soldier and the soldier himself should feel themselves as greatly benefited by this Commission; and I heartily recommend that all "friends of the soldier" co-operate with the Commission, and add their help to push on the good work. It is a certain medium through which the soldier receives many necessaries for his comfort, while sick or wounded.

By order. E. H. DUNN,
Surgeon in charge.
Per PACKARD, Clerk.

FIELD HOSPITAL, R. C.,
Oct. 27th, 1863.

U. S. Commission, Chattanooga, Tenn.:

In behalf of the surgeons on duty in this hospital, and of the sick and wounded, I take occasion to tender grateful acknowledgments for the liberal contributions of sanitary stores which have upon various occasions been furnished by the Commission to those sick and wounded not only at Chattanooga, but at other points in the sick of the Army of the Cumberland.

In view of the fact that we are cut off from railroad communication, and of the almost impassable condition of the roads, we have been surprised that such liberal contributions could have been made. It is a fact, however, evincing great energy on the part of the agents of the Commission, showing them to be living, feeling men, working at the right time and place, and thus have they been able to meet the wants of the sick and wounded.

Very respectfully,
JOSEPH G. McPHEETERS,
Surgeon in charge Hospital R. C.

HOSPITAL No. 1,
CHATTANOOGA, *Oct. 27th*, 1863.

I have had charge of Hospital No. 1 at this place since the late battle. Over a thousand of the wounded have been received and treated as well as our limited supply would allow. Owing to the obstacles in the way of transportation, the supplies of clothing, dressings, and suitable food was very inadequate, in consequence of which there were some that suffered. And I take special pleasure in stating that if it had not been for the timely donations of the Sanitary Commission, many more would have suffered. Their donations of delicacies, dressings, and *clothing*, were of incalculable benefit to our wounded. There was not enough on hand for the men to have a change; hence the supply of shirts furnished by the Commission was a gift that was much needed and deeply appreciated. The good deeds of the Sanitary Commission will be long remembered by the suffering wounded of this hospital, and will ever be appreciated by

J. Y. FINLEY,
Surgeon 2d Ky. Cavalry, in charge.

OFFICERS' HOSPITAL,
CHATTANOOGA, *Oct. 26th*, 1863.

In the midst of the confusion and suffering immediately after the battle of Chickamauga, the Sanitary Commission came nobly to the rescue; nourished the wounded and famished soldier, pillowed his weary head, and by their timely aid saved many valuable lives.

C. C. BYRNE,
Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army, in charge.

We commented in the second number of the BULLETIN upon the difficulties we had to contend with in the West in obtaining transport, and the almost as great and far more provoking difficulties arising out of the bad character of the teamsters, and the lamentable want of proper control over them on the part of the military authorities. The following letter will help to show the energetic nature of the measures taken by our Special Relief Agent at Chattanooga, Mr. Read, to meet these difficulties:

CHATTANOOGA, *Oct. 20th*, 1863.

F. R. CRASY, ESQ., Stevenson:

I telegraphed you last night in regard to our train, and write this morning more particularly.

I have just seen Col. Hodges, who says you will need no further orders to secure the 20 wagons as soon as you are ready to load them, and can have them permanently until further specific orders; that the Sanitary train can be attached to any train coming through, and that if there should be any difficulty in that respect, telegraph from Stevenson.

An order was sent to Nashville last night, directing two (2) car-loads of Sanitary stores to be forwarded at once, and after that, all that could be, and never less than half a car-load per day, that will keep us moving. For fear my letters may not have reached you, I would repeat my previous suggestions, that the whole twenty wagons be loaded at once with edibles, ten with vegetables if you have them, or with the amount of ten wagons, making each load as near 1,200 lbs. as you can, never over 1,400. This may be arranged by mixing the leading dried fruits and vegetables in the same wagon, adding to the vegetables and dried fruit all the butter, ale, stimulants, farinaceous delicacies, codfish, oysters, milk, beef, &c., &c., you can, taking an inventory of the contents of each wagon, its number, and the name of the driver; if you have them, give each driver a few vegetables. Secure, if you can, soldiers or enlisted men as drivers, not citizens, and tell Pocock, if necessary, to *shoot* the first man caught stealing.

It is essential that he accompany the train *through, never leaving it till it reaches our rooms.* When he gets this side the mountains, let him

send a message by the couriers who will be passing him, stating where he is, and when he will probably be in. Telegraph when the train starts, and keep them stirred up at the North, so that there shall never be a want of stores to load the train.

If surgeons make requisitions from here, either in hospitals or with regiments, furnish them with clothing and hospital dressings as liberally as you can.

* * * * * *

Dr. Newberry writes on the same subject:

We had the entire and hearty co-operation of the military and medical authorities, and yet were, of course, compelled to share with them the inevitable necessities by which they were controlled. *More than our share* of transportation was granted at once, and when our first train of seventeen loaded wagons were included in the destruction of the three hundred loaded with Government stores, another train of twenty wagons was ordered for us, and from that time to the opening of the river we fully shared all the resources of the military and medical authorities. On the first trip of the steamboat, by the authority of Gen. Meigs himself, who was there, we were allowed to make up a liberal share of its load, and from that time to this, by special and comprehensive orders, we have been furnished with a regular allotment of transportation of a car-load a day from Nashville to Chattanooga. *From here we forwarded all and more than could by any possibility reach the scene of suffering.* In addition to the very liberal stock held in reserve at Nashville and below previous to the battle, we have since forwarded there over 5,000 packages.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION AND THE CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

We have taken from the outset all possible pains to prevent any misapprehension as to the relations existing between ourselves and the Christian Commission. What these relations are and ought to be, is clearly pointed out in the following letter of instructions to our Inspectors, issued last December:

CENTRAL OFFICE, SANITARY COMMISSION,
WASHINGTON, *Dec. 16th*, 1862.

To each Inspector of the Sanitary Commission:

The Christian Commission is a body designed to supplement and assist the chaplain service of the Army and Navy, as the Sanitary Commission does the medical service. Its accredited agents in the field are termed "Delegates of the Christian Commission;" they distribute books and tracts, and also give spiritual counsel verbally. The Secretary of the Christian Commission has expressed the wish that their attention should not be distracted from this, their ordinary duty, by undertaking personally the distribution of supplies. It is not considered best that they should attempt to perform their ordinary duty, however, during the tumult resulting from battles, and it is desired that they should be employed in giving such assistance as they can in the measures taken for the saving of life and mitigation of the suffering of the wounded on these occasions. It is proposed that they should, for this purpose, act at such times under the advice of the Medical Officers of the Commission.

You are therefore instructed, whenever the delegates of the Christian Commission offer to give you their aid for battle-field relief operations, or in other emergencies, to accept it gratefully; and, for the time being, you will deal with them, as far as possible, in the same manner as you would if each individual had been sent to you for special battle-field duty by officers of the Commission.

You are also instructed at all times to give special attention to the representations of the accredited agents of the Christian Commission with regard to the wants of the hospitals, and will meet those wants to the extent of the means at your control as far as possible, consistently with a just prospective regard for the wants of others.

FRED. LAW OLMSTED,
General Secretary.

We know of nothing calculated to create an impression that the course here traced out has since been departed from either by the agents of the Christian Commission or by our own; nor do we know of anything that ought to lead anybody to suppose that two such organizations cannot work usefully side by side; more usefully, in fact, side by side than singly or apart. It is not always necessary, however, that false impressions should have foundation in fact in order to obtain currency. We heard the other day that the salaries paid to the agents of the Sanitary Commission in California alone amounted to $40,000 annually; the fact being that we have never had an agent in California, and consequently no salaries

have ever been drawn, though we have received immense donations from that State with little or no solicitation. Reports equally baseless are frequently put in circulation as to a conflict of interests and of aims between us and the Christian Commission, and we shall probably be compelled to recur to the subject occasionally for the purpose of correcting them.

The following letter shows the nature of the feeling existing between the two bodies in the West:

U. S. CHRISTIAN COMMISSION,
BRANCH OFFICE,
NASHVILLE, *July* 23, 1863.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,

Sec'y West'n Dep't U. S. Sanitary Commission, Louisville:

MY DEAR SIR—I desire, on behalf of the Christian Commission, to render grateful acknowledgment for the uniform, generous and cordial co-operation of yourself and the agents of your Commission in our work of bringing spiritual comforts and blessings to the soldiers. But for your assistance at the first, and its continuance all along, our work would have been greatly impeded in the army of the Cumberland.

Also in my recent trip to Vicksburg, in the service of the Christian Commission, I was at all points kindly received and materially aided by the Sanitary Commission. My own feelings—that the work of both Commissions, though wrought in different departments, should be entirely co-operative—were fully reciprocated by your agents at Cairo, Memphis, and on the Barge on Yazoo River.

My observations of your work on that Barge were very pleasant. I saw stores dispensed to needy applicants most freely, and in surprising quantity and variety; and when I got back to the Bluffs, where the sick and wounded were coming into the division hospitals, I found bedding with your mark, dried and canned fruit, and lemons and chickens, which could have been furnished from no other source. I knew that, without the timely help of the Sanitary Commission, there would have been destitution, and consequent suffering, in many of those hospitals.

I want to bear testimony to the noble Christian philanthropy of the men in charge of your Commission in that department. I am persuaded they could not do that work from unworthy motives. Money could not procure such services as you are receiving, for instance, from Dr. Warriner at Vicksburg.

Every week's experience in my army work, bringing me among the camps and through the hospitals, and giving an opportunity, which I always improve, to look in at the different quarters of your Commission, leads me to a continually higher estimate of the work you have on hand. I am satisfied that your system of distributing hospital supplies is the correct one. Such large contributions as the people are making cannot be handed over to the army on any volunteer system, unless it be for a few days amid the emergencies of a severe battle. A business involving such expenditure would be intrusted by a business man only to permanent and responsible agents.

That among all your employés there should be no unworthy man, is more than a reasonable mind can ask. The Christian Commission and the Christian Church would go down under that test.

Let me close this letter of thanks, my dear brother, with my daily prayer—a prayer which I learned in your Soldiers' Home in Louisville, and have often repeated since in the Soldiers' Rest at Memphis, on the Barge in Yazoo River, in the division hospitals under the guns of Vicksburg, in the Nashville Home and Storeroom, and in the camps and hospitals at Murfreesboro'; a prayer fresh on my lips, as I have just come from seeing wounded and typhoid patients at Tullahoma and Winchester lifted from rough blankets and undressed from the soiled clothes of march and battle, and laid in your clean sheets and shirts upon your comfortable quilts and pilows—a prayer in which every Christian heart in the land will yet join—God bless the Sanitary Commission.

Most cordially yours,

EDW. P. SMITH,
Field Agent, U. S. Christian Commission.

A still fuller explanation of the relations of the two bodies is afforded by the following letter:

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,
823 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK, *November 19th*, 1863.

REV. DR. HAWES:

REV. AND DEAR SIR—A mutual acquaintance having informed me that you had made inquiry as to the relations existing between the U. S. Sanitary Commission and its colleague and coworker, the U. S. Christian Commission, and as to the different modes of work of the two bodies, I venture to make to you the following statements:

I speak first of the Sanitary Commission. Its functions are two-fold. First, in the discharge

of the duty imposed by its charter from the President of the United States, of inquiry and advice in respect to the sanitary interests of the United States forces, it, as the ground of its efforts to prevent disease in the army, inspects the condition of camps, barracks, transports, and hospitals, and makes report of deficiencies which are remediable to medical and military officers, and to Heads of the Governmental administration, when necessary. Being by its charter placed on a confidential footing with the official bureaux of the Government, it has thus been enabled to secure considerable reforms affecting the health and efficiency of the National Army. It also prints and circulates in the army, in large numbers, treatises, prepared for it by eminent medical men, on the chief sources of sickness in armies, and the means of avoiding and treating them. In these and in many other ways the Commission does much to prevent disease in the army—a better service than relieving it. Secondly—recognizing the fact that the most liberal and thoughtful Government must, in time of war, by the checks restricting its issues for the comfort of its troops —checks rendered necessary to prevent fraud and secure accountability—still, whatever its liberality and prevision, leave unrelieved much suffering—it seeks to be the minister of the people's bounty to those who are the victims of this exceptional working of the Governmental machinery. It also aims to relieve, wherever it can, the unavoidable suffering attendant on battles and the rapid movements of armies; (*e. g.*, at the sudden evacuation of the line from Falmouth to Aquia Creek, in June, the Commission's agents at the latter place were called upon, within two or three days, to feed and otherwise comfort 8,000 sick in transit to the hospitals at Washington.)

It also gathers into temporary "Homes" and "Lodges" the estrays of the army, discharged men, soldiers on furlough with defective papers which obstruct their movements, and affords to each the aid his necessity requires, taking good care that it harbors no deserters, or only for the purpose of returning them to service.

These ends it accomplishes through the bounty of the public, wherever the National Armies go or the nation's sick are gathered.

It exercises its functions to-day in Kansas, in Arkansas, at Chattanooga, all along the Mississippi, from Cairo to New Orleans, on the Rio Grande, amid the baleful swamps of Louisiana, in the trenches before Charleston, in Florida and North Carolina, on the peninsula of Virginia, on the margin of the Rapidan, with our recently starved and prison-marked, now paroled and dying brothers at Annapolis, and on the flag-of-truce boats, where first they realize the value of a friend in need—on every battle-field and in every hospital claiming its succor. It seeks not only to comfort the individual, but, by its union of preventive and alleviative efforts, it effects the invigoration of the national arm, and adds to the national strength.

In its ministrations it knows no State lines, and recognizes in the national uniform only the soldier of the nation.

It has thus far effected the objects above mentioned through an organization constantly improved by experience; and now, in the latter half of its third year, points to a great army of witnesses to its beneficence in proof that it has earned and justified the public confidence so generously granted to it. In the future, as in the past, it must depend for its power for usefulness on the free-will contributions of money to its treasury, and of supplies of hospital food and clothing to its storehouse.

Such is an imperfect sketch of the objects and methods of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

The U. S. Christian Commission is understood to be "a body designed to supplement the chaplain service of the Army and Navy, as the Sanitary Commission does the medical service." It brings to our troops in camp and hospital, in the persons of its Delegates, spiritual counsel and consolation, and seeks to promote in the army the religious life which struggles there against such fearful odds. Yet, in ministering to the soul, it does not despise its tabernacle, but accompanies its visits, and its gifts of religious books and papers, with the bestowal of food and raiment for the suffering body.

This, however, is a duty subsidiary to the prime one of religious ministration, and more than one officer of the Christian Commission has expressed his anxiety lest it should distract the mind of their delegates from their ordinary duties. It must be evident, however, that to some extent it all the better prepares the way for the cordial reception of their offices.

It may thus be seen that while each of the bodies above mentioned engages, to some degree, in the work especially characteristic of the other, (for the Sanitary Commission distributes annually tons of religious and miscellaneous reading matter, and the army chaplains, of whatever denomination, will tell you that they have found it no languid auxiliary to their work,) yet that it has, by virtue of its animating

principle, an essentially distinct work. The work of neither can be left undone. It cannot be given to another. Need we doubt that the Inspirer of all good thoughts and deeds has, by the ordering of His providence, allotted to each its proper work? Far be the thought that either would desire aught but blessing for the other!

And practically I do not find in the army any conflict in our respective spheres. There is more than enough for us all to do, each in his allotted place. Both in the armies on the coast and in the Mississippi Valley, the representatives of each have been in the habit of exchanging offices of courtesy, and maintain cordial personal relations. It is chiefly, I suspect, in the home field that there now and then appears to be a seeming rivalry. Until the millennium dawns we shall all, I doubt not, have more or less of partisan feeling enlisted for our especial work, magnifying its claims, and demanding that they shall engross public attention. The susceptibilities of our friends take alarm lest we hold not our proper rank in the public esteem, and hence what may be an honorable jealousy for our respective projects.

I cannot believe that the governing boards of either the Sanitary or Christian Commission have any such unbecoming fear. The loyal public which supports the National Government will not neglect either while it discharges its work with zeal, economy, and discretion. It will give to each its alms and its prayers, and stay not any effort to hasten the time when the need for each shall be done away.

I send to you herewith, in support of what I have written, and illustrative of the work of the Sanitary Commission, a collection of documents, among which I would especially call your attention to the letter of instructions to the Inspectors of the Sanitary Commission, written in 1862, by Fred. Law Olmsted, Esq., General Secretary; and to the letter of Rev. Edw. P. Smith, Field Agent of the U. S. Christian Commission in the West. (*Sanitary Reporter*, Aug. 15, 1863, p. 54.) Mr. Olmsted's letter was written after a very cordial and mutually satisfactory interchange of opinion between prominent officers of the two Commissions, and as the partial expression of a compact made between them as to their respective labors.

The U. S. Sanitary Commission considers the obligations it assumed as still binding, and so, from time to time, instructs those serving it.

I could wish that what I have written might move you, and perchance others, to a still more systematic support of both of these organized expressions of the Christian philanthropy of our people; and in the hope that it can in no way diminish the wide-spread sympathy for either,

I am, Rev. Sir, with high regard,

Respectfully yours,

J. FOSTER JENKINS,

General Secretary.

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1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
G. W. Cullom, U. S. A.
A. E. Shiras, U. S. A.
R. C. Wood, Assistant Surg.-Gen'l U. S. A.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., New York.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clarke, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, Jr., Philadelphia, Penn.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Prof. Fairman Rogers, Philadelphia, Penn.

OFFICERS:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., President.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Vice-President.
George T. Strong, Treasurer.
J. Foster Jenkins, M.D., General Secretary.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Associate Secretary.
J. H. Douglas, M.D., Associate Secretary.
F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, and the New England States, address "Office Women's Central Union, No. 10 Cooper Institute, New York."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 22 Summer Street, Boston, Mass.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 4th Street, Pittsburg, Penn.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, Ohio.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

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Lodge No. 4, H Street, between 13th and 14th Streets.
Lodge No. 5, Maryland Avenue, near Railroad Station.
Nurses' Home, Washington, D. C.
Soldiers' Home, Third Street, east of Broadway, Cincinnati, Ohio—Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill.—C. N. Shipman, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky.—James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn.—L. Crane, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio———, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio—Clark Warren, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn.—C. W. Christy, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Lodge, Vicksburg, Miss.—T. Way, Sup't.

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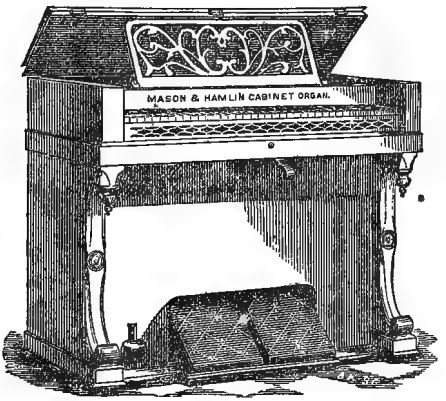
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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above 12,000 copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

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METROPOLITAN FAIR AT NEW YORK,

WITH HINTS FROM THE CINCINNATI FAIR, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THEIR BRANCH OF THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

We have just seen Josiah Kirby, Esq., a respected and influential citizen of Cincinnati, and secretary, if we mistake not, of the "National Union Association," a loyal political body, to whose immense exertions is due the recent entire revolution in the Ohio vote. The well-known and respected judge, Edward Woodruff, is the president of this National Union Association, and lends it all the weight of his character. In this association originated the idea and the inception of a great fair for the benefit of the sick and wounded soldiers, in which Cincinnati, in a holy emulation, should endeavor to eclipse the splendid example set by Chicago, from whom, however, cannot be taken away the glory of being first in the field, and of having won the first victory with unfading laurels.

The Cincinnati Fair, on the model, somewhat enlarged, of the North-Western Fair, is to take place during the ten days from the 21st of December to the 1st of January; two great dates, the first being the anniversary of the actual landing of the Pilgrim Fathers on Plymouth Rock, and the second the opening of a new year. Rumors reach us that the whole City and State is astir with active sympathies, and that everybody is prepared, first, to give something; second, to buy something; third, to give back what they buy; and fourth, to buy something more, and keep it! All classes, occupations, trades—both sexes and all ages—are at work preparing for this great and humane occasion. And it is expected that the results will be as much greater in a pecuniary respect, (greater as a patriotic expression they cannot be,) as Cincinnati is older than Chicago, and Ohio, young and blooming mother of Western States, is more wealthy than Illinois, or Wisconsin and Minnesota. We shall wait with deep interest to see this difficult feat of beating the North-West performed.

We hear that the working man is Mr. Edgar Conklin, chairman of the Exec. Committee of the "Sanitary Fair Association," (for this is the baptismal name which the National Union Association gave their child, which is now adopted by Ohio. John D. Caldwell, of Cincinnati, is the secretary. Gen. Rosecrans is the highly ornamental and eminently useful president of the Fair, lending his glorious name to the enterprise, the importance of which none but a great and humane commander, long in the field, can fitly estimate. It is the pride and boast of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, that its fast friends are the general officers in the army, and the soldiers themselves. They alone know its first works and its last works, and its works all the time; how ubiquitous it is; how small a part of its doings its great labors on battle-fields represent; how active and methodical, and in harmony with military rules and customs, its system is; and how sure, when every thing else fails, the Sanitary Com-

mission is to be *on hand.* We are not surprised to find Gen. Rosecrans using his honorable leisure, after the tremendous labors and responsibilities of his great campaigns, in fostering, by his countenance and sympathy, his experience and his zeal, an enterprise necessary to keep the channels of the U. S. Sanitary Commission open, and full with the beneficence of the nation, whose sons are in the camps and on the battle-fields of Tennessee, the Cumberland, and Alabama.

The Mayor of Cincinnati, Mr. Harris, is the first vice-president, and lends municipal authority and support to the Fair.

We understand that the association have engaged the two largest and most convenient edifices in Cincinnati for the central depôt, or grand exposition: Mozart Hall, with its numerous and roomy apartments, and Mechanics' Institute, (Greenwood's Hall,) which is separated from it by an alley of twelve feet, which can be easily spanned by a bridge from the second story. In these two buildings will be the chief salerooms for fancy and portable articles; also the gallery of fine arts, towards which the citizens will lend all that is most beautiful in their private collections, or give what they may choose. It is proper to say, that for a city hardly yet as venerable in years as many of its own citizens, there is a remarkable taste for art in Cincinnati; and a surprising collection of fine paintings and beautiful sculptures might, and doubtless will be made from the homes of that now rich and populous city. The most beautiful private collection of engravings it ever fell to our lot to see, belongs to an apothecary in Cincinnati, whose modest home becomes thus a casket for jewels of art which a prince might covet.

One square off, is a building known as the Industrial Palace—perhaps 70 x 100 feet in dimensions, where the working machinery will be erected, and the engines and heavier articles sent in displayed as far as possible in their working order.

A temporary restaurant is now erecting, we hear, on Market Square, which will be from 50 feet wide to 300 long. What other arrangements are more recently made, our informant could not tell after ten days' absence.

It is proposed to occupy each evening of the Fair with a lecture, concert, or other innocent entertainment, in the great lecture-room of Mozart Hall.

Henry Ward Beecher, who, since his return, has made himself a sort of patron-saint of the sick soldiers and the Sanitary Commission, having spoken already three times in their pecuniary behalf, with a result of over $6,000, is earnestly invited to visit Cincinnati and speak during the Fair. The great sacrifice of his time, and strength, thus demanded—after a six months' absence—it is not wholly reasonable to expect, yet his self-denying patriotism may go to this length. It is commonly felt that he will not complete his magnificent round of duty, until he has in person reported in all our chief cities what he saw and felt in the high places of Great Britain, where he "came, saw and conquered." Other distinguished orators are expected to lend their services.

We understand that the Association are making arrangements with all the railroads centering at Cincinnati, to hire out to them a certain number of cars of each train daily, at about half rates. These they propose to fill along the route with passengers at full rates, and to put the profits into the treasury of the Fair.

It is impossible that the great experience in Chicago, with the lessons to be acquired this month, first at Boston, where the Fair opens on the 14th instant, and next at Cincinnati, only a week later, should not give an enormous impulse to the Metropolitan Fair in New York, commencing on the 22d Feb'y. Emulation, patriotism, humanity, will all combine to make the Metropolitan Fair one worthy of the commercial heart of the nation. Two hundred ladies, selected for their representative character, their taste, energy and talents, without regard to sect or party, are already enlisted in the conduct of the work. They have a Board of Managers of twenty-five ladies, "crême de la crême" in experience, administrative ability, and social sway, over them. Twenty-nine committees of ladies are already organized over the different departments, and are at work.

Their preliminary meetings have been business-like and thoroughly earnest, and

probably by the appearance of this number of the BULLETIN their plans will be fully before the public.

A business meeting is called for Dec. 11th, consisting of three hundred gentlemen, selected with great care, as representing the business heads of all the various industrial, commercial, trading, locomotive, financial, and charitable interests of the metropolis. By the time this article appears, the results of that important meeting may also appear in these columns. But writing now, on Dec. 5th, we venture to predict that that meeting will enter heart and soul into this work; that an effective committee of the most living and gifted business men, say of twenty-five, will be selected to govern and direct the masculine department of the fair; to solicit, secure and harvest the donations of all trades and benefactors willing to bestow upon the sick and wounded some evidence in the line of their own trade and calling, of their devotion and affection. By a systematic and earnest call, backed by the universal approbation of all heads of the community, its bank and railroad presidents, the chiefs of great manufactories, the heads of trades, unions, and the leading spirits in commerce, art, pleasure and ornament, an amount of valuable contributions could be collected which would astonish the world; make it a duty and a fashion too, and the contagion of sympathy and humanity, inspired by patriotism and pity, will carry this whole community, as by a universal impulse, a sea swept by a fragrant spicy wind, and turning its sparkling waves all one way, in the direction of a grand public beneficence to the hospitals and battle-fields of the country.

One of the first duties the gentlemen's committee will have to perform will be the selection of a place in which so great a market fair can be held. We can't roof in the Central Park, nor cover Union Square with glass. If we could, they might be thought hardly too large for so vast an exhibition.

Difficulties may present themselves, such as the lack of an appropriate place, the preoccupations of a great city, the disintegration of our community into parties, sects, classes and interests. Such obstacles are real and formidable. But all difficulties would give way before the strength of a whole and splendid populous metropolis, moving with sublime unanimity in one pathway of patriotic charity. Mountains would become mole-hills in the road of such a momentous progress. Things that look impossible would be done with ease—would do themselves. So great a force would take hold of the ropes, that the vast engine would move without any single arm feeling its own strain. Let not the various obstacles now invisaged in the natural selfishness of proprietors of buildings, look serious. Those who do not mean to yield, will presently beg the favor of having all their facilities accepted by the Fair. Let the business energy, the civic pride, the industrial skill, the average patriotism of the men of New York, be added to the taste, invention, and disinterestedness, the humane affections, the tender pity, the patriotic yearning of the women of New York, and nothing will be able to withstand their combined energy. The city will be theirs to sack for a fortnight, and the public might as well compound for half a million of dollars before hand. All hail to the Metropolitan Fair! We predict for it an entire and unexampled success.

A WORD TO OUR READERS.

In order that the BULLETIN may completely answer its purpose, it is desirable that it should not contain simply such information as may be furnished to the Commission by its regular agents, but all that can be collected from the friends of the work, official or non-official, all over the country. We can supply as full and particular accounts of the disposition made of the funds and stores intrusted to us as the country can require, by the aid of those whom we employ in their distribution. But there is of necessity an immense mass of facts bearing on our labors and their results, which we have no organized means of obtaining, and for which we must therefore rely on volunteers. Nothing could serve better to quicken the zeal of the people in localities in which little has been done for us so far, or is being done now, than accounts of the exertions made by people in other places. Everybody knows the effect produced on one's spirits when in pursuit of any enterprise, by the knowledge that

there is a multitude engaged in the same work. No zeal is proof in the long run against the sense of weakness or of isolation.

There is, we well know, behind our armies and their achievements, extraordinary as these are, something still more extraordinary, and that is the spirit of the people at home. We shall say nothing now of the fortitude with which they have supported reverses, and delays, and disappointments. This has already commanded the admiration and astonishment of the world, and has led a distinguished foreign writer to declare that there has been developed in the United States a type of character hitherto unknown, and generally deemed impossible—a combination of French fire, and excitability and enthusiasm, with the old Anglo-Saxon pertinacity and firmness. This is well, but this is not enough. Those who are interested in the war, as much for the revelation it affords of the moral qualities of the American people, as for the political results which it promises, have found in rich abundance better things than even courage and tenacity. What our people have done to save—done for humanity's sake, is even more wonderful and more interesting than what they have done for conquest. They have done it, too, without the intervention of legislature or tax-gather, upon no compulsion whatever, with nothing to gain by it either in territory or glory. There may be many parallels found for our demeanor in the field, but we doubt if our voluntary efforts to mitigate the suffering arising out of the war have had any example in history.

It is desirable that the details of this work should be as far as possible placed on record, and the knowledge of them diffused. We should like to be able to say in the BULLETIN as much as possible of the way in which the vast amount of stores and money which pass through our hands are collected. There is, probably, hardly a box which reaches us which has not a tale of its own well worth telling, and which is not the result of efforts or sacrifices, or enthusiasm, of which we should all be the better of knowing something. There are incidents occurring every day all over the country within the knowledge of those who are working for us, which, if published, would throw valuable light upon the temper and spirit of our people. We have a pamphlet lying before us at this moment, entitled the "Philanthropic Results of the War," which tells a marvellous story in round figures. The sum total of the voluntary contributions of the public, made for purely philanthropic purposes since the beginning of the war, is, as we have already said, something very wonderful. But wonderful as it is, we are inclined to think that if we only knew the details of the process by which this grand result has been brought about, we should find in the efforts of single villages and hamlets and congregations things more wonderful still.

Now this is a want which our friends belonging to the branch associations, and all others who are all over the country interested in what we are doing, can readily supply, if they will only forward us as often as the occasion may arise, anything relating to the work in their own neighborhood, which will help to throw light on the temper with which the people of the North are facing this great crisis. There is not half enough known or ever will be half enough known of the fire and energy with which the men and women of the country districts have thrown themselves into the task of supporting and encouraging the army by kind deeds as well as cheering words. We cannot undertake to publish everything we receive, for our space is limited, but we will promise to publish all that is most interesting. It would be impossible to call forth such extraordinary exhibitions of enthusiasm as are now taking place in all the large cities in the shape of "Sanitary Fairs," if there were not behind all this, and had not been previous to all this, a great deal of work full as good, but done on a smaller scale and in smaller places. We ought to learn more about it.

We should wish also to make the BULLETIN the means of keeping the public informed, as far as our space and opportunity will allow, about the fate and prospects of the thousands of soldiers who every month wend their way wearily homeward, to carry on in obscurity a long struggle with wounds or disease, and too often to sink

under them. The Sanitary Commission has already, as most of our readers know, established organizations to assist the friends of these men to find them in the hospitals, and to assist the men themselves in reaching their homes. But it is desirable that they should not all sink completely out of the sight at this point. Many of them have to fight a harder fight after leaving the army than they ever fought while in it—a long silent struggle with suffering or disability—a struggle too, which is often hopeless, and which at best promises no glory on earth. There cannot be too much said or done to encourage and console those upon whom this fate has come, and there are amongst them thousands of cases displaying the rarest patience and the rarest heroism; and more than all this, even the profoundest satisfaction at having been selected for the honors of this great martyrdom. God only knows how many such there are scattered through the farm-houses and villages all over the Union. We shall never know of them all, but it might be well for them and well for the public, if we could follow at least some of them into the furnace, and keep the nation in mind of the vastness of the sacrifices which so many gallant hearts have made for its salvation.

Under the head of correspondence in the 1st number of the BULLETIN, in a letter from Dr. E. A. Crane, Inspector of the Commission, the following statement occurs: "Scurvy does not now exist (Oct. 18th) in the command before Charleston, nor has it existed to any great extent among our troops since operations against Charleston have been commenced."

Dr. C. in a subsequent report corrects the above statement, as he was clearly in error. The Commission has received from Dr. Marsh, its resident Inspector at Charleston, abundant proof not only of the prevalence of cases of scurvy, but also of the scorbutic taint in other diseases.

THE HOSPITALS AT NASHVILLE.

NASHVILLE, *Nov. 12th*, 1863.

J. S. NEWBERRY, M.D.:

DEAR SIR—I have visited each and all of the hospitals repeatedly, and have done so at all times and seasons; occasionally with the surgeons, but generally alone and unexpected. And I have not only offered to all the surgeons of each hospital the services of the Sanitary Commission, for the health and comfort of their patients, but have gone from room to room, talking with the patients themselves, their nurses and ward-masters; observing closely and making inquiries as to food, diet, medicine, nursing, attendance, ventilation, sanitary supplies, etc.; and I have been gratified to see the general good condition of all the hospitals here. My impression is, that with rare exceptions, every surgeon in charge, and every assistant-surgeon, is earnestly desirous of doing everything within his power for the health and comfort of his patients. In some cases where I thought I had discovered mismanagement and carelessness, I afterwards found that there had been obstacles which the surgeons themselves were endeavoring to remove with as much anxiety as any one could have. And I perceive that almost every hospital is being continually improved in its interior arrangements for ventilation, comfort or convenience. The majority of the hospital buildings are light and cheerful.

The general sanitary condition of the patients in the hospitals is good. As I have said, the surgeons with hardly an exception, do everything in their power for the improvement of their patients, and are evidently very grateful for every aid and comfort extended to them from the Sanitary stores. Not only are they *willing* that delicacies, such as wines, cordials, jellies, &c., should be given under their directions, but their expressions of gratitude are such as can come only from the heart. Sometimes they accompany me from cot to cot, when I have my basket of delicacies, pointing out those who need this or that the most, giving orders to the nurses how to dispense them, and sharing with me the pleasure such distribution gives. In the distribution of grapes from the ladies of Cleveland and Cincinnati, none more than the surgeons partook of the little excitement and pleasure it afforded.

Every article of clothing or food given to hospitals from the Sanitary Commission, is given, *not* upon the requisition of the stewards or nurses, but upon that of the surgeon

in charge of the whole hospital. If they are delicacies, such as wines, cordials, &c., he orders them to be kept for the ward surgeons to distribute; and it is certainly the special interest of those surgeons to see that their own patients receive them; and as they make their morning rounds they usually make such inquiries. If it is edibles that are given, such as potatoes, onions, dried fruit, berries, pickles, etc., they are given (the surgeon in charge having drawn them) into the steward's charge, with orders that they shall, if necessary, be cooked at such times and in such a manner, and sent to or placed on the tables of such patients, as he directs; and he usually visits the tables or makes inquiries to see if his orders are carried out. The nurses are themselves *convalescent soldiers.*

There are, it is true, female nurses in service of the hospitals who do all that they can do. But those peculiar attentions which none but a wife, a mother, or sister could with propriety give, are bestowed by their brother convalescent soldiers, who are detailed for such duty. And when I have seen these poor fellows, themselves still needing nursing, (for as soon as they are strong they are sent to the "front,") wearily dragging themselves up and down the two, three or four long flights of stairs, carrying food, water, or medicines, and attending to their frequent and most necessary wants; oftentimes called from their own meals, waiting upon them in their turn day and night, and always so kind, so patient; my eyes have filled with tears of gratitude, and I have thought that if mothers and friends at home only knew how their sons and brothers were nursed by these noble fellows, there would be no more boxes sent to the Commission, marked "*not for the nurses,*" but sometimes, a full box marked "*for the nurses,*" with warm expressions of gratitude from those who, when a member of the family is sick at home, think that nothing is too good for the refreshment of the self-denying, weary "watcher," or even the watchful, anxious "Doctor" himself. Of course there are in every hospital some "grumblers" — those who had "never themselves received any good things from the Sanitary stores, and who were therefore firm believers in the surgeons and nurses eating everything all up." But these very persons I have generally found clothed almost from head to foot in Sanitary underclothing, having just partaken of Sanitary potatoes, onions, or dried fruit, and whose very sheets and pillow-cases, slings and crutches, came from the same source, all unbeknown to them. But I have found that their only idea of Sanitary stores was, cans or jars of preserves. They seemed to think that because their own good mother's jar of preserves (which they imagined she had put up) had not been sent straight to them, that neither they nor any one else had ever received any benefit from the Sanitary Commission. It was all a humbug. One of these grumblers, who had just eaten a quarter of a jar of peaches from the Sanitary stores, complained to me that they had not enough of such things. He thought that they ought to have them about twice a week. I asked him to make a little calculation as to the number of cans it would require for the hospitals of Nashville alone, to give each patient a taste once a week. To his surprise he found it would take 56,160 cans—or at 25 cents each, at a cost of above $14,000. On the contrary, however, there is much true gratitude.

I hardly need say to you that the importance and blessedness of this Commission grows upon me every day. I only wish that it could be seen as it is, in all its ramifications. But God alone can see all this. The world can see the great River of Benevolence bearing on its bosom the well freighted baskets from the ten thousand little rivulets of Northern charity—*love.* But none but the eye of our Heavenly Father can see the countless bodies and souls that are blessed by timely food, assistance, and care; by kind words spoken, by unwearied efforts made, and which are stamping with the very seal of Heaven the very same age and generation which witness this fearful civil war.

Respectfully and truly yours,

J. P. T. INGRAHAM,
Hospital Visitor.

[Extracts from letters dated Louisville and Nashville R. R. train, up trip, Nov. 27, 1863.]

* * * * *

The Commission's hospital visitor at

Nashville is a very modest gentleman. Any incident which brings in himself as one of the actors, is a contraband topic of conversation. But "Yours Truly" isn't a bit modest, believing that in many cases brass is better than brains, and acting upon the aforesaid principle, succeeded in drawing forth the living eloquence of which the following is but a lifeless, fleshless skeleton:

Away up in the fourth story of Hospital No. 3, and in a far corner of the ward, he noticed one day an old lady sitting by the side of a mere lad, who was reduced to the verge of death by chronic diarrhœa. She was a plain, honest-hearted farmer's wife, her face all aglow with motherly love, and who, to judge from appearances, had likely never before traveled beyond the limits of her neighborhood, but now had come many a long mile to do what might be done for her boy. In the course of a conversation, she informed Mr. Ingraham that if she "only could get something that tasted like home—some good tea, for instance, which she could make herself, and which would be better than that of the hospital, she thought it might save her son's life." Of course it was sent to her, and on a subsequent visit she expressed her hearty thanks, in a simple, hearty way, quite in keeping with her whole appearance. Still she seemed sad; something was on her mind that evidently troubled her, and, like Banquo's ghost, "would not down." At length it came out, in a confiding, innocent way—more, evidently, because it was uppermost in her thoughts than for the purpose of receiving sympathy—that her means were about exhausted. "I didn't think it would take so much money; it is so much further away from home than I had thought, and board here is so very high, that I have hardly enough left to take me back; and by another week I will have to leave him. I have been around to the stores to buy some little things that he would eat—for he can't eat this strong food—but the prices are so high that I can't buy them, and I am afraid that if I go away, and if he doesn't get something different to eat, that, maybe—" and the tears trickled down her cheeks, "he won't —be so well."

Mr. Ingraham, who is an Episcopal minister of the warmest hearted kind, thought that difficulty might be overcome; and if she would put on her bonnet they would go to a store where articles were cheap. Accordingly, they arrived in front of the large three-story building which government has assigned to the Commission, and the old lady was soon running her eyes over the long rows of boxes, bales and barrels that stretched for a hundred feet down the room, but was most fascinated by the bottles and cans on the shelves. He ordered a supply of sugar, tea, soft crackers and canned fruit; then chicken and oysters; then jelly and wine, brandy, milk and under-clothing—until the basket was full. As the earlier articles nestled under its lids, her face was glowing with satisfaction; but as the later lots arrived, she would draw him aside to whisper that it was too much; "really she hadn't enough money;" and when the more expensive items came from the shelves, the shadow of earnestness which gloomed her countenance grew into one of perplexity, her soul vibrating between motherly yearning for the lad on his bed, and the scant purse in her pocket, until, slowly and with great reluctance, she began to return the costliest.

"Hadn't you better ask the price?" said her guide. "How much is it?" "Nothing," replied the storekeeper. "Sir?" queried she, in the utmost amazement, "*nothing* for all this?"

"My good woman," asked the guide, "have you a Soldiers' Aid Society in your neighborhood?" Yes, they had; she belonged to it herself. "Well, what do you suppose becomes of the garments you make, and the fruits you put up?" She hadn't thought; she supposed they went to the army; but was evidently bothered to know what connection there could be between their aid society and that basket. "These garments that you see came from your society, or other societies just like yours; so did your boxes and barrels; that milk came from New York; those fruits from Boston; that wine was likely purchased with gold from California; and it is all for sick soldiers, your son as much as for any one else. This is the U. S. Sanitary Commission store-house; you must come here whenever you wish, and call for everything you want;

and you must stay with your son until he is able to go home; never mind the money's giving out; you shall have more, which, when you get back, you can refund for the use of other mothers and other sons; when you are ready to go I will put him in a berth where he can lie down, and you shall save his life yet!"

She did—God bless her innocent, motherly heart—when nothing but motherly care could have achieved it; and, when last seen, on a dismal, drizzly morning, was, with her face beaming out the radiance of hope, making a cup of tea on the stove of a caboose car for the convalescent, who was snugly tucked away in the caboose berth, waiting the final whistle of the locomotive that would speed them both homeward.

The benefit of the Hospital Directory, with its facilities for learning through the agents who are at the front, the condition of the wounded, is illustrated by the following telegrams copied from the dispatch-book of the Nashville office U. S. Sanitary Commission:

On Oct. 29, Gen. Underwood, of Boston, received information that his son, Col. Underwood, was mortally wounded in Lookout Mountain. Mr. Walker, of the same city, received similar tidings concerning his son. The anxious fathers started for Chattanooga, arriving at Nashville Tuesday night, Nov. 3d, and applied to the agents at that point for information. At 11 P. M. this message was sent to the front:

NASHVILLE, Nov. 3.

DR. M. C. REED,
U. S. San. Com., Chattanooga:

Report immediately condition of A. B. Underwood, Colonel 33d Mass., severely wounded on 28th; also, Capt. G. M. Walker, Co. "E," same regiment. General Underwood and Mr. Walker here.

J. C. HOBLIT.

Wednesday morning at six o'clock the travellers took the train for Stevenson. At noon the following was received at Nashville office:

CHATTANOOGA, Nov. 4, 1863.

J. C. HOBLIT,
Nashville.

33d Mass.—Capt. Walker is slightly wounded, getting better. Col. Underwood is comfortable, but in critical condition.

M. C. REED.

Two hours later.

CHATTANOOGA, Nov. 4, 2 P. M.

J. C. HOBLIT,
Nashville:

Col. Underwood, 33d Mass., thigh fractured; says he is contented and well cared for, but longs for his friends—wife, mother, father.

M. C. REED.

Immediately Nashville forwards this trio:

NASHVILLE, Nov. 4.

JOSEPH WALKER & CO.,
Boston:

Dispatch just received from Chattanooga, says Col. Underwood comfortable, but in a critical condition. Capt. Walker slightly wounded, getting well. Messrs. Underwood and Walker left here this morning for Chattanooga.

J. C. HOBLIT.

M. C. REED,
Chattanooga:

Underwood and Walker left here this morning; have telegraphed Boston.

J. C. HOLBIT.

San. Com. Agent, Stevenson:

Underwood and Walker on road to Chattanooga. Tell them Col. Underwood comfortable, in critical condition. Capt. Walker slightly wounded, getting well.

J. C. HOBLIT.

Thus, the first information received by the travelers after leaving Boston, was obtained late at night, on their arrival at Stevenson, while their families were cognizant of affairs that afternoon, and the wounded sufferers made acquainted with the advent of their visitors that morning.

Col. Underwood was brought to Nashville. His wife and father were with him; but probably they will, day after to-morrow, be on this same up-train, his corpse riding in the baggage-car.

Just as Boston, by means of the nation-wide appliances of a Commission that is broader in its sweep than all the States put together, heard speedily from far off Chattanooga, so did Wisconsin.

A poor woman therefrom, whose husband and son were in the ranks, learning that the latter was wounded on Lookout, made her way to Louisville, from whence she was sent by your agents to Nashville. It was absolutely impossible to get her further front, and the Nashville office again telegraphed Dr. Reed for information. The next day, Thursday, it was answered that her son was severely wounded, and had been placed in an

hospital which was subsequently captured by the enemy, in whose hands he then was. Sad news, but better than none. It was communicated to her as kindly and gently as possible, yet drove her almost frantic. Several times on Friday she came in to hear more. There was nothing to hear; Saturday, nothing; Sunday, nothing. The suspense became terrible. Was he alive? Were his wounds attended to by the rebels? Was he dead? She prayed for some tidings, even the worst, rather than the agony of suspense. Late Sunday night it came, and she was informed "dead." It was a terrible stroke, and the writhings of her soul were horrible, even to behold, much more so to bear. Monday morning she returned to the office, wofully stricken in heart, but calmer than on the previous evening, and said, pointing to the flag over the door, with tears in her eyes, but smiles streaming through the tears, "THAT FLAG IS DOUBLY DEAR TO ME THIS MORNING. IT HAS COST ME SOMETHING."

Her means were exhausted, and the Commission defrayed her expenses home.

Were those few dollars well spent upon such a mother, wife, martyr, and heroine?

Sitting over the way, in the seat by the stove, is a stout farmer, from Danvers, Mass., who is constant and heartfelt in the recital to those about him of the gratitude which he feels to the Commission for the assistance he received from it in getting to the front and back. He says no other power could have got him passes. He is right about that. Government refers all such applications to the Louisville office, and has never yet refused one vouched for by Dr. Newberry. A sword and haversack are in his hands. They belonged to his son. There is a long white box in the baggage car, which the stout farmer goes out to look at when we stop. It is a very quiet box, too; and there can be no danger of its moving. Yours truly.

A DAY AT THE "NURSES' HOME" AT WASHINGTON.

Seven women and ten children received to-day. First, a mother of a soldier; next, a soldier's wife; three hospital nurses; then two wives of refugees, with the children.

The soldier's mother showed me this telegram to explain to me who she was, and why she was in the city; it was from her son, "Mitchel's Station, Va." "I am to be shot on Friday next—can you do anything for me?" With this telegram in her hand she had hastened on from her distant home by the first train to Washington, to appeal to the President to save her son. She gathered up and brought with her such testimonials as she could obtain; also evidence of the circumstances connected with her son's enlistment. She was a poor woman, but neatly clad, and with an honest and earnest face, about fifty years old. Her husband, it seems, was so much shocked by the telegram that he could not act, so she had to come on. As she came to the Nurses' Home, almost utterly exhausted, she looked like one who had been through a terrible night of darkness, watching by what seemed a death-bed, but had suddenly caught sight of a bright gleam of light, for she had already laid her case before the President, with such testimony as palliated the act of "desertion" on the part of her boy, and the sentence of death had been revoked. It seems that some months ago her son had run away from home to enlist, (he was but 17 or 18 years old,) and his parents had gained no intelligence of him until a letter came in his handwriting announcing to his mother that he was in the army and was to be tried as a "deserter," but that there was no danger but what he should get off. His mother had then written, asking him to tell her all the circumstances of his enlistment. The letter which he sent in return his mother brought on to Washington with her, and as she allowed me to copy it, I insert it here.

"DEAR FATHER AND MOTHER—I now take the opportunity of writing you a few lines, hoping to find you in good health. I had got your letter, and I read it; then I gave it to the Colonel, and I do not know what he will do with it, but I hope he will not go hard on me. He is a very severe man when he gets angry, and a very good one when he ain't angry. I have been very sick with the fever and ague, and I am out in the rain here ever since I have been caught, without even a tent. All the house we have is a few limbs of trees. I have the shakes every other day. Where we are in

camp is a very sickly place, and very lousy. The lice is taking away our clothes. It ain't safe to put down our crackers without we put a stone on them, as the lice would run away with it. I am now getting along first-rate. I just now got your letter from home. While I was writing this letter I received your letter, dear mother, and read it. And now I will tell you how and where I enlisted. The day that I left home I was made acquainted with a fellow named, as he called himself, Captain Cody, and he agreed to take me to Pennsylvania and get me three hundred dollars, and I asked him how, and he told me when I got there I would see. When I got there he took me to some house in South 2d Street, as he called it, in Philadelphia, and we stayed there that night, and in the morning we got our breakfast; then he gave me some liquor to drink, and I did not know where I was till I found myself in Norristown, Pa., in the Marshall's office, talking to the doctor. I was asleep. When I awoke the doctor told me that I was an enlisted man, and I said I was not, and he showed me some papers that I signed when I was drunk; but I do not believe I ever signed a paper; then I asked him where was the money, when he told me that the boarding-master took two hundred dollars, and said I owed him twenty-five more. The boarding-master was Captain Cody. He swore that I owed him the money, and that is all I know about it. And there was a lieutenant who said he would get me clear for twenty-five dollars, and I gave it to him; but I did not see him any more. The place I enlisted was Norristown, Pa. That is all at present.

"I send my best love and respects to you all. Good bye.

"If you have got one of John Peterson's pictures send it in the letter. That is all.

"Direct to ————————

Such was the letter which was followed by the brief message sent to his mother, "I am to be shot next Friday; can you do something for me?" As she handed me the telegram, although her son was now safe, yet her whole frame shook. She had two other sons, she said, one a little fellow of ten, and the third at home, disabled from wounds received in the battle at Chancellorsville. Her journey and expenses had used all the money she had been able to bring from home with her, and it was a real joy to us to be able to give her a resting place and kind care; and then to-morrow we shall furnish her with a ticket to her home.

The soldier's wife—very young and frail—has journeyed alone over 500 miles in the last two days, to see if possible her husband alive.

She found him in the hospital near by; has been with him all day, and has now come in to the "nurses' home" full of hope that he will recover, and delighted to find the admirable and kind care which is bestowed by the General Hospitals upon those who are sick; she had heard such terrible reports of neglect. She is grateful, very, for the shelter and the hand of sympathy which the Home offers to her.

One of the wives of the refugees with the four children was brought to the office of the Sanitary Commission by the Provost Guard, early this morning. She was miserably poor and destitute, and with her children sadly in need of warm garments. According to the papers which she carried with her, and her own story, she had come on all the way from Tennessee in order to find in Alexandria some relatives of her husband who were said to live there. Her husband had been shot by guerrillas near his own house, where he had gone on a six days' furlough from the army, not very distant. As she had nothing to live on, and feared for her own life, she had fled, and came on here. In Alexandria she had searched in vain for her husband's relatives. She brought all her goods with her, namely, a bed, blankets, and some clothes, in four dirty bundles. She now wants to get back as far as Kentucky. She says she can't feel at home "way North;" that she had rather starve "down South" than stay up here. She and her children will be made comfortable, and then sent on their way. She is not entirely satisfied with her treatment at the Home. She thinks that she is not "waited upon" as a soldier's wife from so far off ought to be, and that she has received very little attention; and that if this house pre-

tends to be a kind of hotel only, where they don't take any pay, they ought to look a little more after the folks they entertain; that at any rate, a black girl might be sent to take care of her children; and that surely it is a great place where a body has to help sew upon the garments which are going to be a *present* to her! But still upon the whole, she is glad of the shelter and the garments, though her pride is a little wounded; and most certainly the poor little children are warmer for the flannels and shoes. It is strange how these "poor whites," who haven't energy enough apparently to harvest the crop which is to keep them alive, can overcome all the difficulties of such a journey as this, with baggage and children, travelling a thousand miles.

The other woman, wife of a refugee, came from Culpepper with her six children; her husband is with her. They were simply "starved out." At one time the place was in the hands of the rebels and they couldn't get away; at another time in the hands of the Federals and they hoped not to be obliged to go away—and so for two years they had lived on—until at last, as the husband told me, they had but "half a gallon" of meal left. So they had to give up their home; they succeeded in escaping the guerrillas, and after a long and terribly wearisome journey on foot with these six children, they reached a place of protection. They had been at the Sanitary Lodge, in Alexandria, resting for a day or two before they came on to Washington. They were Methodists and persons with deep religious faith. Under all their labor and sorrow (for they buried a little child shortly before they left their home in Virginia), they were quiet and cheerful, apparently having perfect confidence that God would yet give them a home and all the happiness which was best for them. The children, too, in their gentleness and expression of face, bore mark of the daily prayer which had never failed as the mother told me, to be offered at the poor man's altar. This family had seen better days, but there was no complaint at their lot. They are grateful for the kindness we are able to show to them, though they are somewhat closely packed together in two rooms. Arrangements are made to ticket the whole family through to their old home in Western Pennsylvania.

Two of the hospital nurses are from the General Hospital, one worn down by excessive labor, needing a few days' rest; the other has just returned from a visit to her home, and is unable to go over to Alexandria to-night. The third is from a regimental hospital, where she has served devotedly for near two years—and she is ordered in by the surgeon of the regiment, whether she will or no, to rest for at least one week; but it seems as if resting were to her the hardest form of labor. She will soon be really sick if she cannot go to work.

THE REPORTS OF THE FORTNIGHT.

823 Broadway, New York, *Dec. 4th*, 1863.

To the Standing Committee of the U. S. Sanitary Commission:

Gentlemen: — Since your last weekly meeting, tidings have reached this office from New Orleans, South Carolina, Washington and Norfolk, in the Coast District, and by telegraph and by letter of Rev. J. H. Heywood, from Louisville and Chattanooga, in the Western District.

Dr. Blake wrote from New Orleans on the 20th of November; he had not ventured, in the absence of his co-workers, now doubtless with him, to absent himself from New Orleans, the centre of his field of work. Ere this, he has, I doubt not, either gone or sent to our forces on the Rio Grande, conformably to his previously expressed intentions. His five helpers, who sailed from New York on the 14th of November, must have joined him by the 22d of that month.

Dr. Blake reports our relations with the agents of the Christian Commission in New Orleans to be cordial. Scurvy exists within the department. The vegetables about to be forwarded to the department from Maine, in addition to those sent in successive moderate consignments from this port, and perhaps also a cargo or part of one from up the Mississippi, will doubtless effect for our troops the same sanative results as similar gifts have elsewhere done.

Dr. Marsh writes from Beaufort on the 26th of November, that his own health is improving, though he is yet evidently by no means well. He thinks that to establish

a vegetable garden for the army in South Carolina, more would be required of the Commission than the cost of seed. The army can spare no labor to superintend or cultivate it. Negro help can probably be procured by detail, but skilled superintendence is not likely to be afforded by the army.

Rev. Mr. Low, of Massachusetts, has, during the past week, called at this office on his return from the Department of the South, to express his strong sense of the great usefulness of the Commission's work, as administered by Dr. Marsh in that department. He stated that his conviction was the result of extended application for facts to both medical and military officers, as well as to privates, and that Dr. Marsh's statements as to the value of our work were borne out by the testimony of all these classes.

From Dr. Page, in South Carolina, there is still nothing later than the last of October.

From the army of the Potomac we have no advices since our compactly stowed wagons, one for each corps, were, under the charge of their respective Relief Agents and the general superintendence of Mr. Johnson, cut loose from communication with their rear, about the time of the late general advance. The Elizabeth has been for some days lying with an assorted cargo of battle-field stores on board, ready to connect our work with the army at perhaps a new water base, while a considerable depot has been maintained at the R. R. station in Alexandria, if perchance communication might be resumed with the army by the Orange and Alexandria road.

At Fortress Monroe Mr. Gale has been active in pushing on, by flag-of-truce boat, the supplies of food and clothing sent to him by the Commission for that purpose. From the 17th of November, inclusive, the value of the supplies sent to date is carefully estimated at $28,000. General Meredith expresses the belief that our consignments mainly reach our men, and advises that we continue to forward. He cordially facilitates our plans, and offers at any time to send up the flag boat for the conveyance of our stores. Our Philadelphia associates have expended considerable sums to this end, and for zeal and promptitude in forwarding our goods our Relief Agent at Baltimore, Mr. J. T. Pancoast, deserves great praise.

Mr. Wm. H. Hadley has been entirely successful in the first work of his special mission to Maine. He has engaged the brig William and Mary, of 2,200 bbls. capacity, to sail for New Orleans on or before the 14th inst., with a cargo of vegetables for our troops there. The value of the cargo at Portland is estimated at $3,800. Should not insurance be effected? I enclose with this report Mr. Hadley's last letter and the charter-party, which seems to be arranged on terms favorable to the Commission.

Another load can probably be obtained by gift from the people of Maine; shall it not be gathered for this or some other department?

In the West, the attention of the Commission, as of the whole country, has been attracted by the engagements about Lookout Valley and Mountain, Tenn., and at Ringgold, Ga. Dr. Newberry was with the army at the time of its encounters with the enemy. Rev. Mr. Heywood forwards telegrams from Mr. Eno, at Bridgeport, dated November 28th, which state our loss to be —— wounded. Mr. Heywood also writes from Louisville, that large supplies were going forward, and Chicago had, 48 hours after being notified of the need, placed in Louisville 40 tons of hospital stores, and added in the next three days five carloads more.

Respectfully yours,

J. Foster Jenkins,

General Secretary.

THE HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

Mr. Brown, the Superintendent of the Hospital Directory, at Washington, furnishes us the following summing up of its labors:

The Washington Bureau of the Hospital Directory of the U. S. Sanitary Commission was opened to the public on the 27th of November, 1862. In the month of December following, I was ordered to Louisville, Ky., to organize a Directory Bureau for the Western Department of the Sanitary Commission, and in January ended my labor in that department. Returning to Washington, and thence proceed-

ing to Philadelphia and New York upon the same duty performed at the West, I completed the entire organization of the four bureaus by the 5th of March, 1863. Since the 1st of June, at these several bureaus, the returns from every U. S. General Hospital of the Army, 233 in number have been regularly received.

The total number of names on record is 513,437. The total number of inquiries for information has been 12,884, and the number of successful answers rendered, 9,203, being 72 per cent. upon the number received. The remaining 28 per cent., of whom no information could be obtained, are of those who perished in the Peninsula campaign, on the field before Fredericksburg, Stone River, Chancellorsville, Vicksburg, Gettysburg, &c. At the latter place the remains of those who fell in that great fight have been gathered together with tender care, and rest beneath the tombstone bearing the simple but expressive inscription, "The Unknown."

The purpose of the Hospital Directory originated in the humane desire, on the part of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, to supply a greatly needed want, viz., an organized bureau for the record of the inmates of army hospitals, whether becoming such by disease or from wounds received in battle, in order to meet the inquiries of the friends of the soldier unable to obtain any knowledge of the name or locality of his hospital—inquiries often painful to hear from the harrowing anxiety and persistency with which they are presented. But the benefit conferred by the Directory has not been merely to friends of the soldier, but also to the soldier himself, becoming as it has a medium of communication for wives and mothers searching for husbands and sons—a channel through which has flowed those messages of love, and cheer, and hope grateful to the fevered brain, soothing to the agony of wounds. How far it has accomplished its aim let the figures which have been given be the answer.

In the nine thousand two hundred and three answers lies hidden a history which no human eye shall ever read. And the gratitude with which they are acknowledged is shown by the letters on file. Mothers write of their "undying gratitude" for the simple announcement that their boys are doing well in hospital; others "invoke the blessing of God upon the labors of the Commission," and sisters "will cherish the warmest gratitude while memory lasts." And then the eagerness with which inquiries are made; "By the love you bear your own mother tell me where my boy is!" "Only give me some tidings!" "Is he dead, and how did he die?" "Is he alive, and how can I get to him?" "I pray you tell me of these two nephews I am seeking for. I have had fourteen nephews in the service, and these two are the only ones left."

Of the many scenes witnessed in the bureau, I can only mention a few without attempting a description. A mother has not heard anything of her son since the last battle; she hopes he is safe, but would like to be assured—there is no escape—she must be told that he has fallen upon the "federal altar;" an agony of tears bursts forth which seem as if it would never cease; another less excitable does not tire of telling "how good a boy he was;" "no mother ever had such a son as he," sobs a third. A father presents himself, a strong man and yet young in years, to receive the same announcement, and sinks with audible grief into a chair; another with pale face and tremulous voice, anxious to know, yet dreading to hear, is told that his boy is in the hospital a short distance off; he grasps the hand with both of his, while tears run down his cheeks, and without uttering another word leaves the room. "It is very hard, my friend," was said to one mute with grief, "but you are not alone." "I know it, sir," was the prompt reply, "but he was the only one I had."

A woman of more than ordinary intelligence and appearance, with almost breathless voice, "I want to find my husband; I have not heard from him for several months. I have written to the officers of his regiment, but do not get any reply; can you tell me where he is?"

"Will you please to give me his name and number of his regiment." "O, yes sir." "You will find him at Lincoln Hospital; the city cars pass near the building, and the conductor will point it out to you." A momentary shade of incredulity is perceptible; then turning her full deep eyes swollen with emotion, she gives one look—a full reward for a month of labor—and in an instant is in the street. A little, wiry, keen-eyed woman, in a tone between a demand and a request, wants to find her husband. He is not far off. She fairly screams with delight, and rushes wildly out of the office. Thus the varied scene goes on. One inquirer leaves the room grateful, buoyant and happy, to be followed by another equally grateful, who will "tread softly" the remainder of his days, for the "light of his dwelling has gone out." As each departs another figure is added to the list of "inquiries and answers," and the seemingly monotonous work of the bureau is resumed.

The Sanitary Commission has a history to

which it may point with pride and gratitude, and not the least of its benevolent features, not the least of its works of mercy and of comfort, will be the record of its Hospital Directory.

THE WORK IN TENNESSEE.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *Nov. 16th*, 1863.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,

SIR:—Returning to Nashville on the 21st of October, after near three weeks' absence by reason of sickness, I found that the work of the Commission in Nashville had made good progress — excepting the Soldiers' Home, which was not in as complete order as it had previously been under the administration of Mr. Crane.

I found at Stevenson and Bridgeport sufficient stores for distribution, but was pained to learn that all our efforts to obtain transportation to Chattanooga had been unsuccessful for at least two weeks. I should, perhaps, recall to your mind that we had succeeded in getting eleven wagon-loads of stores into Chattanooga previous to the battle—stores which had been not only comfort, but *life* to the wounded. After the battle we had still every favor from the authorities, and our full share of the resources of the Government; but we were compelled to share, also, in the terrible straits and difficulties which the army suffered, and which, till the opening of the river, combined to render the maintainance of the position not only difficult but in the highest degree doubtful.

At Chattanooga there were about 1,400 in hospitals of the most severely wounded —and such as could not be removed. Our great anxiety was to send more stores to these, who, without a full supply and good variety of food and stimulants, must die. As the well men must be fed, we promised, that during the existing pressure upon the transportation, we would only send edibles. For a week or more no stores of any kind were sent from Nashville, the cars being all used to transport Gen. Hooker's corps. When they began to carry commissary stores, Mr. Robinson informed me that he could not obtain transportation, as the Q. M. was ordered by Gen. Thomas to ship only those stores. I at once called upon the Q. M. in charge of transportation, showing him the following order from Gen. Rosecrans, which I supposed provided for just such general orders as the one he had now received; he agreed with me that it did, and promised transportation:

ORDER OF GEN. ROSECRANS.

HEAD-QUARTERS DEP'T OF THE CUMB'D,
STEVENSON, ALA., *August 19th*, 1863.

SIR:—The General commanding authorizes the use of half a car daily for the shipment of sanitary stores by the U. S. Sanitary Commission, from Nashville to such points South as may be desired. This letter, if exhibited to the Quarter-Master at Nashville, will procure you the transportation at all times, unless the exigencies of the service should make it necessary temporarily to suspend the permission. *General* directions to ship nothing but government stores, will not affect this permit. Should it be necessary to suspend it, *special* directions will be given.

I am, very respectfully,
your obedient servant,
C. GODDARD,
Lieut. Col. and A. A. G.

DR. A. N. REED,
U. S. Sanitary Commission.

The next morning, fearing that he was wrong, he declined to send our stores. I in vain assured him we would only send something for the wounded men to eat, that would take the place of the stores he was sending, and would do just as much toward supplying the army, while it gave to the wounded a more palatable and nutricious diet. He admitted the force of all this, but feared he should be disobeying orders. Thus, several precious days were lost, no one, perhaps, censurable, but the wounded were suffering. At the same time we had a similar disappointment at Stevenson. Twenty teams were given to us—ordered at Chattanooga to report for sanitary stores. After some delay they reported, but the mules were so poor, that it was evident they could not return to Chattanooga even with empty wagons. At this time of discouragement came a dispatch to send stores to Bridgeport, that they might be ready for the first boat; meantime, by a new order from General Thomas, I had received the use of one car a day from this place to Bridgeport. The boat would take stores only from Bridgeport to Kelley's Ferry, some eight or ten miles from Chattanooga. Rev. Mr. Kennedy, who had tents, and the charge of the Lodge at the foot of the mountain, was informed that he was more needed at the Ferry—both that he might aid in taking care of the goods as they were

unloaded from the boats, and also that he might lodge and feed the sick brought to that place by the ambulances, and who must wait for the boat to return.

Writing to Mr. F. R. Crary, our storekeeper at Stevenson, he says, "I want you to be here when the goods arrive, that you may enjoy with me the pleasure of seeing these hungry men receive their first supply. The want of food here is so pressing that I have often seen the soldiers gathering the grains of corn which had fallen from the feed troughs of the mules, roasting and eating them."

The pleasure alluded to they have experienced, and now we are sending to Bridgeport, and have been since the 3d of this month, one car-load each day; and these stores are sent promptly from Bridgeport to Chattanooga. The amount of work to be done at Chattanooga was so great, that I felt compelled to provide additional help. In this emergency I applied to M. D. Bartlett, State Agent from Wisconsin, to aid us in the general work. He promptly consented to go, and is now rendering efficient service where help was most of all needed. I also employed Mr. Wm. A. Sutliff to take charge of the depot at Kelley's Ford, while Mr. Sill gave his entire attention to the care of the goods from the Ford to Chattanooga, accompanying and staying with the teams.

When the stores leave Bridgeport by boat, an agent goes with them to protect them on the way. Thus, with much labor, the way is now open for the speedy and safe transfer of stores to the extreme front of our army—and we are improving it faithfully. The Agents of the Commission in this department are located as follows: Rev. S. C. Hoblet, Relief Agent, and Rev. J. P. T. Ingraham, Hospital Visitor, in Nashville; Rev. M. F. Loomis, Hospital Visitor on the line of the railroad between this and Bridgeport; Capt. Brayton, in charge of Soldiers' Home; Mr. Charles Robinson and Mrs. Hopkins, in charge of store room. At Bridgeport, E. H. Pocock and Dr. Coates, in charge of depot. At Kelley's Ford, Rev. Mr. Kennedy in charge of Lodge; Wm. A. Sutliff in charge of Depot. At Chattanooga, M. C. Reed, M. D. Bartlett, F. R. Crary, M. Redding. You are already informed the work each of these Agents is doing, by their reports made to you. To the best of my knowledge, they all labor kindly, faithfully and successfully. Rev. Mr. Hobit devotes much of his time to answering letters and telegrams of inquiries sent both from Louisville and from all parts of the States.

In addition to this, he is particularly valuable in obtaining passes, transportation, approval of requisitions, &c.

Rev. Mr. Ingraham starts nearly every morning with a basket of delicacies—goes to some one of the 24 hospitals; and after obtaining permission of the Surgeon, visits all parts of the hospital; looking after the quantity of the food, and learning the wants of the sick, and if he finds any special cases of suffering, does all that can be done for their relief. At the same time he informs the Surgeon that there are many articles at the sanitary rooms, which are sent expressly to aid him in the care of his sick, and that he can always have them for the asking.

He leaves his delicacies with those who are most sick or desponding, but never until he has obtained the approval of the Surgeon who has charge of the patient—thus respecting the rules and regulations of the service, and insuring the sympathy and hearty co-operation of each Surgeon in his work.

Rev. Mr. Loomis is working in the same kind manner in all the hospitals at Murfreesboro', Tullahoma, Cowan, Winchester, Stevenson and Bridgeport; and at the same time visits as many as possible of the regimental hospitals at the different posts.

Under the care of Capt. Brayton, the New Home in Nashville will not prove second to any in the Nation. The building is well adapted for the purpose, and Capt. B. will now have it nicely fitted up. He is doing a glorious work.

Mr. Robinson's duties are most onerous; too much so for any one to do, and do well—for any length of time. It is quite enough for one, even with the excellent business talent of Mr. R., to keep the books, attend to receiving the goods, and the through or wholesale shipments.

The many calls that come from so many quarters every day besides these, are more

than Mrs. Hopkins can attend to; I have therefore asked for them an assistant, so that when Mr. R. is compelled to go to the depot, as he often is, then there may be some one always ready to receive applications for stores, and to wait upon them promptly. I have informed you by letter Mr. Robinson feels able to do all this, but his friends feel that it is too much. Mrs. Hopkins gives the finishing touches of a woman's hand in the arrangement and distribution of the many little articles prepared and sent by the ladies at home. And for every marked package, where the label is definite, at once sends a letter of acknowledgment.

Mr. E. I. Eno, sent by the State of Illinois to look after the interests of her soldiers, is with us and of us, and ever ready to co-operate in the general work. All stores at his command, and they are many, are turned over to the Commission for general distribution. Mr. Eno also left his office and endured great personal exposure and hardships in organizing our depots at Bridgeport and Kelly's Ford—and the removal of the stores from Stevenson. We are under very great obligations to him for his timely and valuable assistance. His acts all show that he regards the struggle in which we are now engaged as National; and that our sympathy and help should be given alike to all the sufferers. The only questions to be asked in the distribution of our stores being, Is he a soldier of the Nation? Is he in want?

At Murfreesboro' the hospitals are again enlarged, and a larger number of the sick and wounded will be accumulated there than have been for many months.

There is one general hospital at Tallahoma in charge of Dr. Woodward, our excellent friend because he is the true friend of his patients. As usual, his hospital is in the best possible condition. At Cowan there is also at this time a large number of sick. The hospital at Stevenson is being removed. At Bridgeport there is a hospital, where those brought from Chattanooga are to remain until taken on by rail. Here we have been feeding them on their arrival. Mr. Pocock telegraphed me that he fed 100 in one day, which he did with very little material to work with; had a tolerable supply of tin-cups, but had no spoons for his soup. He obtained volunteer help from one of the regiments stationed near.

Mr. Kennedy is also doing the same work at Kelly's Ferry, with better accommodations. Mr. Eno informs me that he saw him feed about 100 as they lay in ambulances, too badly wounded to get out, but compelled to wait for the boat. The passage from that point by boat to Bridgeport is made with little comfort and great exposure; but it is luxurious when compared with the former dreadful ride in ambulances over the mountains, a distance of some sixty miles; climbing the most rugged mountain sides with great difficulty, and then going down the other side as rocky, steep, and rugged; the rocks so large in the path that the patient who had become too exhausted to hold on to the sides of the ambulance, is from the motion dashed from side to side; or if there are two, they are thrown alternately one upon the other.

Col. Paine, of the 124th O. V. I., shot through the thigh, was one of the thousands that took such a ride—and he assured me that he suffered ten thousand deaths—that he would much prefer death to such a ride again; and he had no bones broken.

The ride now by river occupies about 12 hours, while by the ambulances over the mountains the average time, I have been informed, was five days, and sometimes much longer.

I shall not attempt to give you any account of the work at Chattanooga, relying wholly upon your agents there, who I doubt not will report to you.

The destitution of Chattanooga has been such that we have all felt more than usual responsibility, to do our utmost for its relief; and while we have met with a great deal of delay in shipping our stores, and not a little when we knew the decisions of the subordinates were not in accordance with the wishes of the General commanding, we have at all times felt that all were disposed to go as far as possible, consistently with their understanding of their orders, to aid us in our work. I am informed that Dr. Perin, the Medical Director, whom I have ever found ready most heartily to aid in anything which he believed would enable him better to provide for the sick under his

care—has given us even more cordially than ever, every assistance in his power. While he does not believe that he can be helped permanently, except by those who comply at all times with the rules and regulations of the service, he is decidedly opposed to duplicating the channels of supply for sanitary stores, as well as to our sending forward any not designed for general distribution. I cannot in justice close this report without expressing my thanks for the liberal help we have received from the Telegraph Company in this place and in Chattanooga, and the kind manner in which that help has been given.

We have used the telegraph largely—most of our communications have been sent free—and they have been sent from the office with but little delay.

I cannot better illustrate the work of this help than by the following incident. On the 12th of this month you telegraphed, "Sanitary Commission, Nashville. Answer immediately; is Henry Ford, Co. F, 35th Ohio, alive? hospital 13—Father.—J. S. Newberry."

Inquiry is at once made at the hospital; and I answer immediately—Henry "Ford, Co. F, 35th Ohio, is alive, slightly better; says—Tell father to come as soon as he can." This soldier whispered in his feebleness, "I can't telegraph; it will cost too much." He had given himself to his country, but he had not money enough left to send such a message to his father. This message was one of the hundred sent free.

I have found time to make but few careful inspections of the different hospitals of the city—but have made inspection of a part of them.

The large Field Hospital known as Cumberland Hospital is located west of Nashville, about one mile from the State House. The patients are furnished with tents. The cooking is done in wooden buildings erected for this purpose. The hospital is divided into 4 divisions, each division into 4 sections, each section is composed of 4 wards of 25 patients each. Each ward has a sufficient number of attendants. The washing is mostly done by contrabands. We made a donation to them through "Sister Anthony," of Cincinnati, of something like 150 yards cotton cloth; they, like many others, have worked long without pay; and although they are used to it, I do not believe it is necessary. There are 60 of them in this hospital. The total number of patients treated the past month was 1,402—305 of which were surgical cases. No hospital gangrene, and but one case of erysipelas.

Twenty-eight deaths have occurred during the month.

Large shipments of stores are now being sent daily to Chattanooga and Bridgeport, and often to Murfreesboro' and Tallahoma.

Very respectfully, A. N. Reed.

Dr. Newberry telegraphs:

"I have just returned from Chattanooga. Our wounded were never so well cared for; our own work never better done, never more valuable, or as highly appreciated. Every facility given us authoritatively, and especially by General Meigs. Supplies were in abundance, and no hospital requisition left by us unfilled. Full stores still arriving in great quantities. Four thousand packages to Nashville, and over two thousand down the Mississippi within ten days. I have sent large invoices over-land, and also by river to Chattanooga. All our hands nearly worn out with hard work; shall write as soon as able. J. S. Newberry,

"Associate Sec. West'n Dep't U. S. Sanitary Commission.

To Dr. Bellows, *President."*

The following on the same subject has also been received:

General Field Hospital,
Stevenson, *Nov.* 3, 1863.

A. N. Reed, M. D.,
Inspector U. S. Sanitary Commission:

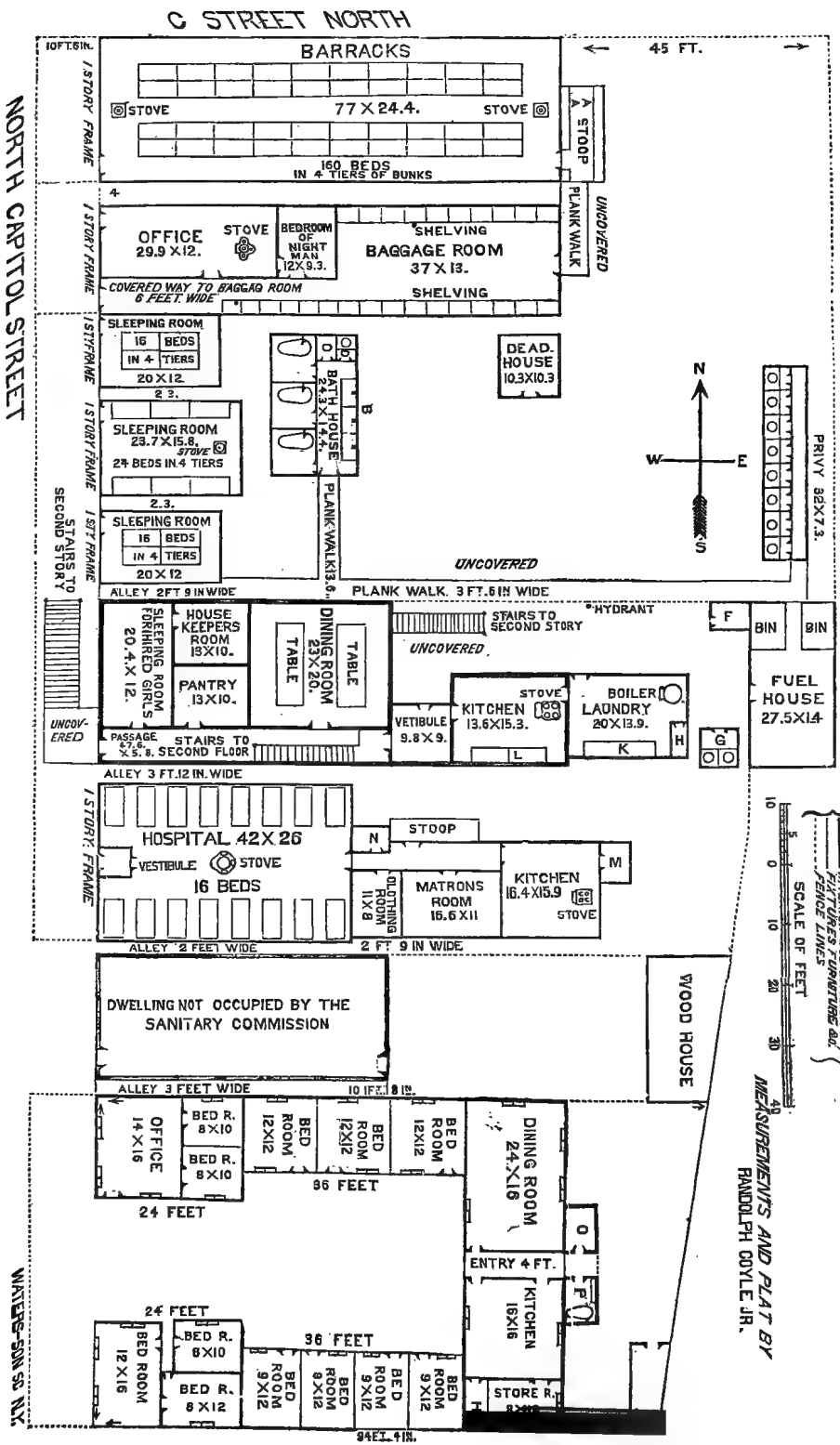
Sir—A low rate of mortality and great immunity from suffering have attended the efforts of the Sanitary Commission in supplying the sick and wounded brought hither from Chattanooga, with vegetables, clothing and delicacies. I am happy to say that the various agents of the Commission have been unremitting in their attentions, and success has been their reward.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient serv't, D. J. McKibbin,
Surg. U. S. V.

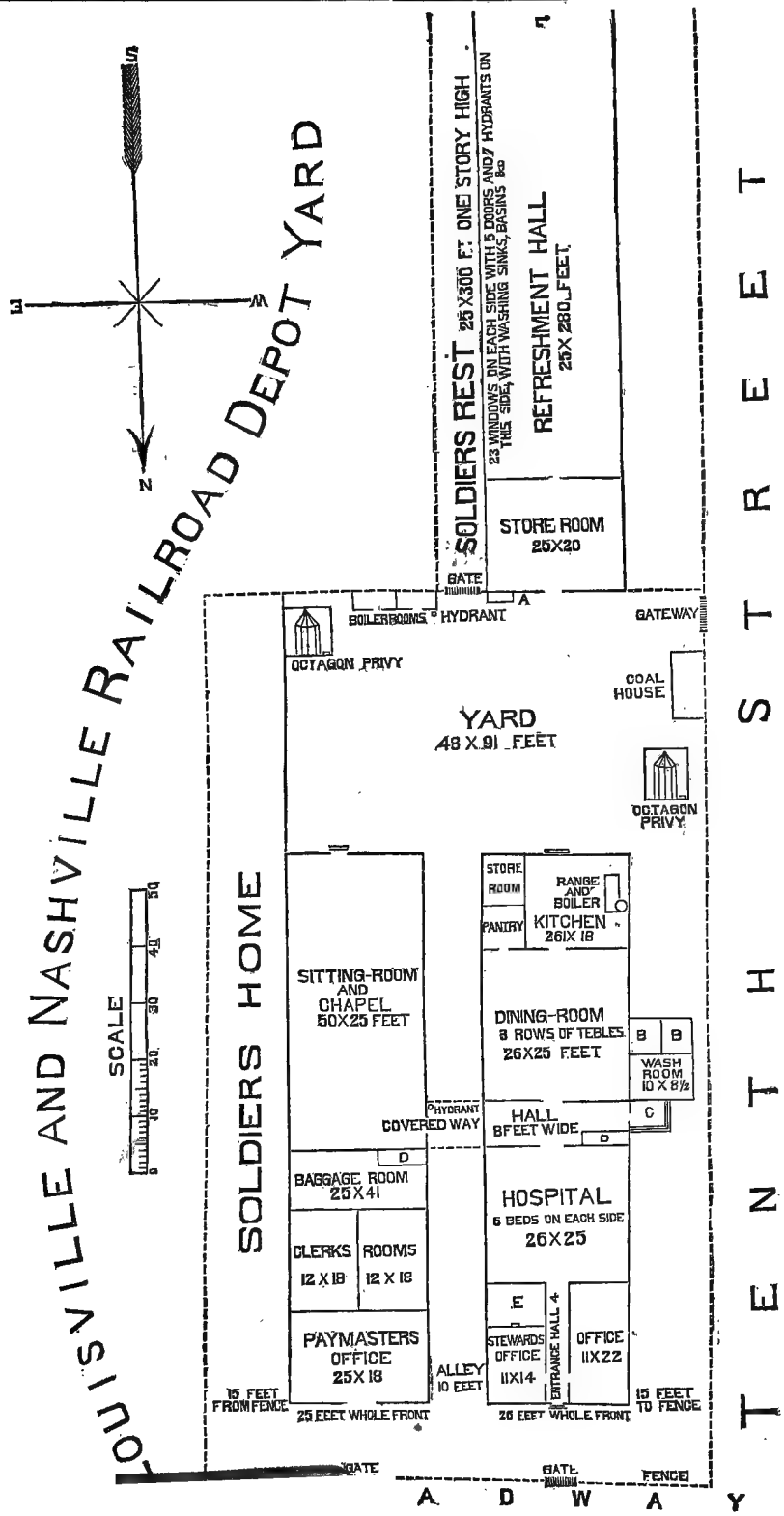
THE "HOMES" AT WASHINGTON AND LOUISVILLE.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

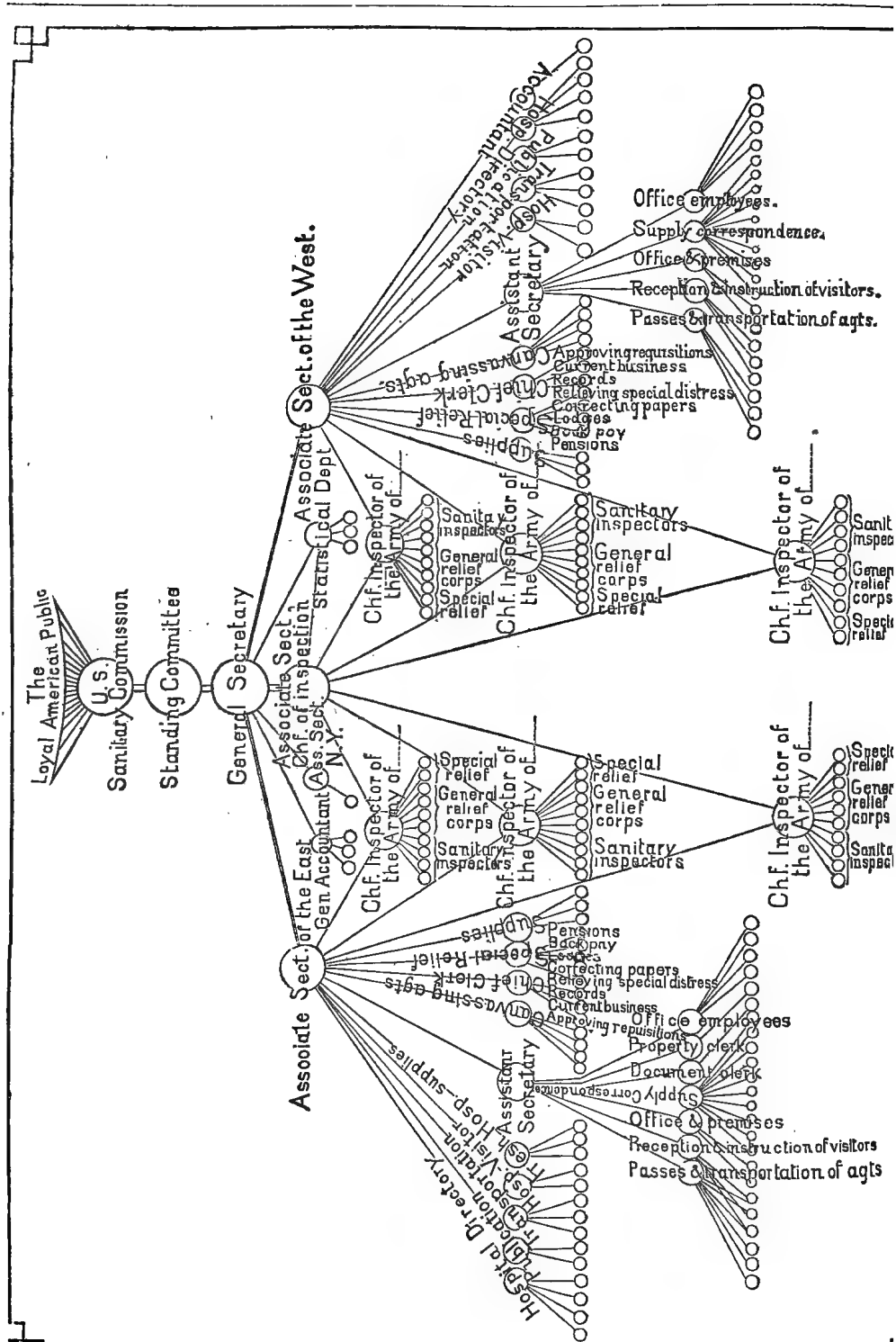
"The Home" is where sick and disabled soldiers, not otherwise provided for, are sheltered, and fed, and cared for; where discharged men, waiting for their pay, can be protected, and those who have been paid, but are too feeble to go on, may rest; while others still, who, in reaching this point on their homeward journey, have exhausted all the life they had left in them, may quietly die, ministered to by the hand of kindness. These buildings are conveniently located near the railroad station,



GROUND PLAN OF THE "HOME" AT WASHINGTON, D. C.



THE "HOME" AT LOUISVILLE, KY.


The Loyal American Public
U. S. Sanitary Commission
Standing Committee
General Secretary
Associate Sect. Chf. of Inspection
Associate Sect. of the West.
Associate Sect. of the East
Gen Accountant
Ass. Sect. N.Y.
Statistical Dept
Chf. Inspector of the Army of
Sanitary inspectors
General relief corps
Special relief
Assistant Secretary
Hosp. Visitor
Hosp. Director
Hosp. Inspector
Hosp. Transportation
Hosp. Publication
Hosp. Accountant
Office employees.
Supply correspondence.
Office & premises
Reception & instruction of visitors.
Passes & transportation of agts.
Chief Clerk
Approving requisitions
Current business
Records
Relieving special distress
Correcting papers
Lodges
Special Relief
Back pay
Pensions
Supplies
Property clerk
Document clerk
Supply Correspondence
Office & premises
Reception & instruction of visitors
Passes & transportation of agts

well supplied with water, light and air, and contain accommodation for three hundred and thirty men, besides the buildings where the wives, mothers, and sisters of soldiers are provided for when they come on to find their sick or wounded relatives in the hospitals, or in the army. Where there is now the "Home" which has given in the last year some 35,000 nights' lodging and some 85,000 meals, there was, two years and a half ago, the beginning made in the work of "Special Relief." A single room was hired, with four beds, and a few soldiers, who were otherwise utterly uncared for, were here made comfortable until they could be sent to their homes, or hospitals, or regiments, as the case might be. Thus by degrees the place has grown into its present size. The "Home" is conducted upon principles of kind humanity, but with a strict regard for all rules of military discipline. It never seeks to make pity an excuse for false tenderness, but rather to strengthen the muscles of war. For a report of the working of the "Home" during a given period, the reader is referred to Vol. I., No. 1, of THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN, pp. 12–16.

LOUISVILLE, KY.

The objects, methods, and workings of the Home at Louisville, are all explained by what is said above in regard to the Home at Washington. They are but parts of the same roof which would protect the soldier who faints by the way, and without weakening his energy, would still remind him of those who, even to the distant places, reach out a hand from home.

At this Home, since January last, there have been over 25,000 nights' lodging given, and about 100,000 meals furnished. For more detailed account of its work see SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN, Vol. I., No. 2, p. 51; also monthly reports in the "*Sanitary Reporter.*"

The following is the report of the "Home" for the month ending November 30th, 1863:

Whole number admitted	416
Whole number lodged	3012
Whole number meals	7530
From the following States:	
Maine	9
New Hampshire	16
Vermont	12
Connecticut	8
Rhode Island	7
Massachusetts	40
New York	133
Pennsylvania	41
New Jersey	3
Delaware	17
Maryland	7
Michigan	13
Illinois	2
Indiana	4
Wisconsin	25
Ohio	17
Invalid Corps	39
Regular Army	9
Missouri	2
Minnesota	2
Citizens	8

THE AGENCY FOR THE PURCHASE OF FRESH HOSPITAL SUPPLIES.

Six months ago the Sanitary Commission proposed to act as the unpaid agents of the hospitals in Washington, Georgetown and Alexandria, for the purchase of their fresh supplies. The proposition was seconded by many of the surgeons in charge, cordially endorsed by the Surgeon-General, and immediately accepted by Dr. Abbott, Medical Director; and a general order was issued, directing all surgeons in charge of hospitals, at regular times, to send in their requisitions to an appointed agent of the Commission, and to purchase only through him.

The object of the Commission, in undertaking this work, was to secure to the soldiers in the hospitals a greater amount, with larger variety, and better quality of food than could otherwise be purchased by the hospital fund; for previously all supplies had to be bought at the Washington markets, which are extravagantly high, and limited in variety. Most of the purchases had to be made on credit instead of at cash prices; for the hospital fund by which supplies are bought is not credited to the hospital until the end of the month, when it is known how many of the rations due to that hospital have not been drawn from the Commissary. This new method defended the inmates of the hospitals against such hospital stewards (of whom there were too many) as made their purchases in such a way that they gained money themselves at the expense of the soldier.

These ends were secured first by purchasing all supplies at wholesale prices at Philadelphia, where the whole State is a garden, by means of our agents, who had no single interest but to obtain the very best materials possible at the most reasonable cost, at cash prices; for the Commission advances the money day by day, and at the end of the month collects it from the Commissary, by orders from the several hospitals.

These supplies are brought to Washington by Adams Express Company, in arctic cars, which

run daily. These cars are refrigerators, lined with zinc, and carry ice.

The supplies for the day, bought the afternoon previous in Philadelphia, are ready for delivery at five o'clock in the morning, when the wagons are sent from the hospitals, each for its invoice, as ordered, leaving the order for the day following. Thus, with perfect system, all wants are met, and every article in its season which the best market in the country affords, is furnished to the soldiers in hospital.

The hospitals say that their men were never before so well fed, with so good a variety, and at such reasonable cost. The average money-saving to the hospitals by this agency is estimated at about fifteen or eighteen per cent., with a corresponding increase of food for the soldiers. The accompanying report for November will indicate somewhat the variety and amount of supplies purchased, and will give to the friends at home some assurance of the provision which is made for the soldiers in hospital, (especially when to this is added the fact the three great staples of nourishment, beef, bread and potatoes, are obtained direct from the Commissary.) This month of November has been the month of smallest orders during the six months. Some previous months, when the hospitals were full, the amount purchased was nearly one-half greater than this.

THE RICHMOND PRISONERS.

The rebel authorities seem to be getting ashamed of their treatment of our prisoners. If we are to judge from Mr. Foote's late speech in the Confederate Senate, their own public are shocked by it, as well as that of the North. But, in the meantime, there is little doubt that, let their will be ever so good, our men are not likely to be by any means well off, and the Commission continues the energetic despatch of supplies; but it is right to warn our readers that there is some reason to believe that no further distribution of them will be permitted by the Richmond government. Mr. Gall, our agent at Norfolk, reports, on the 7th inst.:

"The flag-of-truce boat 'New York' will start for City Point sometime this P. M. Enclosed please find an invoice of the supplies which we send by her. Maj. J. E. Mulford, commanding the flag-of-truce boat 'New York,' informed me this morning that *substantial food* would be more acceptable to our prisoners than so many delicacies. This was suggested to him by the rebel officers of exchange. No delicacies should be sent except those intended for hospital purposes. I had an interview with Gen. Meredith this moning, who assured me that the arrangements for distributing the supplies to the prisoners are very good, and that he has no doubt that most of the articles sent are distributed to our men. The General also informed that the officials heretofore in charge of the Richmond prisoners have been dismissed, and that other and more humane men have been appointed to take their places. This seems to augur well for the better treatment of our poor fellows. The General will continue to send supplies of food, &c., as often as twice a week. I received a letter from Gen. Dow, requesting me to send, for the use of the officers in Libby, about a dozen boxes of Seidlitz powders. I will write to Mr. Pancoast, asking him to send them from Baltimore. The New York will probably not go up again before Wednesday or Thursday next."

Lieutenant-Colonel Irvine, of the Tenth New York Cavalry, Special Agent of the Exchange Bureau, writes from City Point, Va., 23d ult., as follows:

"For the last ten days I have been busily engaged in supplying clothing, commissary, hospital and medical stores to our prisoners, officers and soldiers, and citizens of Richmond. I do not doubt but a nominal degree of good faith will be observed by the rebel authorities in distributing our supplies. Our intercourse in respect to furnishing and the distribution of supplies is amicable, and the rebel authorities manifest fair intentions. Our general government is supplying as much of everything needed as the rebel authorities can provide transportation for from this point, and enough, I think, to make our prisoners measurably comfortable, so far as food and clothing are concerned. The Sanitary Commission and Relief Association in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and other cities, are also sending forward supplies of food, clothing and medicines. Hence I shall have no need to call on the New York State Agency, as I should certainly do if there was any occasion.

Another letter says:

"The government has sent up rations, blankets and clothing, including caps, coats, pants, shoes, socks, drawers, and shirts. The Sanitary Commission is sending pillows, ticks, towels, clothing, dried fruits, &c., beef stock and sugar. There should be sent vegetables and pickles. This can be done best from Baltimore. There are not less than two thousand New York officers among the prisoners. I think the best way will be to send one thousand dollars to Baltimore, to be used in the purchase of potatoes, cabbages, onions, pickles, blacking and brushes, and fine combs. If money is sent to the men they cannot use it themselves. They have to send out by the guards to buy things, and the guards make just such returns as they please. It is not recommended to send money to the men."

"The first relief got through was from the Sanitary Commission, consisting of fifteen large boxes of clothing and provisions. This was early in November. The Government are now supplying the regular allowance of rations, clothing, &c."

THE FIELD RELIEF CORPS.

Mr. Johnson, the superintendent of the Field Relief Corps, writes:

The movements of the Field Relief Corps, Army of the Potomac, during the months of October and November, have been varied and interesting, embracing those operations of the army which began with the evacuation of Culpepper, and terminated in its retreat from near Orange Court House; of the military incidents during the retreat to Centreville; the subsequent advance to Warrenton; the attack at Rappahannock Station, and the recent advance across the Rapidan, by the lower fords; the papers of the day give full accounts. The Field Relief Corps during these movements has successfully carried out its purposes.

Attached to the various corps ambulance trains, it has been exposed to the dangers of the battle-field, but has escaped any losses from the bullets of the enemy, while its stores were freely offered to the unfortunate sufferers. This was particularly the case with the second corps agent, when the engagement near Auburn Mills, and later on the same day at Bristow Station, hazarded for a time the safety of the army. The hurried evacuation of Culpepper was accomplished without loss of importance, the stock in depot being placed in cars during the early hours of morning, and very shortly before the place was occupied by the rebel forces. During the various halts of the army and the establishment of hospitals in the field, our stock has been eagerly sought for and generally distributed with judgment, to good effect. Personal intercourse of agents with the sick in hospital and with the men in camp, can scarcely be carried to too great an extent. The more intimately we know the wants of the sick and of the healthy, the better qualified we become to apply remedies in the one case, and preventives in the other. The series of questions to which the Chief Inspector has urgently called the attention of the agents, is well designed to promote the good of the soldier. During the late campaign, the troops who were exposed to great inclemency of wet and cold weather. to rapid and fatiguing marches, bore up bravely against their trials, but will probably, after the excitement has passed away, suffer in sickness. The substitution of fresh beef, driven with the army and slaughtered, frequently relieved the soldiers from carrying considerable weight of pork, and furnished a much more desirable article of food. I regret to report that Geo. Longley, driver in the 5th corps, was captured with his wagon during the recent advance. The latter was recaptured, but Longley remains a prisoner, in whose behalf I ask the aid of our officers to effect his release.

THE LODGES AT WASHINGTON.

U. S. Sanitary Commission,
Adams' House, 244 F Street,
Washington, D. C., *Nov. 30th*, 1863.

F. N. Knapp,
Special Relief Agent, San. Com.:

Dear Sir—I have the honor to report the amount of labor performed at Lodge No. 4, Sanitary Commission, for the month ending Monday, November 30th, 1863. The first part of the month, the work was much diminished in consequence of the limited number of discharged men, but since the middle of the month we have been very busy. A large number of the men lately discharged are "conscript substitutes." The applications for assistance from females have been less than usual, but applications for assistance from men on furlough have been numerous.

Amount of money collected	$13,820.64
No. of cases in which pay was collected	138
No. of applications for assistance in collection of pay during month	136
No. of cases where papers were returned	2
Amount forwarded by draft	$3,318.22
No. of drafts sent	31
No. of letters written	218
Cash received during month	$182.41
Expenditures	$152.70
Balance on hand	$29.71

Of the amount expended $65.55 has been loaned to persons with a promise to refund, $9.75 incidental expenses and $77.40 expended on special relief cases. $11.65 has been returned for money advanced prior to and during the present month.

There has been an increased number of applications for meals from members of the invalid corps who were down in the city on passes, but as there was evidence that some of the men were clearly *not* entitled to be admitted, the rule has been laid down to refuse them admittance, with exception of cases where there is *evident* need.

No. of meals furnished	7,805
No. of lodgings furnished	1,099

The work of procuring certificates for back pay, under charge of Mr. Brown, has been continued, with *some* increased help, although from the short space of time the new men have been engaged upon it, *their* work would not forward matters very much. Mr. Roys was assigned to duty November 14th, and relieved November 30th. F. X. Byrne was assigned to

duty in the office November 19th, and to duty with Mr. Brown November 27th. Mr. Brown will report to you the amount of work done by him in detail, as by your order. The Special Relief Office has been papered this month, and with a trifling cost the comfort and cheerfulness of the same is much increased.

It is desirable to have the inmates of the "clothing establishment," in the rear of the buildings occupied by the Commission, removed, with their goods which they have for sale. How this is to be done I am unable to suggest, not knowing how much authority the Commission has over the grounds, or how far down the line of buildings they have absolute control.

The employees at this Lodge have generally shown themselves ready for all work assigned to them, and have done all in their power to forward the same. We have been called upon only once during the month for special help. On Sunday, November 22d, went to Alexandria with Mr. Kane and two colored men, and came up from there along with sick men on the cars, remained at Maryland Avenue Lodge until 2.30 A. M., and assisted in supplying at least 350 men with coffee, bread, &c. Hoping the management of affairs during the past month may meet with your approval, and asking as a special favor to all the employees of of this lodge, that Mr. Abbott may be speedily restored to the command,

I remain, sir, your obedient servant,

WM. K. NEAL.

HOMAGE DUE FROM MARS TO HYGEIA.

In July, 1861, orders were issued for the erection of barracks in or near a certain city in a Northern State, to be used as a rendezvous for a new regiment of volunteers. Adjoining the city was a beautiful grove, a favorite place for occasional resort from the dust and heat of the town. It was desired that the barracks be erected in the grove. An Inspector of the Sanitary Commission endeavored to show the unfitness of the site, urging reasons, the force of which afterward became sufficiently manifest. The barracks were erected on this thickly shaded plain. These were used some two months by this regiment, and it was then sent to meet in the field the enemy which its mission was to conquer. But before leaving its camp of rendezvous it had already met another foe, against which bayonets, bravery and patriotism were powerless. A protracted rainy season filled the camp with water and mud; for weeks the reeking atmosphere was saturated with poisonous exhalations; and before they had seen the faces of those in arms against their country, scores of brave men had yielded to an adversary which they never should have met. *Twenty per cent.* of the effective force of that regiment was *unnecessarily* lost before it had entered the field for active operations, and *nearly thirty-five per cent. before it had exchanged shots with the enemy.*

This is given not as a solitary, but as a representative case. Other facts were given in the last number of the *Reporter*, and we would commend a reperusal of the article from the *American Medical Times* to those who are influential in the formation of public opinion, especially to such as reside in the vicinity of recruiting stations. A repetition of the miserable blunders of the past two and a half years would now be a crime offensive to God and disgraceful to man. Medical men in civil life owe it to the service and to humanity, that the best lights of sanitary science be made available in the preservation of the lives and health of those who are to fill up the depleted ranks of the old regiments, or form the complement of the new.

Surgeon-General Hammond, in his great work on "Military Hygiene," gives us some figures relating to the money value of a soldier: "To put a soldier into the field costs the Government nearly four hundred dollars; should he die or become disabled in the service a pension is given." The cash value, then, of a regiment of a thousand men, before it has met the enemy, is nearly half a million of dollars, and by the same arithmetical calculation, each life in that regiment is worth more than one thousand dollars to the service, if that life can be preserved in full health and vigor to the end of the war, or until lost in battle. "Looking at the matter, therefore, in a financial point of view, we perceive that it is a subject of serious importance that every means should be taken to preserve the lives and health of those who come forward to fight the battles of their country."

But the money value is the lowest value we can attach to the life of a soldier. Each member of a regiment is *a citizen* of the country; A MAN, occupying a place in the social organism which no other can fill. The proper care of these patriots becomes of incalculable importance, then, in view of the fact that by far the greatest portion of the loss to the service by death or sickness arises from causes which could and should have been prevented, by proper and constant attention to the conditions of health during the first few months of the existence of the military organization.

The attention of the Sanitary Commission was

early directed to barracks and camps of rendezvous as to fruitful sources of evil, and it has constantly called the attention of the authorities to the fact. It has distributed in such manner as seemed to be most promising of good results, several hundred thousand pages of documents upon sanitary science, and tending to the prevention of such diseases as soldiers are most liable to in camp, field and hospital. It is always happy to furnish such documents gratuitously to medical and military men in charge of the lives and health of troops.

Human life is of priceless value; and in view of the fact that Sanitary Science bears the same relationship to so-called Sanitary Stores* that prevention bears to *attempts* at cure, we commend this subject to every well wisher of the soldier and of the country. We appeal to all whose voices are potential, and can reach those who are now crossing, or are about to cross, the perilous gulf which separates the civil from the military life, to give the note of warning, and point out how the danger may be escaped.

AN OFFICER'S OPINION, AND WHAT BECAME OF IT.

"THE SANITARY COMMISSION IS A HUMBUG. IT HAS DONE NO GOOD, AND NEVER WILL."—This was the remark of an officer lately who had been in this hospital for some time sick; and perhaps I can serve the cause of humanity and the country in no better way than by repeating the conversation which then took place, and give the results:—"You think so, do you? What was the matter with you when you came here?" "Diarrhœa and scurvy." "What was the first thing done for you when you came here?" "I had a warm bath and clean clothes; but what has that to do with the Sanitary Commission?" "Never mind, we will see. Are you better than when you came in?" "Yes, nearly well." "What has cured you?" "The vegetables, I believe." "Do you know where the vegetables came from?" "No." "You were in the Commissary-room to-day, and admired the stock of vegetables, pickles, cabbage, cans of fruit, bottles of wine, and cordials, did you not?" "Yes, but why?" "No matter why. I want you to look at the shirt and drawers you have on, then go through the hospital and see one hundred and twenty-two men with clean shirts, drawers, sheets and pillow cases; then go into the linen-room and I will show you enough more to change every man and every bed, and the whole of it came from the Sanitary Commission. All the pickled cabbage you and the rest have eaten have come from them, and they are ready to furnish as much more if I need it; and yet you say, without knowing what you talk about, that the Sanitary Commission is a humbug! If it had not been for this Commission, you and the rest of those in this hospital from the Army of the Potomac, who have been suffering from scurvy, would be as badly off as you were when you came in. You have abused an association which has put comfortable clothes upon you, has provided the vegetables you needed to cure you, and has done the same for thousands besides you." "Doctor, I never knew these things before. I have heard that all they did was for the benefit of the surgeons about the hospitals; but, to tell you the truth, I never inquired. There is an Aid Society in our place, and I have discouraged my sisters from having anything to do with it; but no such word shall come from me again."

He was cured of his folly, humbled and shamed, for it was at the dinner-table that the conversation took place, and I was glad that others were present. This is not a solitary instance. I have had to contend with just such *perverse ignorance* for the past two years; but this was so striking a case that I thought it might do good to furnish it for publication in the *Reporter*. The Commission has aided and blessed me in my work ever since November, 1861; and I say again, as I have said before, "that no instrumentality within my knowledge has done so much real good for the service as the United States Sanitary Commission."

BENJ. WOODWARD,
Surgeon 22d Ill. Vol., in charge.
U. S. GENERAL HOSPITAL,
TALLAHOMA, TENN., *Nov.* 17, 1863.

MISS NIGHTINGALE ON THE SANITARY STATE OF THE BRITISH ARMY IN INDIA.

When the Royal Commission on the Sanitary State of the Army in India disclosed in their Report the painful fact that in India a regiment of 1,000 men loses by death 100 men every twenty months, exclusive of those who fall in the field, a feeling of horror pervaded all classes. We knew, however, that in busy, bustling England, emotions, even the strongest, are apt to fade away rapidly unless kept alive by continual reminders. It is, therefore, with thankfulness that we welcome the publication of the present pamphlet.

Miss Nightingale's observations may be regarded as a combination of an epitome of and marginal notes on the Report of the Royal Commission, and will be read by many who shrink from the ponderous dullness of a blue-book. The diseases among the troops in India are, she justly remarks, camp diseases; and the causes of them are—1. Bad water; 2. Bad drainage; 3. Filthy bazaars; 4. want of ventilation; 5. surface overcrowding in barrack-huts and sick-wards. To begin with the first, Miss Nightingale exhibits a most melancholy picture of the supply of that great necessary, water. It is no fancy sketch, and is thoroughly borne out both by the "Stational Reports" and the experience of those who have served in India. At Hyderabad (in Scinde) the water swarms with animal life.

That terrible infliction, the "guinea-

* Many of these are "Sanitary" that is promotive of health, or otherwise, according to the use that is made of them.

worm"—a thread-like animal about a yard in length, which gets into the legs and is wound out an inch or so daily—is one of the consequences of the bad water in Scinde. "At Bangalore, the Ulsoor tank, used for drinking, is the outlet of the whole drainage of a most filthy bazaar (125,000 inhabitants), for that of our cavalry, infantry and horse artillery barracks, and of the greater portion of the station." The Commander-in-Chief testifies that he has for the last four years and a half frequently brought the subject to the notice of the authorities, but without result. At Secunderabad a gallon of water contains 119 grains of solid matter and 30 grains of organic matter; while at Surat "no one thinks of drinking the camp water." "At Asseerghur the same tank is used for drinking and bathing."

Throughout India the troops are supplied with water by water carriers, (bheestees,) who get it wherever they choose, and carry it to the barracks in leathern skins, which are never cleaned out. No systematic attempt is ever made to filter the drinking-water, though such is occasionally done by the soldiers, of their own accord, or sometimes under the direction of the few regimental officers who are sufficiently enlightened to perceive the necessity of the act. Now for this neglect there is no excuse, as the process can be effected at the slightest possible expenditure of time, trouble and money. The more we reflect on the question of drinking water, the more we are struck with its great importance, and the culpable apathy of those who are responsible for the terrible state of things disclosed by the Report. The impurity of the water consumed by the troops is of itself quite sufficient, and more than sufficient to account for the excessive mortality we have alluded to above. As a matter of direct economy even, money would be saved to Government by substituting for the uncontrolled water-carriers, with their dirty leathern bags—or as Miss Nightingale quaintly calls them, "water-pipes with a will,"—a system of filtered water, conveyed by pipes. In Fort William, Calcutta, 134*l.* per annum is paid to the water-carriers, with the most pernicious results. The argument is powerfully stated by Miss Nightingale in the following passage:—"The reason usually assigned for employing these human water-pipes in barracks, is, that they are indispensable on field service. But so are tents; and yet nobody proposes to barrack men in tents in time of peace."

The subject of cleanliness in so hot and dusty a country as India is scarcely less important than that of drinking water; and yet it will scarcely be believed that as yet the matter has been almost entirely neglected. Instead of offering every inducement to the soldier to keep the pores of his skin free from impurity, he is left almost entirely to his own resources in this particular; or rather, from the deficiency of accommodation provided, he is positively discouraged from keeping himself clean. Fully to appreciate the extent of the evil, it must be borne in mind that even during quiescence, the skin is, in the hot season, in a state of active perspiration throughout almost the whole of the twenty-four hours; while even in the cool season the slightest exertion produces profuse perspiration. In the dry season, moreover, the soldier often arrives in barracks at the end of a march, or after a field-day, completely coated with the fine white dust which penetrates everywhere. There are a few exceptions to these strictures, but so few are they as not to affect the general correctness of our statement. In one or two cases there are plunge-baths, but the stations where, with any regard to privacy and decency, the soldier can enjoy a good comfortable bath, are extremely rare. Even in hospitals, proper accommodation for washing is either very insufficient or altogether deficient.

Bad as is the water supply and washing accommodation, the drainage is even worse; and after reading the Report of the Commission and Miss Nightingale's remarks thereon, our astonishment is excited, not at the amount of mortality, but at the fact that it is not greater. Let Miss Nightingale's facts speak for themselves:

"At the capital of the Bombay Presidency, where civilization has introduced a 'main drain,' two feet square, with 'a flat bottom,' this 'main drain' is a 'great nuisance,' and the 'stench at times scarcely to be endured.' At Fort George, in Bombay, the latrines are not drained except into an open ditch, 'which is always in a foul state.' At Madras, the main drain of the town is eighty yards distant from the European fort; the effluvia from it is very offensive. * * At Bellary there is no drainage, except the fall of the ground."

The following paragraph discloses a state of affairs which is a disgrace to the nineteenth century, and an argument unworthy of the feeblest intellects, even those belonging to people sunk in the intellectual apathy of India:

"At Secunderabad there is no drainage of any kind. The fluid refuse evaporates or sinks into the subsoil. A nullah, which intersects the cantonment, stinks. The extent of the cantonment is so enormous, that it is said 'to preclude any general surface draining,'—a statement which, if true, would amount to this, that the occupation of ground by human beings must inevitably lead to disease; a statement as applicable, or rather much more applicable to the area of London than to that of Secunderabad, and yet London is drained both on the surface and below it."

Poor humanity, not being of the quality of the Olympian gods and goddesses, imperatively makes demands, for the satisfaction of which no arrangement, or worse than none is made. But these details are too horrible for us. Let us pass to other matters.

The ventilation of barracks is clearly a most important point, and one which in times past the authorities have shamefully neglected. Miss Nightingale tells us that a similar carelessness prevails in India. Here she somewhat exaggerates. The barracks in India are—whatever their other defects—as a rule, large, airy and well ventilated. She relies for the truth of her statements on the Station Reports given by medical officers. It must, however, be remembered that army surgeons are now, almost for the the first time—alas! that it should be so—consulted about other matters than pills and lancets. Their responsibility is no longer limited to doing the best they can for men actually sick; they are expected to pronounce on the best means for keeping them healthy. In short, their functions are preventive as well as curative, instead of, as formerly, purely curative. From this, perhaps, arises a little natural proneness to exaggeration, an insensible tendency to raise their profession at the expense of that impalpable load-bearer, Government. We must not in this be understood as depreciating their zeal, talent and conscientiousness, or undervaluing the importance of their object; but it is well known that reform long delayed is somewhat indiscriminate in its attacks, and often seeks to cut away some of the sound timber together with that which is unmistakably rotten. In her remarks on "surface over-crowding," Miss Nightingale is more accurate. The number of cubic feet of air allotted to each soldier in India is generally ample, but the quantity is too often made up of an undue proportion of height. The flooring of the barracks is also extremely objectionable, being frequently either the ground bricked over or plastered with cow-dung. Dirt and vermin are the natural consequences of such a construction. Miss Nightingale's words in this place state the whole question of barrack accommodation so tersely and well, that we cannot refrain from extracting the passage: "To sum up: it is not economical for Government to make the soldiers as uncivilized as possible. Nature sends in her bill—a bill which has always to be paid—and at a pretty high rate of interest, too." Let us add, that if barracks were built on arches, a free current of air would circulate under the building, give facilities for ventilation, and raise the occupants above the miasma which floats upon the surface of the ground during a great portion of the year.

Over-indulgence in intoxicating liquors is the greatest bane of the British army all over the world, but particularly in India, where the circulation certainly does not require to be quickened, nor the action of the liver to be stimulated. We fancy that there is some mistake in the statement extracted from the report by Miss Nightingale, that the allowance of liquor permitted to be bought at the canteen is two drams of spirit, or a quart of porter in the place of each dram. We know that, at all events, in one regiment in the Bengal Presidency, it was understood to be the regulation of the service that one *pint* of porter was the equivalent of one dram of spirit. However that may be, it is certainly very important that the consumption of spirit should be diminished. The question is, would the prohibition to furnish spirits at the canteen produce that effect? Would it not rather lead those men who had a hankering after spirits to a more active endeavor than at present to obtain the vile, poisonous arrack, even now frequently bought from the natives. That is the argument used by those who advocate the sale of spirits at the canteen. There are licensed native stills,—indeed, it would be impossible to prevent distilling did we wish to do so—and who could prevent a native from depositing in some spot which might be agreed upon, the poisonous liquor, which is even now furtively sold to the soldiers? The reason why canteens have been established, was, that the dram-drinker might at all events be controlled, and obtain good arrack. To abolish dram-drinking at once would be impossible, for many men are so wedded, so long accustomed to it, that it has become more of a necessary of life than food. To the most confirmed drinkers the commissariat liquor is not a sufficient stimulus, and they have recourse to a mixture compounded of native arrack, chilli-pepper, and other hot and stimulating ingredients. This stuff, which would take the skin off the throat of an unseasoned man, is not inaptly called "hell-fire." No; dram-drinking cannot be stopped in a day, but it may gradually be extinguished by raising the tone and intelligence of the soldier, and by always substituting beer for rum on the voyage out, and thus preventing him from contracting the habit. Beer or porter is now generally to be met with in sufficient quantity at all stations, and a plentiful supply of excellent malt liquor can be obtained from the various hill breweries. Formerly the bulk, and consequent difficulty of transporting English beer, formed one of the reasons for issuing rum. This is no longer so much the case, though even now the supply of beer sometimes runs short. Let hill beer be used for the future, and all difficulties of this sort will vanish. Certainly the statistics of intemperance demand the serious consideration of the authorities. The average of

habitual drunkards in some European regiments is not less than 15 per cent. Again, it is said, "(at Hazareebaugh,) 'soldiers as a body temperate,' and one-third of disease and one-half of crime produced directly or indirectly by drink." Thirty-six cases of delirium tremens, five of which were fatal, occurred at Allahabad in one year; while at Chunar "the deaths were just twice, the crimes just ten times, as many among the intemperate as among the temperate." Miss Nightingale tells us, that "in Burmah, when malt liquor could be had, health always improved. A marked change for the worse took place when spirit was issued instead."

Among other causes of disease in India, Miss Nightingale cites the cooking, which, she complains, is conducted without European appliances. Be that as it may, the result is excellent, and the soldiers take very good care to keep the cooks up to their work. As regards the question of an excess of animal food, there can be no doubt that the soldier in India does eat too much meat during the hot weather, and that extra bread and vegetables might be with advantage substituted. At present, the potatoes are often bad. This need not be the case: in the hills some of the best potatoes in the world are grown.

We now come to a cause of disease and demoralization which yields to none in importance; and we are glad to find Miss Nightingale dwell on it with earnestness. This is, "want of occupation and exercise." During the hot season the soldier's life is positively a burden to him. Confined to his barrack-room from about 7 A.M. till 5 or 6 P.M., during that interval he has positively nothing in the world to do except smoke, lounge on his bed, sleep, grumble, play at cards, and read. Cards are, of course, not allowed; but under the circumstances of a dearth of occupation, their use is often winked at, or, where not, the prohibition is evaded. Everything which elsewhere he does for himself is in India carefully done for him. Native servants clean his room, cook his dinner, fetch his water, wash his clothes, and, in some instances, even clean his boots. Now, some of these things he could very well do for himself, at a great saving to Government, and a considerable physical and moral gain to himself. Want of occupation not only directly produces evil effects on the health of the man, but also indirectly, by inducing despondency, predisposes to disease. Now, this may be easily remedied. Covered gymnastic courts, covered fives courts, theatres, covered skittle-alleys and rifle galleries would afford attractive and wholesome occupation, which would be eagerly taken advantage of by the soldiers. The construction of such buildings would, no doubt, cost money; but that money would be an excellent investment, for it would materially diminish the annual cost of replacing soldiers dead or invalided.

The establishment of regimental workshops is also a very desirable thing, and very properly urged by Miss Nightingale, as well as in the Station Reports. We think, however, that she pushes the matter rather too far, and that anything more than earnest encouragement and small loans would not be advantageous. It must be remembered that a complete and organized system of workshops is surrounded with practical difficulties; and it must never be forgotten that anything of this sort must be viewed as secondary to the principal object of making the men efficient soldiers. Therefore we would recommend that any improvement in this respect should originate with the men, be conducted regimentally, and be merely fostered by the authorities. Were men to be struck off duty for the sake of pursuing their trades, the military work, such as guards, &c., would fall the more heavily on their comrades. A man, also, who was an industrious, skilled artisan would not long remain in the army, and would possess little zeal for his profession while he remained in it.

Of course, in the matter of hospitals, Miss Nightingale may justly claim to be an authority; consequently, that part of the book before us which relates to them, will be read with attentive interest. The state of things which she discloses is sad indeed. She says they "are, as a rule, exceedingly bad as regards points considered essential to health and administration, even in this country. What would be, *e. g.*, thought in this country of an hospital without a water-closet, or bath, or means of personal cleanliness? Such an hospital would be considered as a mere makeshift, till accommodation fitter for recovery could be provided."

These are the chief objections made to the hospital accommodation and system in India; but there are other minor points which we have not here room to touch on. At present, in severe cases of sickness, a man's comrade is told off to attend him. This we object to; but not for the same reason as Miss Nightingale. She asserts that in such a case the nursing is bad; drink is introduced, and hospital discipline suffers. Now, under the supervision of the doctor's apothecary and hospital sergeant, we do not see how such can be the case. As to nursing, a comrade, being the patient's friend, is the kindest attendant he can have, and any unskilfulness can be easily remedied and removed by the instructions of the hospital establishment. The true objection is, that it diminishes the effective strength of the regiment, and takes the men from their proper work. Miss Nightingale, in speaking of the native nurses, alludes to the difficulty the patients and nurses experience in communicating

with each other, and says that the native makes "much more effort to learn the Briton's language, than does the Briton to learn the native's." Such may be true in Bombay and Madras. We believe it is; but in Bengal it is not the case. It has lately been urged that the number of hill-stations should be increased to such an extent that a large portion of the army might be quartered in them by rotation. At present, we believe that in the Bengal Presidency only two regiments at a time can be so located, the remaining hill-stations being occupied by invalids. The Royal Commission recommend that one-third of the European army should be kept in the hills. Miss Nightingale's words on this subject deserve to be quoted:

"It strikes one, however, that it would not be safe to depend for improvement of the health of troops solely on occupying hill-stations, with such an overwhelming amount of evidence as to the bad sanitary state of the stations on the plains, and even of not a few of the hill-stations themselves, such as Darjeeling, Landour, Nynee Tall."

Sir Ranald Martin thinks that the best elevations have yet to be determined; but he is of opinion that elevations of from 2,000 to 4,000 feet above the level of the sea will be found the best. Those at present occupied are wet and changeable in climate. The change from the plains, moreover, is too sudden for many constitutions. There can, however, be no doubt that it is very desirable to place a large portion of the army in such high stations as possess speedy communication with the important strategic positions in the plains. At the same time, too much must not be expected from the measure; the hills are preventive, but only very partially curative.

What has been said concerning barracks may, in a wider and fuller sense, be repeated of native towns, with whose sanitary state that of our troops is also connected, though in a less degree, because the barracks are generally at some distance from the towns. We have no room to say more than that small-pox and cholera are seldom absent from those of any size, and that the absence of all drainage and sanative arrangements is most disgraceful to our century of absolute rule. The condition of married soldiers is much better in India than at home, but the accommodation granted them is to confined for health. The plains during the hot season are not places where women and children can, generally speaking, flourish. The large mortality among them, compared with that among the soldiers, proves one or both of these facts. Miss Nightingale complains, and with justice, that when a regiment is sent on service, the women and children are not taken proper care of. It is impossible to exaggerate the evils and immorality which occur under the present system. She suggests that a picked married officer should be detailed to take charge of the families of those on service, and that arrangements should be made for a regular remittance of pay. To this there can be no possible objection; indeed, to neglect it after the experience of the past, would be criminal.

We will not follow Miss Nightingale into considerations of the consequences of a vicious course of life in the Indian regiments. The Commission which invited her observations on that as on other delicate questions, probably thought she had no more sex than an angel. If so, she seems to us to have accepted the repulsive office with the sigh of a mortal woman, and to have performed it with the courage of an immortal angel.—*Athenæum.*

NOTES ON NURSING.

"The very first canon of nursing, the first and last thing upon which a nurse's attention must be fixed, the first essential to a patient, without which all the rest you can do for him is as nothing, with which I had almost said you may leave all the rest alone, is this: To KEEP THE AIR HE BREATHES AS PURE AS THE EXTERNAL AIR, WITHOUT CHILLING HIM. Yet what is so little attended to? Even where it is thought of at all, the most extraordinary misconceptions reign about it. Even in admitting air into the patient's room or ward, few people ever think where that air comes from. It may come from a corridor into which other wards are ventilated; from a hall, always unaired, always full of the fumes of gas, dinner, of various kinds of mustiness; from an under-ground kitchen, sink, washhouse, water-closet, or even, as I myself have had sorrowful experience, from open sewers loaded with filth; and with this the patient's room or ward is aired, as it is called—poisoned, it should rather be said. Always air from the air without, and that, too, through those windows, through which the air comes freshest. From a closed court, especially if the wind do not blow that way, air may come as stagnant as any from a hall or corridor.

"With a proper supply of windows, and a proper supply of fuel in open fire places, fresh air is comparatively easy to secure when your patient or patients are in bed. Never be afraid of open windows then. People don't catch cold in bed. This is a popular fallacy. With proper bed-clothes and hot bottles, if necessary, you can always keep a patient warm in bed, and well ventilate him at the same time.

"But a careless nurse, be her rank and education what it may, will stop up every cranny, and keep a hot-house heat when her patient is in bed,—and, if he is able to get up, leave him comparatively unpro-

tected. The time when people take cold (and there are many ways of taking cold, besides a cold in the nose,) is when they first get up after the two-fold exhaustion of dressing and of having had the skin relaxed by many hours, perhaps days, in bed, and thereby rendered more incapable of re-action. Then the same temperature which refreshes the patient in bed may destroy the patient just risen. And common sense will point out, that, while purity of air is essential, a temperature must be secured which shall not chill the patient. Otherwise the best that can be expected will be a feverish re-action.

"To have the air within as pure as the air without, it is not necessary, as often appears to be thought, to make it as cold." —*Mrs. Nightingale.*

PENSIONS, FURLOUGHS, AND BACK PAY.

Under the act of Congress approved July 14, 1862, pensions are granted to the following classes of persons:

I. INVALIDS, disabled since March 4, 1861, in the military or naval service of the United States, in the line of duty.

II. WIDOWS of officers, soldiers, or seamen dying of wounds received or of disease contracted in the military or naval service, as above.

III. CHILDREN, under sixteen years of age, of such deceased persons, if there is no widow surviving, or from the time of the widow's remarriage.

IV. MOTHERS (who have no husband living) of officers, soldiers or seamen, deceased as aforesaid, provided the latter have left neither widow nor children under sixteen years of age; and provided, also, that the mother was dependent, wholly or in part, upon the deceased for support.

V. SISTERS, under sixteen years of age, of such deceased persons, dependent on the latter, wholly or in part, for support, provided there are no rightful claimants of either of the three last preceding classes.

The rates of pension to the several classes and grades are distinctly set forth in the first section of the act, viz.:

Lieutenant Colonel, and all officers of a higher rank, thirty dollars per month; Major, twenty-five dollars per month; Captain, twenty dollars per month; First Lieutenant, seventeen dollars per month; Second Lieutenant, fifteen dollars per month; and non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates, eight dollars per month. Only one full pension in any case will be allowed to the relatives of a deceased officer, soldier or seaman, and in order of precedence as set forth above. When more than one minor child or orphan sister thus becomes entitled to pension, the same must be divided equally between them.

Invalid pensions, under this law, will commence from the date of the pensioner's discharge from service, provided application is made within one year thereafter. If the claim is not made until a later date, the pension will commence from the time of the application, and will continue for life, or until he is re-examined.

Pensions of widows and minors will commence from the death of the officer, soldier, or seaman on whose service the claim is based, and continue for widows and dependent mothers until remarriage, and for children until they arrive at the age of sixteen years.

Declarations are required to be made before a court of record, or before some officer of such court duly authorized to administer oaths, and having custody of its seal. *Testimony* may be taken before a justice of the peace, or other officer having like authority to administer oaths, but in no case will any evidence be received that is verified before an officer who is concerned prosecuting the claim, or has a manifest interest therein.

In support of the allegations made in the claimant's declaration, testimony will be required in accordance with the following rules:

1. The claimant's identity must be proved by two witnesses, certified by a judicial officer to be respectable and credible, who are present and witness the signature of the declarant, and who state, upon oath or affirmation, their belief, either from personal acquaintance or for other reasons given, that he or she is the identical person he or she represents himself or herself to be.

2. Every applicant for an invalid pension must, if in his power, produce the certificate of the captain, or of some other commissioned officer under whom he served, distinctly stating the time and place of the said applicant's having been wounded or otherwise disabled, and the nature of the disability; and that the said disability arose while he was in the service of the United States and in the line of his duty.

3. If it be impracticable to obtain such certificate, by reason of the death or removal of said officers, it must be so stated under oath by the applicant, and his averment of the fact proved by persons of known respectability, who must state particularly all the knowledge they may possess in relation to such death or removal; then secondary evidence can be received. In such case the applicant must produce the testimony of at least two credible witnesses, (who were in a condition to know the facts about which they testify,) whose good character must be vouched for by a judicial officer, or by some one known to the department. The witnesses must give a minute narrative of the facts in relation to the matter, and must show how they obtained a knowledge of the facts to which they testify.

4. The surgeon's certificate for discharge should show the character and degree of the claimant's disability; but when that is wanting, and when the certificate of an army surgeon is not obtainable, the certificate of two respectable civil surgeons will be received. These surgeons must give in their certificate a particular description of the wound, injury, or disease, and specify how and in what manner his present condition and disability are connected therewith. The degree of disability for obtaining subsistence by manual labor must also be stated.

5. The habits of the applicant, and his occupation since he left the service, must be shown by at least two credible witnesses.

If the applicant claims a pension as the

widow of a deceased officer or soldier, she must prove the legality of her marriage, the death of her husband, and that she is still a widow. She must also furnish the names and ages of her children under sixteen years of age at her husband's decease, and the place of their residence. On a subsequent marriage her pension will cease, and the minor child or children of the deceased officer or soldier, if any be living, under the age of sixteen years, will be entitled to the same in her stead, from the date of such marriage.

Proof of the marriage of the parents and of the age of claimants will, in like manner, be required in all applications in behalf of minor children.

The legality of the marriage may be ascertained by the certificate of the clergyman who joined them in wedlock, or by the testimony of respectable persons having knowledge of the fact, in default of record evidence. The ages and number of children may be ascertained by the deposition of the mother, accompanied by the testimony of respectable persons having knowledge of them, or by transcripts from the parish or town registers duly authenticated.

Similar proof will be required of the marriage of the claimant, if the mother of a deceased officer or soldier, and that she remains a widow.

If the claimant be a dependent sister, like proof will be required of the marriage of her parents, and of her relationship to the deceased.

Guardians of minor claimants must, in all cases, produce evidence of their authority as such, under the seal of the court from which their appointment is obtained.

Applicants of the last four classes above given, who have in any manner aided or abetted the rebellion against the United States government, are not entitled to the benefits of this act.

Attorneys for claimants must have proper authority from those in whose behalf they appear. Powers of attorney must be signed in the presence of two witnesses, and acknowledged before a duly qualified officer, whose official character must be certified under seal.

In all cases the post-office address of the claimant must be distinctly stated.

Applications under this act will be numbered and acknowledged, to be acted on in their turn. In filing additional evidence, correspondents should always give the number of the claim as well as the name of the claimant.

Applications for pensions are made to *Hon. Joseph H. Burnett*, Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D. C. and any claimant addressing him in person or by letter, will receive the necessary printed forms and instructions. Applications are commonly made through attorneys, or the agencies of the Sanitary Commission in Washington and Philadelphia, or other local agencies. The agency in Washington at 389 H Street is intended for applicants of every class, and from all parts of the country, and does all the business necessary to secure a claim in as prompt a manner as is possible, *without any charge* to the claimants. Persons wishing their claims to be prosecuted by this office, should address Pension Agency of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C., and everything will be done for them in the promptest manner which the nature of their evidence permits.

Claimants who have recourse to local attorneys ought to be sure that they are dealing with men of known fidelity and honor. The fees of agents and attorneys are fixed by law, and are as follows:

"For making out and causing to be duly executed a declaration by the applicant, with the necessary affidavits, and forwarding the same to the pension office with the requisite correspondence, five dollars. In cases whenever additional testimony is required by the Commissioner of Pensions, for each affidavit so required and executed and forwarded, (except the affidavits of Surgeons, for which such agents and attorneys shall not be entitled to any fees,) one dollar and fifty cents," (see Sec. 6, Oct. to Gen'l. Pensions of July 14, 1862.) The 7th Section of said act prescribes a penalty for illegal fees, and is in these words, viz.: "That any agent or attorney who shall, directly or *indirectly*, demand or receive any greater compensation for his services under this act than is prescribed in the preceding section of this act, or who shall contract or agree to prosecute any claim for a pension, bounty, or other allowance under this act, on condition that he shall receive a per centum upon, or any portion of the amount of such claim, or who shall wrongfully withhold from a pensioner or other claimant the whole or any part of the pension or claim allowed and due to each pensioner or claimant, shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall for every such offence be fined not exceeding three hundred dollars, or imprisoned at hard labor not exceeding two years, or both, according to the circumstances and aggravations of the offence. The requirements of the law are often evaded notwithstanding the heavy penalties, and will probably continue to be evaded so long as invalids and other claimants are simple enough to put their trust in total strangers, of whose integrity and competency they have no knowledge.

FURLOUGHS.

Applications for Furloughs should be made to the surgeon of the regiment or hospital. If sent to the Surgeon-General or War Department, or elsewhere, it is immediately referred to the surgeon in charge.

The limitations to granting Furloughs are very stringent.

1st. None are given for any other cause than sickness or wounds.

2d. In disability arising from sickness, the surgeon's certificate must show that the man cannot reasonably be expected to recover in General Hospital.

3d. If in General Hospital, the certificate must be approved by the Medical Director.

4. If in Regimental Hospital, certificate must be approved by Regimental, Brigade, Division, and Corps Commanders, as well as by the Medical Director.

BACK PAY.

Our agent reports:

The following statement shows what has been done during the month of November in procuring certificates for the back pay of invalid soldiers in the Hospitals of Washington, with the exception of the work at the Columbian Hospital, which cannot be shown till I get a return of the list of certificates sent there, with the proper endorsement thereon.

Whole number of cases taken in Nov.....		128
Number of cases completed by delivery of certificates,		47
" "	by securing pay in full	17
" "	No. certificates granted	10
Total number of cases complete.....		74

Amount represented by the complete certificates, $2813.82. Number of letters written during the month, 51.

The first half of the month was spent in getting through some "tough cases" which had lain over from the previous month.

The month of November not being a muster month, there has been no necessity for completing the cases taken, and consequently the number of completed cases do not represent the entire work of the month.

There have been some applications by letter, for assistance in collecting back pay, by soldiers outside of this department.

Procured a certificate for over four months' pay, for a soldier in McDougal Hospital, Fort Schuyler, N. Y. I have assisted several cases of special hardship in the Invalid Corps. One man came to me having *eighteen months'* back pay due, and as he told me of his service during this period, and of his poor old father and mother at home, writing to him for the assistance which he was unable to render, *wept* at the injustice of the regulation, which, while it compelled him to render service, still failed to make provision for his pay. I procured him a certificate with considerable trouble, and he went on his way rejoicing. The Hospitals represented in the work of the past month are Mt. Pleasant, Carver, Columbian, Des Marres, Armory Square, Douglas, Stanton, Harewood, Convalescent Camp, and McDougal, N. Y. I am happy to say that arrangements have been made at the Paymaster-General's office by which those in the Invalid Corps will soon have their accounts settled. The work is now being systematically prosecuted. It is to be hoped that provision will soon be made for the prompt payment of all soldiers in the army.

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION. A Sketch of its Purposes and its Work. Compiled from documents and private papers. Published by permission.

This book contains a rapid but accurate account of the Sanitary Commission, of its organization, of its branches, of its department of inspection, of its fields of work, namely: 1st. General relief in the armies of Virginia, in the armies of the West, in the armies of the Gulf and Atlantic coast. 2d. Special relief in the Homes, Lodges, &c., &c., and the Hospital Directory. It is written and published for the benefit of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

All persons desirous of knowing the truth about the Sanitary Commission are requested to read it.

All persons desirous of aiding the Sanitary Commission are requested to buy it, for the entire profits of the book will be given to the Treasury of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

Price 75 cents. For sale by Messrs. Little & Brown, Publishers, Boston, Mass. Orders can be sent by mail. The book will be ready for issue December 18, 1863.

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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

THE BATTLE OF CHATTANOOGA.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,
LOUISVILLE, KY., *Dec. 7th*, 1863.

DR. J. F. JENKINS,
General Secretary, New York:

MY DEAR DOCTOR—I have just returned from Chattanooga where I have passed the last two weeks, and from a tour of inspection through the chain of agencies of the Commission which extend from Louisville to that point. It chanced, luckily enough, that I was at Chattanooga through all the exciting scenes of the recent battles, and was able to contribute something to the success which attended the efforts of the Agents of the Commission to relieve the wants and sufferings of the wounded.

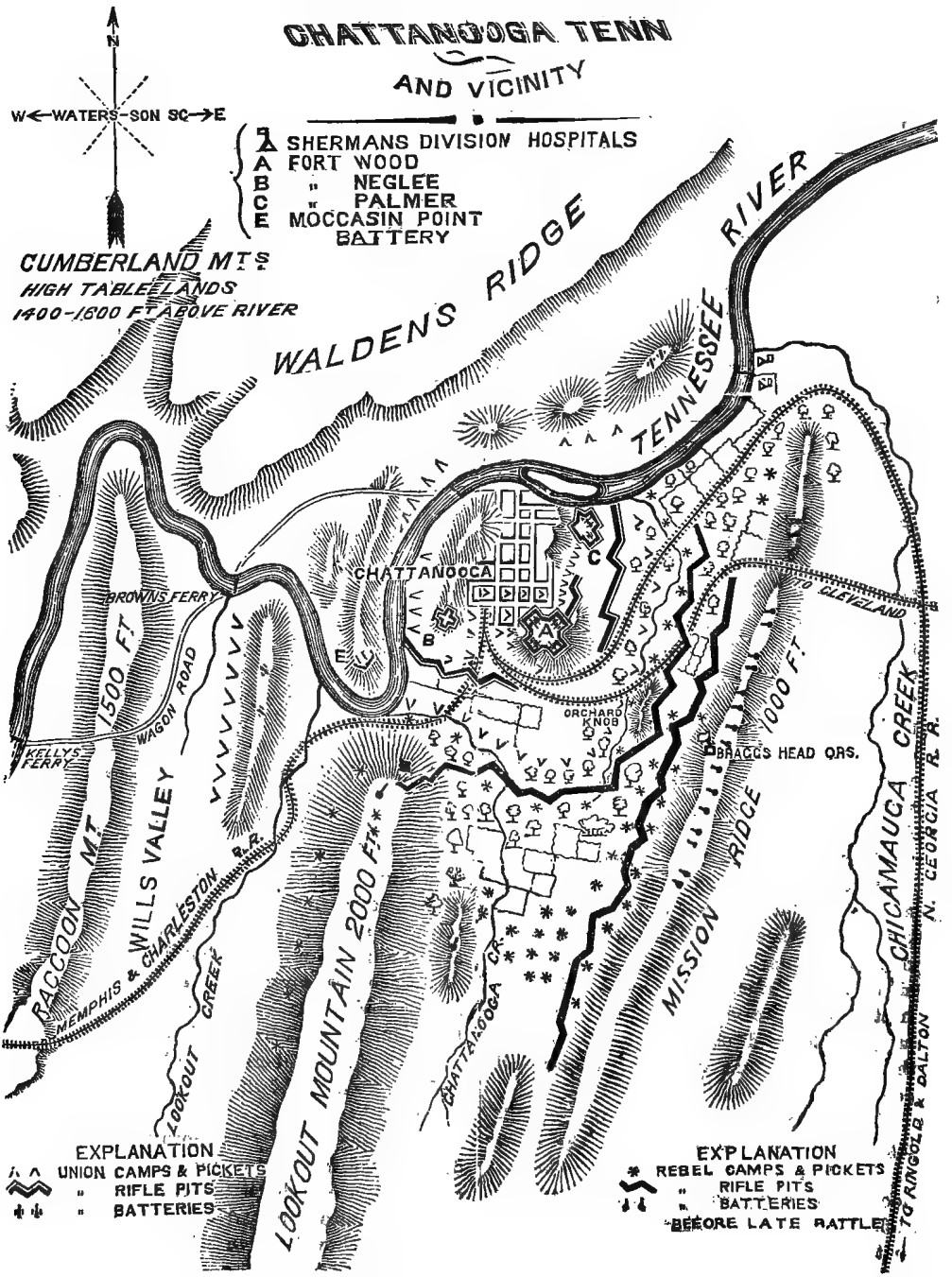
As you are doubtless impatient to learn more than you yet know of the recent important events to which I have referred, and more particularly how fully the Commission has sustained its responsibilities, I hasten to make my report as promptly as possible, and shall make it as full as the great pressure of other duties will permit.

As a pre-requisite to a clear understanding of the military operations, the work of the Commission in and about Chattanooga, and a proper appreciation of the difficulties overcome, it is quite necessary that any one should have gone over the ground himself; and I trust at no distant day you may be able to see with your own eyes some of the enemies, more formidable than rebel hosts, which our noble army have overcome in gaining and holding the positions from which the recent battles were fought and victories won. Until I had been myself to Chattanooga, I had no just appreciation, even with description after description, of the daring and energy which had led General Rosecrans to follow to the very heart of its mountain fastnesses, the retreating army of General Bragg; and after overcoming obstacles at first sight insurmountable, to seize and hold the key to all the lines of communication through this great mountain-labyrinth.

From near Tullahoma to Chattanooga, the whole interval is occupied with mountains of formidable height, terminating laterally in precipitous escapements, separated by deep and narrow valleys, over which even a footman finds his way painful and perilous. In justice to those who planned and executed the military movements prior and preparatory to the late victories, I must say that our people of the Northern States have no just conception of what our army has done and suffered in reaching and holding Chattanooga; and I am sure if all could see what I have seen, of difficulties overcome, hardships endured, and privations so cheerfully suffered, there would be much less than there has been of flippant criticism of the soldiers and the Generals of the Army of the Cumberland.

But if the country is more rough and difficult for military operations than any which our armies have before occupied, it is also picturesque and beautiful beyond anything I have seen in the valley of the

Mississippi, and its climate, judging by the specimens we had of it, is in the highest degree delightful and salubrious. Chattanooga itself must have been, before cursed and blasted by rebellion, one of the most charming places on the continent. It stands in the valley of the Tennessee, shut in on all sides by picturesque mountains, from a thousand to two thousand feet in height, while the town itself is in part



perched on eminences of two or three hundred feet, from which the lowlands, reaching to the base of the mountains, are all clearly visible. When, therefore, I tell you that the last battles were fought in a semicircle around the points of view in the plain or on the mountain side, never more than three miles distant, you will concede that those of us who were present enjoyed an opportunity of witnessing military evolutions—all the varied phases of attack and defence by artillery and infantry, of assault and repulse, of victory and defeat—such as has fallen to the lot of few since Priam watched the struggle between the Greeks and Trojans from the walls of Troy.

Of the battles themselves, I do not now propose to say much, as it will be foreign to my purpose, and they have already been described to you in the letters of Army Correspondents and the admirable telegraphic summary of General Meigs—so fully that it would scarcely be desirable if possible. I, however, enclose a topographical map, which made at Chattanooga, more fully and accurate than any yet published. With this and the descriptions you have at command, you will be able clearly to comprehend the successive steps by which our army secured its final victory, and appreciate, in some measure, the daring bravery of our troops in scaling the heights of Lookout Mountain and Mission Ridge.

My business, however, is with the noble spirits who *fell* in these glorious charges, and it is with no ordinary satisfaction that I can say that, thanks to the proximity of the battle-fields to suitable receptacles for the wounded, and to the wisdom and energy displayed by the Medical Officers, and last, not least, the prompt and potent aid that the Sanitary Commission with its abundant stores was able to render, none of those cases of neglect or protracted suffering which have been considered as inseparable attendants upon the carnage and confusion of battle-fields, so far as I know, were permitted to occur. I am quite sure that I do not exaggerate when I say that the wounded in no considerable battle since the war began have been so well and promptly cared for; and I can say also with equal confidence, that the aid rendered by the Sanitary Commission has never been more prompt and efficient, more heartily welcomed, or more highly appreciated.

Owing to the difficulties of transportation—difficulties which had prevented the issue of full rations to the army since the battle of Chattanooga—our stock on hand previous to the battle was not as large as I could have wished; but we were accorded even more than our full share of such facilities for transport as were at command of the Quartermaster's Department, and fresh supplies of the most needed articles, including all the staple battle-stores, continued to arrive, so that our warehouse was constantly replenished, and every requisition was promptly filled. Of concentrated beef, milk, stimulants of various kinds, compresses, bandages, dried fruit, vegetables, shirts and drawers, we had a sufficient supply to meet every demand.

In order that you may see precisely how our work was done, permit me to take up, in the order of their succession, the principal events connected with it during my stay at Chattanooga.

Toward midnight of Saturday, the 20th of November, in company with Dr. Soule, I arrived at Kelly's Ferry, ten miles below Chattanooga. Here we were hospitably entertained by our agent, Mr. Sutliffe. As I shall have occasion to return to this point in the course of my narrative, I will for the present defer reference to the great good which he has been doing here. On Sunday morning we started for Chattanooga on foot. Kelly's Ferry was at this time the head of navigation—the river being blockaded above by the rebels—and all supplies were transported from this point in wagons. As a consequence, we found the road blocked up for miles by trains going and returning, all hurrying to accomplish their almost impossible duty of preventing the army above from perishing by actual starvation. Crossing Raccoon Mountain, we came into Will's Valley, where we found Hooker's forces occupying the vantage-ground gained by their night-descent of the river, and came into full view of the rebel encampments on the side, and rebel batteries on the summit of Lookout Mountain. From the latter, from time to time, came a puff of white smoke, and the sullen boom

of the forty pound Parrots, which had continued day after day to throw shells, fortunately without practical result, sometimes into Chattanooga above, sometimes into Will's Valley below their commanding position. Descending the valley, we crossed the river at Brown's Ferry, and traversing an isthmus some two miles in width, recrossed the river to the town. At this time large detachments of Sherman's forces were leaving their encapment in Will's Valley and moving up the river, nobody knew whither.

In Chattanooga I found our Agency in charge of Mr. C. Read, occupying fine rooms which, with characteristic partiality, the authorities had assigned to our use by displacing the Chief of Police who had previously occupied them. Soon after my arrival I called on the Medical Director, Dr. Perin, by whom I was most cordially received, and was gratified to hear him express not only a high respect and appreciation for the Commission, but bear strong testimony to the value of our Agency at this point, to him and to the army, as well as to the energy and discretion of our chief representative, Mr. Read. The corps of agents on duty here were as follows: M. C. Read in charge; Rev. W. F. Loomis, hospital visitor; F. R. Crarey, store-keeper, with two detailed men as assistants; M. D. Bartlett, agent of hospital directory; A. H. Sill, transportation clerk. With Mr. Read, I called at several of the headquarters, and from all the officials heard only kind words for the Commission, and assurances of their readiness to co-operate with it by all means in their power.

Chattanooga was formerly a town of about 4,000 inhabitants, containing some fine public buildings and many pleasant residences, with ornamented grounds and groves of beautiful trees; but it is now terribly desecrated and defaced, fences of all enclosures gone, fruit and ornamental trees alike cut down for fire-wood, all vacant spaces covered with huts and tents, the more prominent points crowned with strong fortifications, the whole surrounded by rifle-pits and lines of circumvallation.

On Sunday evening a large part of the 11th Army Corps came up from below, passed through the town, with three days' rations in their haversacks, and took their position, without tents or baggage, in front of the fortifications. On Monday our forces moved out, formed in double line of battle, with a front several miles in length, posted reserves in the rear, threw out skirmishers, and made a general advance, taking possession of the first line of the enemy's entrenchments, and occupied Orchard Knob in the centre of the valley, on which batteries were planted. This advance was made in excellent order, and the ambulances following close in the rear and through the skirmishing, extended along the whole line. The number of wounded was comparatively small, and they were immediately picked up and carried to the hospitals in time. On Tuesday, General Sherman having crossed the river three miles above, advanced, and without serious opposition took possession of the north end of Mission Ridge.

On the morning of the same day General Hooker moved up from Will's Valley and attacked the rebel forces occupying Lookout Mountain, and by a most daring assault gained possession of all the northern portion, with the capture of many prisoners and the loss of 250 killed and wounded. The latter were immediately carried to the hospital established near his headquarters, where they were well cared for by their own officers, supplies being sent to them from our depot at Kelly's Ferry near by. Early the next morning Mr. Read and Mr. Sill went down and saw that all the aid which the Commission could render was furnished them.

On Tuesday night the north ends of Lookout Mountain and Mission Ridge were aglow with the camp-fires of our forces, and we had the satisfaction of knowing that by the brilliant achievements of the morning the blockade of the river was raised, and advantages had been gained which promised important results in the impending struggle of the morrow.

Wednesday morning our flag floated from the summit of Lookout, and our forces advanced on the rebel stronghold of Mission Ridge, from our right, left, and front. After much severe fighting on our left, in which Sherman's forces suffered very heavy loss, the rebel entrenchments along the

base of Mission Ridge were stormed by our advancing lines, and then began that perilous but glorious ascent of its slope of 1,000 feet at six different points, which so surprised and appalled the rebel garrison, and has covered with glory the brave men who dared attempt it. After an hour of suspense, inexpressibly painful to the thousands who were merely powerless spectators, the summit was gained and held, the roar of the forty pieces of artillery which crowned it was suddenly silenced, and we knew that a great victory had been won.

Two wagons had been secured beforehand, with which to transport stores to any point where they might be required; but no part of the battle-field being more than three miles distant from headquarters, and ample provision having been made by the Medical Director for the immediate removal of the wounded to hospital, they were held in readiness to use, if needed, while Mr. C. Read and myself, with a small supply of stores, went over to the battle-field along the middle line of Mission Ridge, and Mr. Loomis went toward the northern end, to see if any help were required by the wounded of Sherman's Corps. By midnight all the union wounded men on that part of the field which we visited had been transferred to hospital, and such of the rebels as remained in the houses to which they had been carried had received all the aid we could give them, and so at 1 o'clock we returned to the town. Just as we arrived, Mr. Loomis came in and reported that the wounded of the 15th Army Corps had all been gathered into the Division Hospitals, but that their expected supplies had not arrived, and they were greatly in need of our assistance. A wagon load of milk, beef, crackers, tea, sugar, stimulants, dressings, &c., was immediately dispatched to them, and was, as may be imagined, of priceless value.

Early the next morning, Thanksgiving Day, Mr. Read and myself visited the hospitals of the 2d, 3d and 4th Divisions of the 15th Army Corps, situated three miles up the river. The 4th, containing the largest number of wounded, (399,) we found pretty well supplied, for the time being, with the stores we had sent up the night before; but these were rapidly disappearing, and, at our suggestion, another load was sent for and received during the day. The 2d and 3d Division hospitals, situated on the bank of the river, containing respectively 75 and 230 patients, had received up to this time no other supplies than such as had been carried in their medicine wagons, sufficient to meet the first wants of the wounded, but by this time almost entirely exhausted. Just as I was offering to Dr. Rogers, the Surgeon in charge of the 3d Division hospital, the resources of the Sanitary Commission, one of the assistant surgeons approached and said to him, "Doctor, what shall we do? Our supplies have not arrived, our men are lying on the ground, with not blankets enough to make them comfortable. We've no stimulants, or dressings, or proper food. Now, if the Sanitary Commission only had an agent here, we should be all right." I was happy to inform him that the spirit he invoked had come at his call, and when I promised that in an hour's time he should have concentrated beef, milk, stimulants, dressings, fruit, vegetables, clothing, bedding and some ticks stuffed with cotton, his satisfaction shown from every feature, and both he and the surgeon in charge spontaneously ejaculated, "Bless the Sanitary Commission"—an institution of which they had abundant experience on the Mississippi, where the kind and efficient ministrations of Dr. Warriner were remembered with pleasure and gratitude. At the 2d Division hospital I met two old professional friends, Dr. Potter, the Division surgeon, one of the most efficient medical men in the service, and Dr. Messinger, formerly from Cleveland, Ohio. The meeting, I think, was mutually pleasant, and Dr. Potter, who was just mounting his horse to follow his division, expressed great satisfaction in leaving his men with some other resources than the light stock of supplies which they had brought in their wagons all the way from the Mississippi, and most of which must be immediately hurried to the advance, for other battles were impending. All these hospitals continued to be supplied from day to day with such things as were needed.

In these remarks I would not be under-

stood as implying any neglect on the part of the responsible medical authorities, for I have only to say that Gen. Sherman's Medical Director is Surgeon Moore, U. S. A., to give all who know this officer assurance that his duty was done fully and well; but as a consequence of the difficulties of transportation, to which I have referred, and which especially affected the newly-arrived troops, his supplies were delayed, and there was an opportunity for the Commission to render its assistance in the manner I have described.

On Thanksgiving afternoon occurred the bloody fight at Ringgold, in which we lost, in killed and wounded, 500 men. Most of those wounded were soon brought into Chattanooga, but our stores, which were promptly sent, and in abundance, reached them in good time, and became of great value to them.

During the week succeeding these battles, through which I remained at Chattanooga, large quantities of stores were daily issued from our rooms to all the hospitals in the vicinity; timely arrivals of the more important articles compensating for the heavy drafts made on our stock. Of the kind and quantity of goods thus issued, you will, in due time, get a full account from the storekeeper, Mr. Crarey.

The subsequent advance of our forces towards Knoxville was accompanied by two of the three steamers plying on the river, both loaded with supplies. By this means our transportation was again reduced to its minimum, and for a few days, in common with all departments of the army, we shall be able to get forward a smaller quantity of supplies than could be advantageously used. We can calculate, however, upon a continuance of the cordial co-operation of Gen. Meigs, Dr. Perin, and the other military and medical authorities, and the good work which we have been doing will not be allowed to languish.

Before leaving Chattanooga, I must again express my high appreciation of the professional and official merit of the responsible heads of the medical department, Dr. Perin, Medical Director of the Department of the Cumberland, and Dr. Finley, Post Medical Director, as also of the earnest and faithful corps of surgeons by whom their efforts in behalf of the wounded have been so ably seconded. At the risk of seeming to see all the workings of the medical department at this point *en couleur de rose*, I must say, that no instance of incompetence or unfaithfulness was revealed by my observations; but, on the contrary, I found very much to admire in the zeal and success exhibited by all the corps of surgeons, who, with inadequate accommodations and limited materials, were able to make the wounded more immediately and entirely comfortable than could have been expected or hoped. I am sure it would have quieted some of the fears entertained by our people in regard to the faithfulness of surgeons and nurses if they could have seen with what sincere gratitude they accepted at our hands the means of administering to the wants of the poor fellows in their charge; and frequent visits to the hospitals showed me that the wounded soldiers did actually receive and greatly profit by the gifts of our loyal women of the North. Whatever may have occurred at other times and places, I am sure that after the battle of Chattanooga there was neither the opportunity nor inclination, on the part of surgeons or nurses, to misappropriate stores furnished by the Sanitary Commission; and the Metropolitan Police, who enabled us to distribute to the sufferers the rare and much prized gifts of sound, fresh lemons. The loyal women who stitched the shirts and drawers, who rolled the bandages and made the arm-slings; the Aid Societies and Branch Commissions who have sent us so liberally of dried and canned fruits, of milk and beef, wine, spirits, ale, butter, tea, sugar, farina, codfish, and other precious articles, which we were able to distribute in abundance—may rest assured that here, at least, they have accomplished all the great good which they had hoped of them.

As I expect that you will soon have a full report of the working of the Commission in this department, from the Rev. Dr. Anderson, it seems hardly necessary now for me to do anything more than merely allude to the other stations and agencies which I have just visited.

Kelly's Ferry was, until recently, the head of navigation for our steamers on the Tennessee, and is still a very important de-

pot for the trans-shipment of Government stores. It is ten miles from Chattanooga by land, and about forty by the river from Bridgeport. Immediately after the battles at Chicamauga, the Rev. O. Kennedy established a Lodge here for passing soldiers, and since he removed to Bridgeport, the work of supplying their wants, and of attending to the reception and shipment of goods, has been most faithfully and commendably performed by Mr. W. A. Sutliffe. He has been aided in his friendly offices for sick and wounded soldiers, large numbers of whom have at times been at this point, by Rev. Mr. Strong. I take great pleasure in acknowledging the hearty co-operation of Dr. Tailor, the zealous surgeon of the Post, and of Lieut.-Col. Cahill, of the 16th Illinois, commandant of the Post, who has been always ready to aid the Agents of the Commission in every way possible, and has greatly helped us in forwarding goods, by detailing men to serve as guards for our wagons, and likewise for the accumulated stores at the landing.

Bridgeport is a very important point in our chain of Agencies—so much so, that we are compelled to keep a strong force, and they have been at times greatly pressed by their duties. There is here a large field-hospital, most admirably managed, by Dr. Wm. Varian, U. S. V. To him we are indebted for the most valuable aid in establishing our depot and lodge. The warehouse, formed of several large hospital tents, has been carefully arranged by Dr. Coates, Mr. Pierce, and Mr. Pocoche, conveniently near to the railroad station and the field-hospital, while the lodge under the care of Mr. Kennedy, assisted by two detailed men, is close upon the steamboat landing.

At Stevenson we have now no agency; but it is expected that it will be advisable to re-establish one there soon. The "Alabama House" has been offered by the Quartermaster to the Commission, to be used as a Soldiers' Home, and it is probable that we shall avail ourselves of the opportunity of at the same time abating a nuisance and creating a blessing, by taking it. Stevenson is becoming an important location, and now has no suitable place for the accommodation of either officers or men, well or sick.

Murfreesboro' was, for a time, virtually abandoned when the army advanced; but large numbers of hospital patients are henceforth to be placed there. We have, therefore, re-established our agency, and occupy a spacious warehouse, with Mr. E. L. Jones in charge.

At Nashville, as you may suppose, there is great activity. Dr. Read superintends the multiplied branches of the business; Mr. Robinson, Mr. Hopkins, and Mr. Fea attend to the large amount of stores passing into and out of the warehouse; Mr. Hoblit and Mr. Ingraham respond to the many calls made upon them in the departments of Hospital and Special Relief, while Capt. Brayton oversees the arrangements of the Home. I have the satisfaction of knowing, from personal inspection and intercourse, that the varied and unceasing duties of these officers of the Commission are faithfully performed, often at the cost of much personal discomfort, annoyance and fatigue.

Yours respectfully,

J. S. Newberry,
Sec. West'n Dep't.

THE RELIEF AGENCY.

Mr. Murray, Relief Agent with the Second Army Corps, writes:

On the 4th of Sept. the undersigned returned from a short furlough, resumed his duties as Relief Agent with the 2d Army Corps, relieving the Rev. J. A. Anderson, who had been placed in charge of Sanitary affairs in the 12th Corps. The ordinary duties of special relief and of distribution of stores continue to be discharged by frequent visitations to regiments and inspection of hospitals. On the 12th inst. the corps broke camp at Morrisville and moved toward the river, as a support to the cavalry who were then engaged with Stuart's forces on Mountain Run. We halted for the night near Rappahannock Station, and resumed our march early the following morning, crossing the river on pontoons laid near the R. R. bridge.

After we had passed three miles beyond the river, the enemy were found strongly entrenched on the heights of Brandy Station, which the cavalry division of Gen. Buford was hotly assailing. The action

was but of short duration, and resulted in the driving of the Confederates to a point beyond Culpepper C. H. The ambulance train to which my wagon was attached was very fortunately parked near the field hospital established by the cavalry, and I had the satisfaction of distributing a considerable quantity of stimulants and old linen to the surgeons in charge. The wagons containing their hospital stores and appliances had been left beyond the river, and they were almost entirely destitute of the commonest hospital necessities. After remaining at the hospital for an hour, my wagon rejoined the train and pressed on to Culpepper, which we reached the same evening, (13th.)

I was thus enabled to reach Culpepper and afford relief to the sick and wounded in hospital at that place, not only before the wagons of this or any other "Commission" had reached it, but before even the supply wagons of the Medical or Subsistence Depts. had entered the town. Our cavalry had already driven the rebels beyond the Rapidan and the 2d Corps continued their occupation of Culpepper and vicinity till the 16th, while the main army was being brought up from beyond the river. These days were spent in visitations to the various hospitals occupied by the cavalry and 2d Corps, and the distribution of such stores as seemed necessary for the comfort of the men. This being the first test of the new relief system on the march and in action, it affords us pleasure to bear witness to the almost unanimous verdict in its favor, especially from the surgeons of the cavalry corps, who had been before cut off by the very nature of their movements from all assistance from us. On the 16th inst. we moved out from Culpepper, and on the following morning went into camp at Sommerville Ford, on the Rapidan. During the whole march my wagon, being on the immediate advance, was in such a position as to reach cases which would perhaps otherwise have been neglected entirely. More than once has my wagon been stopped by a train of ambulances bringing the wounded from the front, and a requisition supplied, or a call for a bandage, etc., made by some poor fellow, complied with. We remained in camp at the aforementioned point until the 4th of October, when the batteries opposite invited us to skedaddle, which invitation the representative of Sanitary Commission was not the last to accept. During our stay upon the Rapidan, the divisions of our corps were so widely separated that it was found impossible to supply their requisitions from my wagon; I therefore requested the surgeons of each Brigade to notify the regiments of the existence of our storehouse at the Court House, and requested them to make their requisitions upon it for supplies. This was generally complied with. During our camp here, the 3d Division, then lying upon the Slaughter Mountain battle-field, was visited, thus completing my first round of regimental visitations. On the day immediately following our bombardment, we were relieved by the 6th Corps, and fell back to the Court House; here we imagined we were about to make permanent quarters, and immediately began the establishment of division hospitals and the construction of camps. We remained in this position until the 9th, when we were ordered out upon the Sperryville Pike to relieve the 3d Corps.

The same night, about twelve, we were ordered to evacuate our position, and commenced our part of the celebrated run to Centreville. We removed all our sick from the Culpepper hospitals, and resuming our march, reached Brandy Station by daylight. Continuing our retreat, we made camp at Bealeton on the night of the 11th. The next morning we sent our sick to Washington by rail, and during the afternoon moved again toward the Rappahannock. The troops recrossed and moved to Brandy Station, the ambulances and other trains remaining on the north side. Before daylight the following morning we were aroused, and again fell back this time on the road to Liberty Church.

Passing the church, we reached 3 Mile Station on the Warrenton Branch R. R. the same evening.

During the night we marched through a dense forest to Murray Hill. We remained there till 3 A. M. of the 14th, entirely surrounded, as we afterwards learned, by Hill's Corps, whose advance lay within a quarter of a mile of our lines. At about five in the morning, as we were passing through a

ravine near Fox Run, our train of ambulances, which had passed out of our lines, were opened upon by rebel batteries planted on Auburn Hills, which rise beyond the Run. Our position for a few moments was a very unpleasant one, between the bullets of those skirmishing on each side of the train and the shells falling around us. I had no doubt for a short time, that wagon No. 14, its driver, and last, but not least to me, the agent, had purchased tickets for that popular route to Richmond, viâ Gordonsville.

The cavalry succeeded in making a way for us to fall back, which we rapidly and immediately did. While the action was going on in front of us, I distributed several articles of stores to the ambulance surgeons, there being no field hospitals established. We were able to resume our march in about two hours, when we continued our retreat, or rather run, as it now had become.

Our fast gait enabled us to reach Centreville at 7 P. M. of the same day, where we went into camp. The fight at Bristow Station took place on this afternoon, lasting from 3 till 5 P. M. Our ambulances were considerably in advance of the troops when the attack commenced, and as it was evident that our troops would fall back, I sent my wagon forward with the majority. I however put a few articles in one of the detachment wagons sent to the front, and accompanied them till I met Surgeon Myers, in charge of the wounded of the 2d Division, to whom I delivered them. The action at this time being nearly over, I returned to the train, which I reached as they were making a park beyond the Bull Run. During the whole of this night and the succeeding day, I remained distributing and relieving as best I might, the loads of suffering wounded men, which were every hour brought to the ambulance hospital.

A large quantity of blankets, shirts, drawers, wine, bandages, &c., were distributed in the way of special relief. The Superintendent of Field Relief was very fortunately upon the ground, and assisted me greatly by his advice and work. On the 15th the camps of our corps on the run were shelled by the rebels, who fell back the following morning, thus ending this stage of the fall campaign.

Our five days of retreat, from the 10th to the 15th, were most severe in their character, wearing out both officers and men. The second corps were assigned to the duty of covering the retreat, which gave them much more severe marching, and led them into two actions which were avoided by the other corps.

If I had been able to procure a new supply of goods while at Centreville, such as were anti-scorbutic, they would have been of great use. As it was, I was compelled to economize my stores. On the 19th inst. we moved to Bristow Station; on the 20th to Gainesville; and the same night, over the worst road I ever traveled, we rejoined the main body of the corps at Auburn Hills. We changed our camp from this point to Turkey Bend, on the Warrenton Branch R. R., on the 23d.

On the 28th inst. I went to Gainesville, at that time used as a depot by the Chief Quartermaster, but was unable to procure any stores, and returned to camp the following day. On the 31st I started for Washington, and returned on November 4th with quite a large stock of goods. On the 7th camp was broken at Turkey Bend, and the line of march taken for Kelly's Ford. During our stay at the former place a second visitation to the regiments was undertaken, and nearly gone through with. We crossed the Rappahannock on the 8th, with no serious fighting, and passing through the lately deserted encampments of the rebels, halted near Brandy Station. On the 10th we moved to Mountain Run, and made camp on its banks. Here we remained for two weeks, and while here the ordinary duties of the Relief Agent were discharged. On the 23d we received orders to move, but, after passing a mile from camp, were recalled on account of the severe weather.

On the 26th, Thanksgiving Day, we at last got off, and moved rapidly toward Germania Ford, on the Rapidan, which was crossed the same evening without opposition. On the next day we reached Robertson's Tavern, on the Orange Pike, where we found the enemy in force. There was heavy skirmishing all day, but no general action was brought on. During the night the enemy fell back to Old Ver-

diersville and behind the entrenchments on Mine Run, to the banks of which stream we followed him. On the morning of the 29th, the 2d corps, two divisions of the 3d, and one of the 6th corps, all under command of Gen. Warren, were ordered to the Plankroad leading to Orange Court House. We reached Fairmont Church in the evening, and moved out before daylight to the front of the enemy's works.

We remained on their front till December 1st, when we were ordered back to Culpepper Ford. We crossed the Ford by night, and re-entered our old camps on Mountain Run the following day. The loss of the corps during the movement was about five hundred of all classes. The use and advantage of the present system of field relief was more evident to me than ever during this short campaign. The weather was most intensely cold, and our supply of quilts and blankets relieved from suffering, or, perhaps, preserved the lives of many wounded. The wounded were all under the charge of Surgeon Dwinalle, to whom many articles were furnished. I made it my business during the campaign to visit repeatedly the field hospitals, which duty was particularly arduous after our movement to the right had left me the only representative of the Commission with Warren's large command. I have the pleasure of reporting that my stock was adequate to the demand, and in no case was a proper call denied. During our movement the wounded were the major portion of the time in the ambulance train. I was, therefore, able from my stores to furnish them daily soft crarkces, tea, milk, stimulants, &c. Every evening milk punch was made by the attendants, and distributed to those needing it. Through my observation of my own as well as other corps, and from the expression of medical officers, it is my impression that the Commission brought itself most favorably before the army; and, what is better still, relieved a mass of suffering which would not have otherwise been reached, and gave many a poor fellow another sight of his sweet northern home who would else have slept under the forest trees of the wilderness. On the 5th we moved our camp to Stevensburgh, and on the 7th moved to Shephard's Grave, where the camp is a present situated. On the 6th the undersigned was relieved by Dr. G. E. Holbrook, and on the 10th returned to Washington. During the past quarter it has been his endeavor to keep himself as much as possible under the direction of the medical staff of his corps, to whom he is indebted for many kindnesses and much valuable advice. In fact, as a representative of the Commission, he has met with nothing but courtesy from all the officers with whom his duties have thrown him; and his position has been rendered doubly pleasant from the uniform kindness and sympathy of those under whom he has been acting. He has to return his thanks for the promptness with which all his demands upon their time were met, and for the amount of good he has been able to accomplish in his department.

Mr. Kurtz writes:

Having just returned from Brandy Station, I deem it a privilege no less than a duty, to lay before you a few facts with reference to my field experience. Thursday, November 26, 1863, we received the order to move. It was my lot to be connected with one of the Field Relief wagons, temporarily attached to the Ambulance train of the 1st Division, 6th Corps. Left camp, accompanied by Captain Harris, Assistant Superintendent, and Mr. D. S. Pope, Relief Agent, 6th Corps, at 6 o'clock, A. M. At 2 o'clock, A. M., (November 27th,) the train came to a halt on the plank road leading to Germania Ford. An hour afterwards we commenced moving again, coming by 8 o'clock in the morning within eight miles of the Ford. Though weary and fagged out, we still preferred moving on to an uncertain halt, and felt no little indignation when hour after hour passed without being able to put our teams in motion. At last, at 8 o'clock in the evening, the wagon-master concluded to encamp for the night, with the intention of crossing the pontoon bridge at dawn. This intention was carried out at 2 o'clock, A. M., (Nov. 28th,) and we reached Locust Grove at seven, where we fed our horses and breakfasted.

Here the effects of the march upon the men began to be seen. Many foot-sore, hungry, sick and weary, lagged behind their regiments; and here I had for the first time

the satisfaction, as agent to the Sanitary Commission, to speak words of encouragement to the men, and to administer to the needs of those who were suffering from diarrhœa, &c., on the march. By 4 o'clock, P. M., the same day, we arrived at a spot near the expected battle-field—moving by way of the Fredericksburg and Orange Turnpike. Hospitals were immediately extemporized for the various divisions of the army, and the men wounded in the engagement of the previous day were removed into them. During our stay here for two days, I visited frequently the hospital, 1st Division, 6th Corps, and find pleasure in stating that we were treated by the surgeons of the Corps with kindness and courtesy. Indeed every medical officer whose acquaintance I made in my capacity as agent of the Sanitary Commission, manifested the deepest concern regarding the comfort and needs of the men, and almost invariably inquired into the variety and amount of stores placed in my hands for distribution.

December 1st, we started on our return to Brandy Station. About midnight the train stuck in the mud, and hundreds of the wounded were obliged to remain in the ambulances during the night. As soon as the impassibility of the roads was thus demonstrated, an order was given to camp, and the surgeons in charge of the wounded inquired with a loud voice for the agents of the Sanitary Commission. At once we repaired to the place, and in the darkness of the night delivered to the medical officers such stimulants, condensed milk and crackers as they needed to feed the wounded soldiers. We were moved to tears at the sight of the patient heroism of the sufferers, and our hearts were cheered beyond expression by the knowledge that, through the aid of the Sanitary Commission, the darkness and gloom of the night was lighted up for these wounded patients.

At 8 o'clock in the morning we resumed the march. By order of the surgeon, another halt was made a short distance from Brandy Station. Here again the assistance of the Commission was called into requisition, and the remainder of the beef extract and crackers in the wagon was distributed. After the wounded had been refreshed, we moved again until we reached the ground occupied by the division before the march. During the remainder of our stay with the army we were gratified at being able to furnish the medical officers with socks, drawers, &c., for the wounded, prior to their transportation to Washington.

Allow me, in conclusion, to state that my experience as *pro tempore* Field Relief Agent of the Sanitary Commission, brief as it was, has satisfied me that the value of the Commission is appreciated by both men and officers; so that I can well understand the truth of the remark made by Dr. Clark, (1st Division, 6th Corps,) after we had brought him socks and drawers for the hospital under his charge: "I do not know what would have become of this army had it not been for the Sanitary Commission." This remark simply echoed the sentiments of many officers and privates expressed to us at various times. It would be superfluous in me to dwell upon the importance of the field organization in the Army of the Potomac, under your successful supervision. Thousands of sick and wounded soldiers throughout the land have spread the fame of the noble and self-denying worth of your agents in the field, sharing as they do many of the dangers and all the privations and inconveniences of camp life; and the day cannot be far distant when a grateful nation, redeemed from the curse of treason, will pronounce the name of the U. S. Sanitary Commission with a heart overflowing with gratitude.

D. S. Pope, (Relief Agent, 6th Army Corps,) speaking in his report of the movement, says, with reference to the 2d of December:

We started for Brandy Station. The roads were in a horrid condition. * * * About eleven o'clock in the evening we stuck, and remained thus until morning. The sick in the ambulances suffered a great deal. The hard tack had given out, and also their beef tea. We issued the crackers from Mr. Kurtz's wagon, and beef tea, rum and milk from mine. Captain Harris, our Assistant Superintendent, made some hot milk punch for them, which many declared did them more good than anything they could have had.

Captain Isaac Harris, referring to the

same occasion in his report, says: It was here that the Commission was appreciated. The men had started with five days' rations, which were consumed on Monday night; consequently the sick and wounded in the ambulances would have been without food, had it not been that they were supplied with crackers, beef tea and milk punch by the agents. The following morning they were served with beef-tea and crackers, and again at noon, when the army had reached its former camps.

CLASSIFICATION OF WOUNDS.

LETTER FROM DEPUTY INSPECTOR-GENERAL T. LONGMORE, PROFESSOR OF MILITARY SURGERY AT THE ARMY MEDICAL SCHOOL, ENGLAND, TO FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED, ESQ., SECRETARY OF THE SANITARY COMMISSION, WASHINGTON.

NETLEY, ENGLAND, *November*, 1863.

To the Secretary of the Sanitary Commission, Washington:

SIR—Inspector-General Dr. Muir, Principal Medical Officer to the British forces in Canada, has forwarded to me copies of the valuable reports which the Sanitary Commission has issued from time to time, for the use of the army surgeons in the field. He has also sent me blank copies of the returns in use in the United States Army, among others the form of the monthly report of sick and wounded, in which occurs the TABULAR STATEMENT OF GUNSHOT WOUNDS, showing the "seat and character" of each wound inflicted, the "side of the body wounded," "how received," "nature of missile," "treatment," and "result," with a column for short remarks.

There are some features in this tabular statement which, it appears to me, are likely to impair its utility for comparison with tabular returns of injuries of a like nature in other countries, and believing the subject to be one of great professional importance, I am anxious to call the attention of the Sanitary Commission, and by its means, that of the surgeons of the American Army at large, to the classified form of return, or tabular statement, of gunshot wounds which is now adopted in England. It is one which was arranged by an English surgeon of great experience in battle-fields, but who has lately retired from active service — Inspector-General Taylor, C. B.

I trust that my professional colleagues across the Atlantic will pardon the liberty I am taking in sending this letter, for the sake of the motive which has prompted me to write it. This is none other than an earnest desire that the sufferings of your brave soldiers now in the field may, among other rewards, be attended with this good: that the additional experience in military surgery which their injuries are capable of giving to the stores of information already accumulated by the members of our noble profession, may be fully gathered, and that in this way the labors of army surgeons may be still better enabled to fulfil their high purpose of saving lives of the utmost value to their country in its hour of need, and of generally lessening the unavoidable miseries of war.

It may appear to some surgeons, at first view, a matter of no great interest what kind of arrangement is adopted in army returns so long as a general nomenclature is used, and on the whole correctly applied; experience has, however, taught that so far from this being the case, the importance of precision and accuracy in clasification is just as great as correctness in nomenclature, and that the nature of statistical and professional returns will bear exact relation to the degree in which this importance is appreciated. Such precision, indeed, is especially important in the army returns, with which military surgeons have to deal, and in no department of the military surgeon's practice in which detailed returns are called for, is this importance more obvious than in the Department of Wounds, and especially of gunshot wounds. In time of war these injuries usually occur in large numbers together; the occasions are such that surgeons have no time to spare for entering into detailed reports of each particular case; and yet the nature of each case must be defined within fixed limits, if the records furnished regarding them are to be turned to any practically useful results, whether as regards their surgical consequences, their ultimate results in disabling and invaliding soldiers, or in establishing comparisons between the effects of various

modes of treatment. If wounds of different characters and gravity, wounds complicated with serious lesions, and others simple and uncomplicated, are mixed together under one heading, then the deductions such as I have indicated, on being made, must be open to so many sources of error that no reliance can be placed upon them.

I feel assured that the members of the Commission will fully join with me in estimating as extremely important, in a professional point of view, the condition that, whatever form of classification be adopted, whatever form of tabular statement framed in our returns, these forms should be such as will enable surgeons to compare with exactness injuries of like kinds and degrees of gravity as regards their statistical results, whether in respect to mortality, or the effects of operative interference, or other treatment. They will also agree, that these means of exact comparison should not be limited to the tabular statements derived from different actions in which one and the same people may have been engaged, but should embrace a far wider range; indeed, should be capable of being applied universally, so that the surgical results of warlike operations in all parts of the world might be placed side by side and compared. It would probably be attended with valuable practical results if an international congress of surgeons were formed for the purpose of agreeing upon a common classification and form of return of the injuries of war; for until such a general arrangement be determined, there must remain a certain amount of needless imperfection in the statistical information derived from such sources.

The tabular statement in the report of sick and wounded divides the seats and characters of the gunshot wounds into four principal sections, viz., flesh wounds, wounds of cavities, fractures of bones, and wounds of joints. These, again, are subdivided into regions, or into particular bones or joints; but provision is not made for indicating such wounds as those of the larger arteries, nerves, organs of special sense, as the eye, and others. These injuries might be referred to in the accompanying remarks, but they would not be shown in the numerical returns. A gunshot fracture of the cranium with depression, but *without penetration* of the dura mater, is a very different injury in its essential features than another injury *with penetration* of the dura mater, and the prospect of success from elevation or trephining in the one case as a remedial measure is widely different from what it is in the other. But such special differences would not appear in the tabular statement, and without such limitations in the premises the conclusions shown in the column of results must necessarily be much impaired in scientific value. An examination of the tabular statement will exhibit many other deficiences such as I have alluded to: but I will not dwell on these, as they will more readily suggest themselves perhaps by an inspection of the classification I am forwarding with these remarks.

Before submitting Inspector-General Taylor's classification, permit me to take a brief review of what had been done in this country in the way of classifying polemical wounds previously to its appearance, and also to make a few remarks on the advantages of its arrangement.

Strange as it may appear, until the year 1855, and until several months after the opening battle of the Alma, there was no specific classification for gunshot wounds in this country. These injuries were shown numerically in the ordinary returns under the general term of "Vulnera Sclopitorum," and a division of them was also made after each action, according to their supposed gravity, whether slight or dangerous. The order which the English surgeons received at the commencement of the Crimean War for the classification of the killed and wounded among the men of their regiments, and on which they acted, was the following:

"As soon after an action as possible, medical officers in charge of corps will make out, and transmit to the Inspector-General of Hospitals, for the information of the General Commanding in Chief, returns of casualties, made out agreeably to the following form:"

RETURN OF KILLED AND WOUNDED IN —— REGT., IN ACTION OF ——

	Killed.	Wounded.			Total Wounded.	Remarks.
		Dangerously.	*Severely.*	*Slightly.*		
Officers.....						
Non-commission'd Officers and Men						

No other classified return of gunshot injuries was furnished. This was the general form used during the Peninsular War, and during the 40 years which succeeded the closing scene of the Duke of Wellington's final success at Waterloo, no change in it was made. Such a form of return was scarcely in advance of the method of arrangement employed by Hippocrates and Celsus, into "mortal" and "non-mortal" wounds, of each class, of which they defined regular lists; and scarcely so advanced as those employed by some of their successors, who subdivided the mortal wounds according to the *causes* of their fatality—such as wounds producing death by impeding respiration, by depriving the body of nutrition, by hæmorrhage, and so on.

In addition to the numerical and descriptive return above mentioned, it was expected by the authorities that the histories of wounds of particular interest would be furnished in the monthly or annual professional reports of corps, but the regulations required nothing more. Sometimes surgeons of their own accord would tabulate the cases which come under their care, for the sake of conciseness and order; but from the different views held by different surgeons, and the tendency that would naturally occur to put prominently forward some specially successful results, or features having a particular attraction for the surgeons who reported them, no fair comparisons could be instituted between the tables from different sources. Other zealous surgeons, again, would gather together groups of cases from a wider field of observation, for the purpose of investigating special questions, or illustrating particular doctrines; but such summaries could only be made by an expenditure of much personal exertion, and they also too often contained the same elements of error as those I just now adverted to.

The following is an example of individual arrangement: The last year in which any considerable body of soldiers laboring under the effects of polemical injuries came to England, prior to the Crimean period, was the year 1848, when the military operations in India, New Zealand, and the Cape of Good Hope furnished a number of cases of this class. The medical officer in charge of the hospital where these invalids were received, arranged their injuries in a special return, the first column of which was intended to show the nature and situation of the wounds, and the remaining columns the various ways in which the patients were finally disposed of. On examining the column of "Situation," in the first line, wounds of the head and face were returned together, and I need hardly mention what different considerations are involved in the wounds of these two regions. Then followed wounds of the thorax: thirdly, of the abdomen: and fourthly, of the back; without any subdivisions to show whether parietes only, or the cavities connected with them, or any other complications were involved in the injuries. Five headings then followed for wounds of the upper extremity, viz: Shoulder, arm, elbow, forearm, and hand; and six for wounds of the lower extremity, viz: Hip, thigh, knee, leg, ankle, and foot; without any indication to point to particular injuries of bones, nerves, or arteries, with which some of them were doubtless complicated.

The returns of a corresponding kind which have been handed down to us from the Peninsular campaigns, are, for the most part, of an equally unsatisfactory nature. Inspector-General Taylor referred to this fact, in proposing his classification, in the following remarks: "The necessity," he writes, "for some such classification as that now proposed, is obvious, from referring to the returns drawn up during the Peninsular War. These will be found nearly uninteresting and uninstructive, in consequence of the want of due distinction amongst wounds of wholly different nature and quality. In the wounds of the head, chest and abdomen no distinction is made between simple flesh wounds of these re-

gions and injuries of the more important viscera. The returns do not even distinguish between incised and gunshot wounds, which are of such totally different value even in the same parts; all kinds of wounds seem brought together simply as 'surgical cases,' and in some of the returns of 'capital operations,' it is not clear whether fingers and toes have, or have not, been included under the terms upper and lower extremities." It is somewhat important that the fact should be known of these uncertainties and serious imperfections existing in the comparatively recent professional returns referred to, for in almost all works of surgery they are quoted as standards of comparison, with a variety of objects, to show the results of amputation in different regions, for example.

Inspector-General Taylor commenced his classification of gunshot wounds in India at the time of the Sutlej campaign; but completed it in the present shape, while the principal medical officer at Chatham, before leaving for the Crimea. He submitted it when in charge of the 3d Division, before Sebastopol, to the head of the medical department in the Crimea, in July, 1855, and it was then ordered to be adopted for the army returns in general. A few months before that time Deputy Inspector-General Parry had employed it in classifying the wounded under his charge in the Surgical Division of the Invalid Hospital at Fort Pitt, during the period ending 31st March, 1855—the time when the first series of wounded invalids from the Crimea arrived in this country. This may be safely said to be the first time that a general classification of gunshot wounds at all approaching to precision was employed in the army returns of any country. The purpose of the classification is so well explained in the Deputy Inspector's Annual Report for the date just mentioned, that I cannot forbear quoting a few of his remarks on the subject.

"With a view of forming something approaching to a correct estimate," he writes, "of these various wounds and injuries, I have, in the following table, classified them according to different regions of the body in which they were situated, and afterwards subdivided these under each class into several species, according as they were either confined simply to the soft tissues, or complicated with more or less injury of the osseous structures and articulations, or with lesion of important organs, vessels, or nerves; and these latter, again, according to the nature and degree of complication. This classification is framed according to a form of descriptive return of wounds which was drawn up by Deputy Inspector-General Taylor soon after the arrival of wounded into this establishment, but is extended more in detail."

The extension to which Mr. Parry here refers, he adapted to the particular cases which happened to fall under his care. Thus, under Class 2, "Gunshot wounds of the face," Mr. Parry extended the distinctions into those complicated with injury to bones and lesion of one eye, lesion of both eyes, lesion of one ear, lesion of eye, ear, and sense of taste, and so on. The classification readily admits of such subdivisions as these, and this one of the great advantages of its arrangements.

As will be seen by reference to the classification, gunshot wounds are divided into 12 classes. Inspector-General Taylor added three other classes—one for sword wounds, a second for lance and bayonet wounds, and a third for miscellaneous wounds not included in the foregoing; so that all the injuries received in action might find a place in the returns.

I will conclude this letter by appending Inspector-General Taylor's classification, arranged in form for a descriptive numerical return. (See form A.) When required for a detailed description of particular cases, the headings of the return are simply printed over a wider space, so as to leave room for remarks under each heading. (See form B.) Finally, permit me to express the hope that the subject may be thought not unworthy of the consideration of the members of the Sanitary Commission, and that the remarks I have made may lead to discussion of the question whether this classification is best suited to ensure precision of tabulation, or requires further improvement.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

THOMAS LONGMORE.

[Form A.] Descriptive Numerical Return of Wounds and Injuries received in Action, admitted into the ——, between the ——of——, and ——of——, 186–.
——, the——of——186–.

CLASSIFICATION AND SPECIFICATION OF WOUNDS AND INJURIES.	Remained on the ——, 186–.	Since Admitted.	Died.	Discharged to Duty.	Transferred: To other Hospitals or Stations.	Transferred: Re-admitted for other Diseases.	Transferred: Re-admitted for Capital Operation.	Remaining on the ——, 186–.
1. Gun-shot Wounds of the Head.								
1. Contusions and simple flesh wounds of Scalp..... {Slight.. / Severe.								
2. With contusion or fracture of the cranium, without depression.....								
3. Ditto, with depression								
4. Penetrating the cranium								
5. Perforating do.								
2. Gun-shot Wounds of the Face.								
1. Simple flesh contusions and wounds..... {Slight.. / Severe.								
2. Penetrating, perforating, or lacerating the bony structures, without lesion of important organs.....								
3. Ditto, with lesion of the..... {								
4. With fracture of the lower jaw.....								
3. Gun-shot Wounds of the Neck.								
1. Simple flesh contusions and wounds..... {Slight.. / Severe.								
2. With injury of the... {								
4. Gun-shot Wounds of the Chest.								
1. Simple flesh contusions and wounds ..... {Slight.. / Severe.								
2. With injury of bony or cartilaginous parietes, without lesion of contents								
3. With lesion of contents by contusion, or with non-penetrating wound.....								
4. Penetrating, and ball lodged, or apparently lodged.....								
5. Perforating contents..... {Superficially. / Deeply.....								
5. Gun-shot Wounds of the Abdomen.								
1. Simple flesh contusions and wounds..... {Slight.. / Severe.								
2. Contusion or non-penetrating wound, with lesion of..... {								
3. Penetrating or perforating, with lesion of..... {								
6. Gun-shot Wounds of Back and Spine.								
1. Simple flesh contusions and wounds..... {Slight.. / Severe.								
2. With fracture of vertebra, without lesion of spinal cord.....								
3. With lesion of spinal cord.....								
7. Gun-shot Contusions and Wounds of the Perineum and Genital and Urinary Organs, not being at the same time Wounds of the Peritoneum.. {								
8. Gun-shot Wounds of the Upper Extremities								
1. Simple flesh contusions and wounds..... {Slight.. / Severe.								
2. With contusion and partial fracture of long bones, including fracture of the clavicle and scapula.....								
3. Simple fracture of long bones by contusion from round shot..								
4. With compound fracture of..... {Humerus..... / Radius ..... / Ulna ..... / Ulna and Radius. / All three bones ..								
5. Penetrating, perforating, or lacerating the several structures of the carpus and metacarpus								
6. Dividing or lacerating the structures of the fingers or thumbs.								
9. Gun-shot Wounds of the Lower Extremities.								
1. Simple flesh contusions and wounds..... {Slight.. / Severe.								
2. With contusion and partial fracture of long bones.....								
3. With simple fracture of long bones by contusion of round shot.								
4. With compound fracture of..... {Femur ..... / Tibia only..... / Fibula only..... / Tibia and Fibula. / All three bones..								
5. Penetrating, perforating, or lacerating the several structures of the tarsus and metatarsus.....								
6. Dividing or lacerating the structures of the toes.....								
10. Gun-shot Wounds, with direct injury of the large arteries, not being at the same time cases of compound fracture.....								
11. Gun-shot Wounds, with direct penetration or perforation of the larger joints..... {With fracture of bone. / Without fracture.....								
12. Gun-shot Wounds, with direct injury of the large nerves, not being at the same time cases of compound fracture.....								
13. Sword, wounds of.....								
14. Lance and bayonet, wounds of.....								
15. Miscellaneous Wounds and Injuries received in action.								
Total Wounds and Injuries received in act——								

(Form B.)

CLASS I.

GUNSHOT WOUNDS OF THE HEAD.

1.

Contusions and simple flesh wounds of the scalp.

Slight.

Severe.

2.

With contusion or fracture of the cranium, without depression.

3.

With fracture of cranium, with depression.

4.

Gunshot wound penetrating the cranium.

5.

Gunshot wound perforating the cranium.

CLASS II.

GUNSHOT WOUNDS OF THE FACE.

1.

Simple flesh wound.

Slight.

Severe.

2.

Lacerating the bony structures, without lesion of important organs.

3.

Laceration, with injury to the palate.

4.

Laceration of face, with injury to the tongue.

5.

Gunshot fracture of lower jaw.

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

is in urgent want of funds. Its operations for the relief of the Army were never more extensive and effective than now. Its depots and agents are at every military center, from Washington to the Rio Grande. The money value of the supplies it issued to the Army of the Potomac during and immediately after Gettysburg, exceeded seventy thousand dollars. Its issues at Chattanooga were on a like scale. Thousands of men needing "Special Relief," are daily cared for in its "Homes." Its steamboats and wagon-trains follow our soldiers everywhere. Its other and equally important departments of work—sanitary inspection, hospital inspection, hospital directory, transportation of the sick and wounded, &c., are in full operation. The cost of all this life-saving work is not less than forty-five thousand dollars per month.

Its funds are now much reduced, and immediate contributions are required to sustain it.

The Fairs that have been got up with such admirable and unprecedented energy and success at Chicago, Cincinnati, and Boston, though reported everywhere as "for the benefit of the Sanitary Commission," *have not as yet contributed a dollar to its treasury.* The large sums thus raised have been received by the branches of the Commission, at those cities respectively. These branches apply them most usefully, mainly to the purchase of material to be made up into clothing, bedding, &c., and for like purposes. They thus relieve the treasury of the Commission from the necessity of purchasing supplies belonging to certain classes; but they render no aid to any other department of its work.

Those who desire fuller information as to the organization, methods, and cost of the Commission, are referred to a statement of its system, and of the application of its funds, just published, copies of which may be had on application at the Office of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 823 Broadway, and at the book-store of A. D. F. Randolph, No. 683 Broadway.

It is submitted to all humane and patriotic men, that the Commission has saved, and is daily saving, lives the country cannot afford to lose. What it is doing to economize the life and health of the soldier, is worth to the country ten times the money the Commission has received, and is of direct practical importance to every one interested in diminishing the cost and the duration of the war.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer, at No. 68 Wall Street, or No. 823 Broadway, New York.

By order of the Standing Committee,

GEO. T. STRONG,

Treasurer U. S. San. Com.

Dec. 28, 1863.

THE RICHMOND PRISONERS.

LIBBY PRISON, RICHMOND, VA., *Dec. 7th*, 1863.

DEAR SIR: This afternoon I had the pleasure of receiving your kind note of the 23d of November.

I hope the people will not make contributions for Libby Prison. By so doing, they will be likely to send here far more supplies than will be needed. Whatever the people may choose to give, let it be to the United States Sanitary Commission, which will send to us every thing that we shall require, and nothing will be lost or wasted. The Sanitary Commission will distribute its benefactions intelligently, at the points where they will be most wanted.

Will you please have the above published in Boston, New York, and Portland?

I am very well and in excellent spirits. Remember me kindly to all my temperance friends. I am more earnest in the good cause than ever, if possible; and when the war is over, which will not be far off, I shall go to work as earnestly as ever.

Truly yours,

NEAL DOW, Brig.-Gen. U. S. A.

H. K. MORRELL, Esq., Gardiner, Me.

THE CASE OF SURGEON-GENERAL HAMMOND.

Editors Sanitary Commission Bulletin:

GENTLEMEN: I am interested in every thing that affects the efficiency of the medical service of our army, inasmuch as I have kinsmen and friends in its ranks, and the loss or the preservation of their lives may at any moment turn on the question whether the Army Medical Department is well or ill administered. I make no apology, therefore, for asking information on certain points connected with its administration, in which hundreds of thousands of the people feel as deep an interest as I do.

I understand that the President and Senate, more than a year ago, appointed a certain Dr. Wm. A. Hammond to be Surgeon-General of the Army, or, in other words, General Superintendent of all that our Government does to protect our soldiers against disease, and to provide them well-ordered hospitals when sick or wounded; that Dr. Hammond was so appointed because the President and Senate were satisfied that he was pre-eminently qualified for the duties of that high place—on the efficient performance of which duties the life and the health of hundreds of thousands of our sons and brothers so largely depend. I hear that his administration has been energetic and efficient. On this point I may, of course, be misinformed; but the last report of the Secretary of War, as published in the newspapers, states that only about eleven per cent. of our soldiers are in hospital, because of disease, and I know that this is far below the average amount of sickness in the British army in the Crimea, and in any foreign army about which I have been able to inform myself; and this certainly seems to show that Dr. Hammond has done his official duty with ability and with unusual success.

It now appears from common report that he has incurred the displeasure of Mr. Stanton, the Secretary of War, and that the Secretary has felt himself authorized practically to nullify the action of the President and Senate in appointing him Surgeon-General, and has ordered him off to Chattanooga or Knoxville, directing him to stay there until further orders, without any duty to perform, and has in the mean time put some one else (I do not know whom) into his place as Acting Surgeon-General.

Now I have a great respect for the Secretary of War, (as every loyal American ought to have in these times,) and that respect rests mainly on the results he has produced and the general progress our armies have made since he took office, in our war against rebellion. But I respect our lawful Surgeon-General for just the same reason. He seems to have been at least equally successful in fighting camp disease, and introducing method, economy, and efficiency into our military hospitals.

What I want you to tell me is—

1. Can Mr. Stanton *legally* remove a high officer of the Government, like the Surgeon-General, and put some one else in his place?

2. Supposing Mr. Stanton to have no legal right to do so, but that in these critical and perilous days the public welfare requires him to assume it, should not the exercise of this extreme and almost revolutionary power be at once followed up by a demand on his part for a Congressional Committee of Inquiry, or for the more direct and prompt process of a Court-Martial or a Court of Inquiry to investigate the charges of misconduct on which he feels justified in thus assuming to remove from his place an officer whom he did not put in it?

His action seems unjustifiable unless the Surgeon-General's administration has been grossly and notoriously corrupt or inefficient. Even if legal evidence of such corruption or inefficiency, such as would satisfy a court, cannot be obtained, there must be moral evidence of it that would satisfy a Congressional Committee. If there is not, how did Mr. Stanton satisfy himself on the subject, and become convinced that it was his duty to override law and usage by practically dismissing Dr. Hammond from an office to which he was appointed

as the best man for it, by just the same authority that made him, Mr. Stanton, Secretary of War?

3. Who is the present "Acting Surgeon-General" of the army? Have the President and Senate, or either, ever assigned to him the most responsible duties of that great office? If not, under what color of title is he now executing them? What is the Surgeon-General doing at the Southwestern frontier post to which he is banished? Who had the right to send him there? What good does the country get from the scientific acquirements and the administrative ability, the proof of which made him Surgeon-General, while he is thus virtually put under arrest, though under no charge of misconduct?

I ask these questions only for information. I am no Copperhead. I stand by Government, right or wrong. I uphold the President and all his Secretaries jointly and severally, because they are Government officials, and because it is the duty of every loyal citizen to uphold them. But when they seem to be going wrong, and making blunders, I feel that I ought to lift my own insignificant voice in warning. Mr. Stanton seems to be going very wrong and making a suicidal blunder in these dealings of his with the Medical Bureau. Perhaps he does not fully appreciate the intense interest of the people in the health of the army. The torrent of army relief supplies poured into the depots of your Commission ought to enlighten him on this point. If he appreciate in any degree the intensity of public feeling on this subject, he will be very careful how he offends it. If his sense of official duty compels him to any act which looks like thwarting the Surgeon-General, or interfering with him in his efforts to preserve the health and lives of our sons and brothers, he ought for his own sake to let the people know what are the grounds on which he proceeds, and to let them know it at once. For if the people began to suspect that he is prompted by personal or political feeling, (and such things are whispered,) it will be a blow from which he will never recover.

But I am wholly ignorant of the details of this business, and submit my inquiries to you in hope of a response.

Very respectfully yours,

REPUBLICAN.

We have not space in this issue to answer fully the questions of our correspondent "Republican." There is a justness, earnestness, and pertinency about them, however, that demand a reply, even though it may be brief and imperfect.

The Surgeon-General is virtually exiled to Chattanooga, bereft of his legal prerogative, while ordered ostensibly upon a tour of special inspection.

We cannot, although anxious to do so, find any apology for this action of Mr. Stanton; nor does our inability necessarily imply any want of unconditional loyalty to the "powers that be." If Dr. Hammond has not performed his high functions with honor and success, we agree with "Republican" in demanding that he be subjected to a lawful ordeal; if he has, we agree with him also, in insisting that no artificial, partisan, or unjust obstacle be placed in the way of the immediate reinstallment of the Surgeon-General as the head of that bureau which owes its regeneration and brilliant character to his scientific and honest administration.

From every quarter we hear expressions of respect for Dr. Hammond and his bureau. Sir Henry Holland, on his recent visit to this country, remarked that he had seen nothing during his sojourn that so excited his wonder and admiration as the vastness, completeness, and success of the operations of the Medical Bureau, and the curative touch and administrative power of the Surgeon-General. The foreign journals are constantly giving utterance to spontaneous tributes of applause; and everywhere in our own country, with singular unanimity of opinion, a marked approbation may be heard.

The following, extracted from the *London Medical Times*, October 12th, 1863, is so appropriate, that we give it entire:

"Verily our American cousins seem a strange race. For a long time we have been reading that Surgeon-General Hammond has been working wonders in the Army Medical Department, having restored it from the chaotic and disgraceful state in which he found it, to one of admirable order—an example for that of all other countries. And making allowance for the usual transatlantic exaggerations, he really seems to have done his work well. Appointed by the President, in spite of the old routine custom, over the heads of many seniors, he came to his task full of vigor, in the prime of life, and capable of great physical endurance. With a bold hand, he surrounded himself with trustworthy subordinates, displacing many who he did not think equal to the crisis, and proceeded energetically with his work. Large armies had to be provided for, a system of military hospitals to be organized, the examining boards to be re-

constructed, and an army medical school and museum to be founded. With all these vast and useful works he seems to have succeeded beyond all expectation, and the confidence of the public in the new system of medical organization has been warmly expressed; and yet, by the last accounts, we learn that he has been suspended from his office, and ordered to a distant service, a commission having been appointed to inquire into the conditions and management of his office. No charge against him, or reason for the investigation has transpired."

Indeed, we hear of nothing worthy of record, except calm, intelligent, thoughtful expressions of approval and satisfaction at the course of Dr. Hammond. We presume that the procedure of Mr. Stanton, alluded to above, may be considered as a tentative one, marked by a cautious reading of the popular pulse. We have little doubt that the record of those pulsations will be found of such a character as to lead to the administration of justice.

If we are not entirely and blindly in error, Dr. Hammond will experience no detriment from the secret decisions of *ex parte* inquisitors. The American people have a national fondness for light and justice, and will not willingly or tamely permit a faithful public officer, particularly one who has applied the highest results of professional skill and humanity to the relief of the wounds and diseases of their relatives stricken in battle, to be officially garroted.

THE SOLDIERS' HOME AT NASHVILLE.

The reports from "the Home" at Nashville, Tenn., for the four weeks ending November 28, show that during that period, 351 discharged soldiers, and 408 furloughed, were admitted from 17 different states. The number of meals furnished was 3,819, and the number of lodgings 1,484. The average number cared for each day, was 170. The number of deaths was 4. Transportation was procured for 17; papers were sent back for correction for 4; pay was drawn for 71. The total amount collected and paid over being $9,709.54. The reader will find a plan of the "Home" in the last number of the BULLETIN, illustrating the arrangements by which this work is carried on.

INTERNATIONAL SANITARY CONFERENCE.

In the city of Geneva, Switzerland, there recently assembled an International Conference of delegates from several nations of Europe, for the purpose of considering the "*means of providing for the insufficiency of the sanitary service of armies in the field.*" Unlike most of the international congresses that have been convened so frequently in years past, and which have become established institutions in Europe for discussion of social as well as political questions, the Sanitary Conference at Geneva seems to have been a spontaneous and hearty response to the suggestion of a single individual, and he an untitled and unpretending, but earnest-minded citizen.

The nations of Europe were represented as follows:

M. le docteur Unger, from Austria, (Surgeon-in-Chief of the Austrian Army.)
Surgeon-in-Chief Steiner, from Baden.
" Theodore Dompierre, from Bavaria.
" Dr. Lœffler, from Prussia.
" Dr. Basting, from Holland.
" Don. N. A. C. Landa, from Spain,
" Boudier, from France.
M. de Preval, from France.
M. Chevalier, (Consul,) from France.
Dr. Rutherford, (Inspector-General of Hosp.,) from England.
Mr. Mackenzie, (Consul,) from England.
Dr. Oelker, from Hanover.
Major Brodruck, from Hesse.
M. Capello, (Consul,) from Italy.
Prince Henry, XIII., from Prussia.
Dr. G. Housselle, from Prussia.
Capt. Van de Velde, from Holland.
Dr. Gunther, from Saxony.
Capt. Alex. Kirriew, from Russia.
M. E. Essakoff, from Russia.
Dr. Skœldberg, from Sweden.
Dr. Edling, from Sweden.
Dr. Hahn, from Wurtemberg.
Dr. Wagner, from Wurtemberg.
M. F. De Montmollin, from Switzerland.
Dr. Lehmann, from Switzerland.
Dr. Briere, from Switzerland.
M. F. De G. Montmollin, from Switzerland.
Prof. Landoz, from Switzerland.
M. Moratel, from Switzerland,
Dr. Engelhardt, from Switzerland.
M. M. General Dufour, President.
Henry Dunant, Secretary.

After spending four days (October 26th, 27th, 28th, and 29th) in very harmonious and earnest discussions upon the main questions that had called them together, they embodied the more definite conclusions of their conference in the following recommendations or resolutions:

"The International Conference, desirous to render aid to the wounded in those cases where the army sanitary service is insufficient, adopted the following resolutions:

"1. That in each country there exist a com-

mittee whose mission is to assist in time of war, if it is required, in providing by all means in its power for the sanitary wants of the armies. The committee will organize itself in such manner as shall seem most useful and convenient.

"2. Sections, without limit in number, may be formed for the purpose of aiding this committee, and which shall act under its general direction.

"3. It shall be the duty of the committee to place itself *en rapport* with the government of its own country, in order that its service may be received, if there is need.

"4. In time of peace, the committees and the sections shall look for the best means for rendering themselves really useful in time of war, especially in preparing material help of all kinds *(secours materiels de tout genre)* and in endeavoring to organize and instruct volunteer nurses, *(infirmiers volontaires.)*

"5. In the event of war, the committees of the belligerent nations shall furnish, according to their means, relief *(secours)* to the respective armies; their particular duty is to organize and set at work the volunteer nurses, *(infirmiers volontaires,)* and to prepare, in accordance with the military authority, the places in which the wounded shall be attended.

"They may solicit the co-operation of the committee of neutral nations.

"6. Upon application and with consent of the military authorities, the committees shall send the *infirmiers volontaires* upon the battle-field; they shall, at such times, be under the direction of the chief military commander.

"7. The *infirmiers volontaires* who follow the army, must be provided by their respective committees with all necessary means for their sustenance.

"8. That in every country, they wear as uniform a white band upon the arm, with a red cross.

"9. The committees and sections of the various countries may assemble an International Congress to communicate the results of their experience, and to consult upon the measures to be pursued in the interest of the work.

"10. The exchange of communications between the committees of the several nations shall be provisionally made through the committee at Geneva.

"Besides the above resolutions, the Conference expresses the following wishes:

"A. Let the governments grant their highest protection to the committees of relief which shall be formed, and facilitate as much as possible the fulfillment of their mission.

"B. Let *neutrality* be proclaimed in time of war, by belligerent nations, for the ambulances and the hospitals, and let it be equally admitted, in the most complete manner, for the *personnel* of the sanitary staff, *(personnel sanitaire officiel,)* for the *infirmiers volontaires,* for the country people who may go to assist the wounded, and for the wounded themselves.

"C. Let a uniform distinctive badge *(signe)* be recognized for the sanitary corps of all armies, or at least for the persons of the same army who are attached to that service. Let a uniform flag *(un drapeau identique)* be also adopted for ambulances and hospitals in all countries."

It appears that it was no part of the design of the Geneva Conference to take up any of the great questions relating to the Sanitary care of armies excepting those leading points that relate to the succor of the men who fall in battle—the humane and sanitary provision for the ambulance and field-hospital service; and upon the questions that were raised respecting the necessity or duty of great improvements in that service, the delegates expressed most decided and harmonious sentiments. The presence of such veteran campaigners and military surgeons as MM. BOUDIER, UNGER, BASTING, and LŒFLER, enabled the most experienced class of delegates to present in a strong, but true light, all the essential difficulties that stand in the way of successfully utilizing the offering—*personal and material*—of voluntary aid for the relief and care of the wounded in active armies. The positions taken by the ablest and most experienced members of the Geneva Conference, strongly corroborate and sustain the established policy and works of the UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION.

HENRI DUNANT, a citizen of Geneva, who was traveling as a tourist in the regions occupied by the vast armies that met at Solferino and Magenta, had his soul so stirred by the scenes of carnage and war that he witnessed there immediately upon the cessation of the conflict, that he deemed it a duty to humanity to apply such volunteered aid as he was able to organize and put into operation upon the spur of the occasion. The record of that timely and merciful work is in the hearts of the multitude of mutilated sufferers, who, but for the succor which that noble man and his obedient helpers rendered, would not now be able to recount the scenes of the terrible battle-field of Solferino.

Thus naturally this noble-hearted and earnest man, M. DUNANT, was led by his brief and thrilling experience to reflect upon the practicability of calling into existence an organized, national, and *international* scheme for applying the services of trained corps of voluntary nurses, so as to secure a uniform system, rendered by study and experience superior, if possible, to the hastily extemporized band of voluntary attendants, organized and led by him at Solferino. This

gentleman's little book, entitled "*Souvenir de Solferino,*" embodied many of the results of his study and experience. This unpretending little "Souvenir," accompanied by a circular from the "*Society of Public Usefulness,*" of Geneva, was transmitted to the various Sovereigns and Ministers of War in Europe, and, in response to the invitation of the circular, the Conference assembled.

Several of the questions which were submitted to the Geneva Conference had already been brought before the Statistical Congress at Berlin a month previously.

Unanimous approval was given, in the deliberations of the Conference, to the proposed plan for encouraging the timely preparation of *materiel* for the succor of the wounded, and especially for effectually *organizing* the humane endeavors and charities of the people. Said the distinguished representative of the Government and Army of Prussia: "Behold, gentlemen, the great field of activity for permanent 'Societies of Relief,' organized in time of peace, and prepared beforehand with all suitable means to supply the work of official authorities, and to satisfy the wishes of a truly religious philanthropy."

The medical delegates at the Geneva Conference joined heartily with the non-medical delegates in all the debates and purposes of the Conferences. Their sentiments in reference to such works of life-saving are happily expressed by a French physician, Dr. Henri Navre, who, as a public journalist, has earnestly advocated the objects of the Conference. He writes: "The physician has science, let him confer with the benevolent and sympathetic; let him encourage them with his approbation, and enlighten them with his counsels. *Knowledge will thus heighten the value of benevolence, and the result will be beautiful.*" And justly does that eloquent physician ask: "Is it not the highest mission of the true physician to aid with his professional knowledge the endeavors of the benevolent and self-sacrificing?" Such appears to have been the spirit not only of the medical delegates at the International Conference, but of the various Sovereigns and Ministers of War who sent messages of counsel and encouragement.

There is no difficulty in detecting in the spirit and discussions of the Geneva Conference the germs of great things for the science and art of battle-field relief.

It is very interesting to find them taking up and discussing, *de novo*, a question which the U.S. Sanitary Commission solved nearly two years ago, viz.: How to organize the outside labors of the people for the relief of their relatives and friends stricken upon the battle-field, in such a manner as to secure a commensurate application of aid and comfort, without invading the sphere of military discipline or weakening either the dependence of the soldier upon the military establishment or the sense of responsibility of the medical officers.

Difficulties that the Geneva Conference regarded as very serious and almost impassable, we have met and readily surmounted. We have demonstrated how the spontaneous benevolence of the people may be organized in time of war, so as to carry the offerings of the homes upon the battle-fields, through moving armies, and into military hospitals, without conflicting with the rigid requirements of military discipline. While we feel great interest in again taking up, with our foreign friends, the rudimentary principles of the matter, we regret that the light of American experience did not shine upon the debates of the Geneva Conference.

THE AMBULANCE CORPS IN THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Although the necessity for an ambulance corps, or in other words a trained officered body of men, under military discipline, supplied with all the necessary appliances for the conveyance of the wounded from the spot where they fall to the field hospital in the rear, has been felt ever since the war began, it was not completely organized in the Army of the Potomac until August of last year. It had, however, been previously in process of formation, awaiting full growth and the approbation of the general commanding. Dr. Letterman, the able Medical Director, has been steadily working at the ambulance scheme for more than a year, striving to meet every requirement of humanity without conflicting with military discipline. In this work he has been aided and heartily sustained by Surgeon-General

Hammond, whose thorough knowledge of military hygiene and discipline, all who are at all familiar with the medical history of the war must know. This admirable scheme of organization, set forth in order No. 85, is one of the striking proofs of the professional wisdom and humanity of the medical corps of the Army of the Potomac. It only remains for the Government to adopt for the entire army of the nation a similar organization. Indeed, we know that the Surgeon-General is desirous of carrying throughout the entire army some such uniform plan, and it will not be long before the loud and irresistible expressions of professional and popular approbation for his official greatness and success in this and other medical fields will relieve him from those unjust and odious restraints which now seem to limit the range of his functions, though they cannot, in fact, entirely deprive the sick and wounded national soldier on the field, in the camp, or in quarters, of the fruits of his wisdom and provisionary care. We shall have more to say on this subject.

Order No. 85 is as follows:

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 85. *August* 24, 1863.

The following revised regulations for the organization of the Ambulance Corps, and the management of the Ambulance Trains, are published for the government of all concerned, and will be strictly observed:

1. The Army Corps is the unit of organization for the ambulance corps, and the latter will be organized upon the basis of a Captain as the commandant of the corps, one 1st Lieutenant for each division, one 2d Lieutenant for each brigade, one Sergeant for each regiment.

2. The privates of this corps will consist of two men and one driver to each ambulance, and one driver to each medicine wagon.

3. The two-horse ambulances only will be used, and the allowance, until further orders, to each corps, will be upon the basis of three to each regiment of infantry, two to each regiment of cavalry, one to each battery of artillery, to which it will be permanently attached, and two to the Head-Quarters of each Army Corps, and two army wagons to each Division. Each ambulance will be provided with two stretchers.

4. The Captain is the commander of all the ambulances, medicine and other wagons in the corps, under the immediate direction of the Medical Director of the Army Corps to which the ambulance corps belongs. He will pay special attention to the condition of the ambulances, wagons, horses, harness, &c., and see that they are at all times in readiness for service; that the officers and men are properly instructed in their duties, and that these duties are performed, and that the regulations for the corps are strictly adhered to by those under his command. He will institute a drill in his corps, instructing his men in the most easy and expeditious method of putting men in and taking them out of the ambulances, lifting them from the ground, and placing and carrying them on stretchers, in the latter case observing that the front man steps off with the left foot and the rear man with the right, &c.; that in all cases his men treat the sick and wounded with gentleness and care; that the ambulances and wagons are at all times provided with attendants, drivers, horses, &c.; that the vessels for carrying water are constantly kept clean and filled with fresh water; that the ambulances are not used for any other purpose than that for which they are designed and ordered. Previous to a march he will receive from the Medical Director of the Army Corps his orders for the distribution of the ambulances for gathering up the sick and wounded; previous to, and in time of action, he will receive orders from the same officer where to send his ambulances, and to what point the wounded are to be carried. He will give his personal attention to the removal of the sick and wounded from the field in time of action, going from place to place to ascertain what may be wanted; to see that his subordinates (for whose conduct he will be responsible) attend faithfully to their duties in taking care of the wounded, and removing them as quickly as may be found consistent with their safety to the field hospital, and see that the ambulances reach their destination. After every battle he will make a report, in detail, of the operations of his corps to the Medical Director of the Army Corps to which he belongs, who will transmit a copy, with such remarks as he may deem proper, to the Medical Director of this Army. He will give his personal attention to the removal of the sick when they are required to be sent to general hospitals, or to such other points as may be ordered. He will make a personal inspection, at least once a month, of every thing pertaining to the ambulance corps, a report of which will be made to the Medical Director of the Corps, who will transmit a copy to the Medical Director of this Army. This inspection will be minute and made with care, and will not supersede the constant supervision which he must at all times exercise over his corps. He will also make a weekly report, according to the prescribed form, to the same officer, who will forward a copy to the Medical Director of this Army.

5. The 1st Lieutenant assigned to the ambulance corps for a Division, will have complete control, under the Captain of his corps and the Medical Director of the Army Corps, of all the ambulances, medicine and other wagons, horses, &c., and men in that portion of the ambulance corps. He will be the Acting Assistant Quartermaster for that portion of the corps, and will receipt for and be responsible for all the property belonging to it, and be held responsible for any deficiency in any thing appertaining thereto. He will have a traveling cavalry forge, a blacksmith and a saddler, who will be under his orders, to enable him to keep his train in order. His supplies will be drawn from the Depot Quartermaster, upon requisitions approved by the Captain of his corps, and the Commander of the Army Corps to which he

is attached. He will exercise a constant supervision over his train in every particular, and keep it at all times ready for service. Especially before a battle will he be careful that every thing be in order. The responsible duties devolving upon him in time of action, render it necessary that he be active and vigilant, and spare no labor in their execution. He will make reports to the Captain of the corps, upon the forms prescribed, every Saturday morning.

6. The 2d Lieutenant will have command of the portion of the ambulance corps for a brigade, and will be under the immediate orders of the commander of the ambulances for a division, and the injunctions in regard to care and attention and supervision prescribed for the commander of the division he will exercise in that portion of his command.

7. The sergeant will conduct the drills, inspections, &c., under the orders and supervision of the Commander of the ambulances for a brigade, be particular in enforcing all orders he may receive from his superior officer, and that the men are attentive to their duties.

The officers and non-commissioned officers will be mounted. The non-commissioned officers will be armed with revolvers.

8. Two Medical Officers and two Hospital Stewards will be detailed, daily, by roster, by the Surgeon-in-Chief of Division, to accompany the ambulances for the Division, when on the march, whose duties will be to attend to the sick and wounded with the ambulances, and see that they are properly cared for. No man will be permitted, by any line officer, to fall to the rear to ride in the ambulances, unless he has written permission from the senior Medical Officer of his regiment to do so. These passes will be carefully preserved, and at the close of the march be transmitted by the senior Medical Officer with the train, with such remarks as he may deem proper, to the Surgeon-in-Chief of his Division. A man who is sick or wounded, who requires to be carried in an ambulance, will not be rejected, should he not have the permission required; the surgeon of the regiment who has neglected to give it, will be reported at the close of the march, by the senior surgeon with the train, to the Surgeon-in-Chief of his Division. When on the march, one-half of the privates of the ambulance corps will accompany, on foot, the ambulances to which they belong, to render such assistance as may be required. The remainder will march in the rear of their respective commands, to conduct, under the order of the Medical Officer, such men as may be unable to proceed to the ambulances, or who may be incapable of taking proper care of themselves until the ambulances come up. When the case is of so serious a nature as to require it, the surgeon of the regiment, or his assistant, will remain and deliver the man to one of the Medical Officers with the ambulances. At all other times the privates will be with their respective trains. The medicine wagons will, on the march, be in their proper places, in the rear of the ambulances for each Brigade. Upon ordinary marches, the ambulances and wagons belonging to the train will follow immediately in the rear of the Division to which it is attached. Officers connected with the corps must be with the train when on the march, observing that no one rides in any of the ambulances except by the authority of the Medical Officers. Every necessary facility for taking care of the sick and wounded upon the march, will be afforded the Medical Officers by the officers of the ambulance corps.

9. When in camp, the ambulances will be parked by Divisions. The regular roll-calls, reveille, retreat and tattoo, will be held, at which at least one commissioned officer will be present and receive the reports. Stable duty will be at hours fixed by the Captain of the corps, and at this time, while the drivers are in attendance upon their animals, the privates will be employed in keeping the ambulances to which they belong in order, keeping the vessels for carrying water filled with fresh water, and in general police duties. Should it become necessary for a regimental Medical Officer to use one or more ambulances for transporting sick and wounded, he will make a requisition upon the commander of the ambulances for a Division, who will comply with the requisition. In all cases when ambulances are used, the officers, non-commissioned officers and men belonging to them, will accompany them; should one ambulance only be required, a non-commissioned officer as well as the men belonging to it, will accompany it. The officers of the ambulance corps will see that ambulances are not used for any other purpose than that for which they are designed, viz., the transportation of sick and wounded, and in urgent cases only, for medical supplies. All officers are expressly forbidden to use them, or to require them to be used, for any other purpose. When ambulances are required for the transportation of sick or wounded at Division or Brigade Head-Quarters, they will be obtained, as they are needed for this purpose, from the Division train, but no ambulances belonging to this corps will be retained at such Head-Quarters.

10. Good serviceable horses will be used for the ambulances and medicine wagons, and will not be taken for any other purpose except by orders from these Head-Quarters.

11. This corps will be designated for sergeants, by a green band 1½ inches broad around the cap, and chevrons of the same material, with the point toward the shoulder, on each arm above the elbow. For privates, by a band the same as for sergeants around the cap, and a half chevron of the same material on each arm above the elbow.

12. No person except the proper Medical Officers, or the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of this corps, will be permitted to take or accompany sick or wounded to the rear, either on the march or upon the field of battle.

13. No officer or man will be selected for this service except those who are active and efficient, and they will be detailed and relieved by Corps Commanders only.

14. Corps Commanders will see that the foregoing regulations are carried into effect.

By command of Major General Meade:
S. Williams, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

The following excellent comments on the above were addressed to the *New York Times*, and published a fortnight ago by "an army surgeon."

The interest which professional men and others have lately shown in an ambulance system for the Union armies, renders it worth while to present to those who may have any share in devising a new scheme, the system now existing in the Army of the Potomac. It is no design of the writer to present this without any defects—or to discourage the zealous and laudable efforts of the men who are desirous to mitigate the sufferings of the sick and wounded soldiers. The object is merely to show them what exists—in order to enable them to remedy its defects, if they observe any—to devise one upon it as a model—or to organize a scheme entirely new and better.

I.—ORGANIZATION.

The organization of the ambulance corps of this army, as given above in General Order, No. 85, Headquarters Army of the Potomac, is as follows: First, the corps is the unit, and the supreme control of the ambulances, as regards their use, is confided to the Medical Director of the army corps.

The ambulances are in the proportion of three to a regiment. Three men are assigned to an ambulance—one driver and two stretcher-bearers. This gives nine men to a regiment, who are commanded by a non-commissioned officer, mounted. The above constitutes the regimental ambulance corps, which, consolidated by brigades, are commanded by a 2d Lieutenant. The brigades are consolidated into divisions commanded by a 1st Lieutenant, who, consequently, has under his command two 2d Lieutenants, fifteen Sergeants, and one hundred and thirty-five men. The three divisions consolidated make the corps commanded by a Captain, under the immediate command of the Medical Director. Add to the above, one light medicine wagon, (Autenrieth's,) and one four-horse supply wagon for each brigade, and you have the full ambulance armament independent of the regimental hospital wagons.

II.—AMBULANCE CAMP AND DISCIPLINE.

The ambulances encamp or park by divisions, and where there are efficient officers, the camp is formed equal to an artillery camp as to the order and discipline of the men, the grooming of the horses, and in all the appliances necessary to keep animals and wagons always effective. Minute inspections by the proper officers are made weekly; negligence, slovenliness or unsoldierly conduct, are punished with the same rigor as in any other arm of the service. The drilling practice of the men is, of course, conducted with a view to their efficiency in their own department.

III.—MARCHING IN ACTIVE CAMPAIGNS.

When a movement is ordered, the sick are taken up by the train of their respective divisions, the regimental hospital wagons are ordered to join the trains, and thus the whole of the hospital appliances of each division, in one compact column, follows close upon its own division, under the command of the Ambulance Officer. Two medical officers, with steward and nurses, are detailed to accompany the train and to take charge of the sick in it. Upon halting, hospital tents to the number sufficient to accommodate the sick, are pitched, a hospital is rapidly established, all the aid necessary being rendered by the ambulance corps. The train and hospital are close to the camp of the division. This plan is continued day after day in a protracted march.

IV.—IN BATTLE.

The train, as above stated, follows close upon its division. When a battle is expected, and the division deploys into line, the train halts in the rear. Now comes the most difficult and trying time of handling an ambulance corps effectively. Those who are interested in devising a system of ambulances must not forget in their theories without experience, this critical time, must bear in mind that without competent and tried officers, without men held under the strictest military rule, their finest scheme will prove a failure, at the time when the services of the ambulance corps are most demanded. The plan of handling the ambulance corps in an action, I can present to them from experience in all the battles fought since the present ambulance system was adopted.

In the first place, the stretcher-bearers march with the regiments to which they belong into the action. The Medical Director, with the Captain of the ambulance corps, are with the General commanding the corps at the front. As soon as the positions into which the divisions in battle will be thrown are ascertained, the Medical Director communicates with the Surgeon-in-Chief of Division, designating the places where the division hospitals are to be located. These hospitals are composed of the hospital tents in the division, together with a house or barn, if available. The ambulances are drawn up between hospitals and the division in front, awaiting orders. One officer of the ambulance train is with the Division Commander, one non-commissioned officer with each brigade. The Medical Officers who accompany the regiments into action take position by brigades, in some sheltered location contiguous to their respective brigades. This position is known to the Sergeant watching the brigade, who directs the wounded with stretcher-bearers thither. The ambulances are ordered up to the same place, to take the wounded to the division hospitals in the rear.

The officer at division headquarters, as soon as the action begins, orders up the ambulances and designates the point to which they are to go. He learns from the Medical Director or corps officer, the various positions and shifting of the troops, and acts accordingly. In this manner the operations of the ambulance corps are conducted throughout the action, and subsequent to it, until all the wounded are removed from the field to the division hospitals in the rear, where they receive professional and all other treatment necessary. I abstain from any description of the division hospitals in the field, my object being to exhibit the ambulance system as it is, and as it has worked in this army. From more than a year's experience in the hard-fought engagements of this army, I can affirm that I have not known wounded to lie on the battle-field two hours after their injuries were received. I must, of course, except the battles of last May, on the south side of the Rappahannock, where the field remained in possession of the enemy; but even there, in one engagement attended with success, I have seen over one thousand wounded within the hospitals of one corps two hours after the battle was over.

I beg to assure men now interested in devising an ambulance system, that any scheme of theirs which will place men in an ambulance corps, not subservient to the strictest military rule, not bound to march as soldiers under fire, with their regiments, will prove a failure. Remove once from officers and men of this corps the conviction that they are soldiers, bound to share the dangers of their comrades in a fight, and the whole scheme—no matter how perfect in form and organization—will prove a disastrous failure, at the very critical time of battle. Civilian nurses were once sent to the army and proved a nuisance; an ambulance corps with any of the civilian privileges and rights about it, will prove a still greater.

Senator Wilson will, ere this reaches our readers, have introduced a bill organizing the ambulance corps for the whole army.

The following are its leading provisions:

1. The supervision of all ambulances, medicine wagons, &c., is vested in the Medical Director or chief medical officer of each army corps.

2. One Captain, one First Lieutenant for each division, one Second Lieutenant for each brigade, one Sergeant for each regiment, three privates for each ambulance, and one private for each medicine wagon, shall be detached by each corps Commander, the officers and non-commissioned officers of such corps to be mounted.

3 Three two-horse ambulances are granted to each regiment of infantry, two to each regiment of cavalry, one to each battery of artillery, two to the headquarters of each army corps, and two army wagons to each division.

4. The fourth section prescribes the duties of the Captain of the corps, and directs the establishment of a drill in service for removing sick and wounded, requiring the exercise of gentleness and care under strict and particular orders of the Medical Director and the Secretary of War.

Sections five and six prescribes the duties of other officers of the corps.

7. The Surgeon-in-Chief of the division is required to detail two medical officers and two hospital stewards to accompany the ambulances when on the march.

8. The use of ambulances is prohibited for any purpose except the conveyance of the sick and wounded, and for medical supplies only in urgent cases.

9. No persons other than those connected with the ambulance corps are allowed to remove the sick and wounded.

NOTES ON NURSING.

VENTILATION.

Do you ever go into the bed-rooms of any persons of any class, whether they contain one, two, or twenty people, whether they hold sick or well, at night, or before the windows are opened in the morning, and ever find the air any thing but unwholesomely close and foul? And why should it be so? And of how much importance it is that it should not be so? During sleep, the human body, even when in health, is far more injured by the influence of foul air than when awake. Why can't you keep the air all night, then, as pure as the air without in the rooms you sleep in? But for this you must have sufficient outlet for the impure air you make yourselves to go out; sufficient inlet for the pure air from without to come in. You must have open chimneys, open window or ventilator; no close curtains round your beds; no shutters or curtains to your windows, none of the contrivances by which you undermine your own health or destroy the chances of recovery of your sick.

A careful nurse will keep a constant watch over her sick, especially weak, protracted, and collapsed cases, to guard against the effects of the loss of vital heat by the patient himself. In certain diseased states much less heat is produced than in health, and there is a constant tendency to the decline and ultimate extinction of the vital powers by the call made upon them to sustain the heat of the body. Cases where this occurs should be watched with the greatest care from hour to hour, I had almost said from minute to minute. The feet and legs should be examined by the hand from time to time, and whenever a tendency to chilling is discovered, hot bottles, hot bricks, or warm flannels, with some warm drink, should be made use of until the temperature is restored. The fire should be, if necessary, replenished. Patients are frequently lost in the latter stages of disease from want of attention to such simple precautions.—The nurse may be trusting to the patient's diet, or to his medicine, or to the occasional doses of stimulant which she is directed to give him, while the patient is all the while sinking from want of a little external warmth. Such cases happen at all times, even during the height of summer. This fatal chill is most apt to occur toward early morning at the period of the lowest temperature of the twenty-four hours, and at the time when the effects of the preceding day's diets is exhausted.

Generally speaking, you may expect that weak patients will suffer much more in the morning than in the evening. The vital powers are much lower. If they are feverish at night, with burning hands and feet, they are almost sure to be chilly and shivering in the morning.' But nurses are very fond of heating the foot-warmer at night, and of neglecting it in the morning, when they are busy. I should reverse the matter.

All these things require common sense and care. Yet perhaps in no one single thing is so little common sense shown, in all ranks, as in nursing. With private sick, I think, but certainly with hospital sick, the nurse should never be satisfied as to the freshness of the atmosphere, unless she can feel the air gently moving over her face, when still.

But it is often observed that the nurses who make the greatest outcry against open windows, are those who take the least pains to prevent dangerous draughts. The door of the patients' room or ward *must* sometimes stand open to allow of persons passing in and out, or heavy things being carried in and out. The careful nurse will keep the door shut while she shuts the windows, and then, and not before, set the door open, so that a patient may not be left sitting up in bed, perhaps in a profuse per-

spiration, directly in the draught between the open door and window. Neither, of course, should a patient, while being washed or in any way exposed, remain in the draught of an open window or door.

The extraordinary confusion between cold and ventilation, even in the minds of well-educated people, illustrates this: To make a room cold it is by no means necessarily to ventilate it. Nor is it at all necessary, in order to ventilate a room, to chill it. Yet, if a nurse finds a room close, she will let out the fire, thereby making it closer, or she will open the door into a cold room, without a fire, or an open window in it, by way of improving the ventilation. The safest atmosphere of all for a patient is a good fire and an open window, excepting in extremes of temperature. (Yet no nurse can ever be made to understand this.) To ventilate a small room without draughts, of course requires more care than to ventilate a large one. Another extraordinary fallacy is the dread of night air. What air can we breathe at night but night air? The choice is between pure night air from without and foul night air from within. Most people prefer the latter. An unaccountable choice. What will they say if it is proved to be true that fully one-half of all the disease we suffer from is occasioned by people sleeping with their windows shut? An open window most nights in the year can never hurt any one. This is not to say that light is not necessary for recovery. In great cities, night air is often the best and purest air to be had in the twenty-four hours. I could better understand in towns shutting the windows during the day than during the night, for the sake of the sick; the absence of smoke, the quiet, all tend to making night the best time for airing the patients. One of our highest medical authorities on Consumption and Climate has told me that the air in London is never so good as after ten o'clock at night.

Always air your room, then, from the outside air, if possible. Windows are made to open; doors are made to shut—a truth which seems extremely difficult of apprehension. I have seen a careful nurse airing her patient's room through the door, near to which were two gas-lights, (each of which consumes as much air as eleven men,) a kitchen; a corridor, the composition of the atmosphere in which consisted of gas, paint, foul air, never changed, full of effluvia, including a current of sewer air from an ill-placed sink, ascending in a continual stream by a well-staircase, and discharging themselves constantly into the patient's room. The window of the said room, if opened, was all that was desirable to air it. Every room must be aired from without—every passage from without. But the fewer passages there are in a hospital the better.

If we are to preserve the air within as pure as the air without, it is needless to say that the chimney must not smoke. Almost all smoky chimneys can be cured—from the bottom, not from the top. Often it is only necessary to have an inlet for air to supply the fire, which is feeding itself, for want of this, from its own chimney. On the other hand, almost all chimneys can be made to smoke by a careless nurse, who lets the fire get low and then overwhelms it with coal; not, as we verily believe, in order to spare herself trouble, (for very rare is unkindness to the sick,) but from not thinking what she is about.

In laying down the principle that the first object of the nurse must be to keep the air breathed by her patient as pure as the air without, it must not be forgotten that every thing in the room which can give off effluvia, besides the patient, evaporates itself into his air. And it follows that there ought to be nothing in the room excepting him, which can give off effluvia or moisture. Out of all damp towels, &c., which become dry in the room, the damp, of course, goes into the patient's air. Yet this "of course" seems as little thought of, as if it were an obsolete fiction. How very seldom you see a nurse who acknowledges by her practice that nothing at all ought to be aired in the patient's room, that nothing at all ought to be cooked at the patient's fire! Indeed the arrangements often make this rule impossible to observe.

If the nurse be a very careful one, she will, when the patient leaves his bed, but not his room, open the sheets wide, and throw the bed-clothes back, in order to air his bed. And she will spread the wet towels or flannels carefully out upon a horse, in order to dry them. Now, either these bed-clothes and towels are not dried and aired, or they dry and air themselves into the patient's air. And whether the damp and effluvia do him most harm in his air or in his bed, I leave you to determine, for I cannot.

Even in health, people cannot repeatedly breathe air in which they live with impunity, on account of its becoming charged with unwholesome matter from the lungs and skin. In disease where every thing given off from the body is highly noxious and dangerous, not only must there be plenty of ventilation to carry off the effluvia, but every thing which the patient passes must be instantly removed away, as being more noxious than even the emanations from the sick.

Of the fatal effects of the effluvia from the excreta it would seem unnecessary to speak, were they not so constantly neglected. Concealing the utensils behind the vallance to the bed seems all the precaution which is thought necessary for safety in private nursing. Did you but think for one moment of the atmosphere under the bed, the saturation of the under side of the mattress with the warm evaporations, you would be startled and frightened too!

The use of any chamber utensil *without a lid* should be utterly abolished, whether among sick or well. You can easily convince yourself of the necessity of this absolute rule, by taking one with a lid, and examining the under side of that lid. It will be found always covered, whenever the utensil is not empty, by condensed offensive matter. Where does that go, when there is no lid?

Earthenware, or if there is any wood, highly polished and varnished wood, are the only materials fit for patients' utensils. The very lid of the old abominable close-stool is enough to breed a pestilence. It becomes saturated with offensive matter, which scouring is only wanted to bring out. I prefer an earthenware lid as being always cleaner. But there are various good new-fashioned arrangements.

A slop-pail should never be brought into a

sick room. It should be a rule invariable, rather more important in the private house than elsewhere, that the utensil should be carried directly to the water-closet; emptied there, rinsed there, and brought back. There should always be water and a cock in every water-closet for rinsing. But even if there is not, you must carry water there to rinse with. I have actually seen, in the private sick room, the utensils emptied into the foot-pan, and put back unrinsed under the bed. I can hardly say which is most abominable, whether to do this or to rinse the utensil *in* the sick room. In the best hospitals it is now a rule that no slop-pail shall ever be brought into the wards, but that the utensils shall be carried direct to be emptied and rinsed, at the proper place. I would it were so in the private house.

Let no one ever depend upon fumigations, "disinfectants," and the like, for purifying the air. The offensive thing, not its smell, must be removed. A celebrated medical lecturer began one day, "Fumigations, gentlemen, are of essential importance. They make such an abominable smell that they compel you to open the window." I wish all the disinfecting fluids invented made such an "abominable smell" that they forced you to admit fresh air. That would be a useful invention.—*Miss Nightingale.*

CHRONIC DIARRHŒA.

The pathology of this disease—ulceration of both small and large intestines—points out the proper treatment. You must nourish the patient with food that is easily assimilated. He should take plenty of eggs—tender beef steak, mutton chops—*good stale bread*—sweet milk—and but very few if any vegetables; green tea (genuine) and *not coffee.* He should always lie down after eating; walking would be injurious, but riding in a carriage, or rail-car, beneficial.

Thorough mastication of the food must be insisted on. The drink should be hot tea, not cold water; whiskey or malt liquors only in case of extreme emaciation and weakness. He should lie down flat on his back while in doors—and ride in wheel carriages when in the open air.

The best medicines are oil of turpentine ten drops every four hours, or ¼ gr. nitrate of silver in one drachm of glycerine every four hours, or twenty five drops of laudanum at bed time, (*when it does not nauseate*, or *nothing.*)

A writer in the *London Medical Times and Gazette* for Oct. 31st, 1863, speaking of the influence of drainage and good water upon the health of cities, says, that in the case of Salisbury, Eng., the average annual number of deaths for the last eight (8) years preceding the completion of the drainage, (excluding the cholera year,) was 243, or 27 in 1,000. and for the same period since 193, or 21 in 1,000, *an actual reduction of almost one-fourth of the whole number.*

☞ The price of the work on "The U. S. Sanitary Commission," noticed in our last, and published by Messrs. Little & Brown, was erroneously stated to be 75 cents. It should have been $1.25.

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☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

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Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 4th Street, Pittsburg, Penn.
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Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, Ohio.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

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Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky.—James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.
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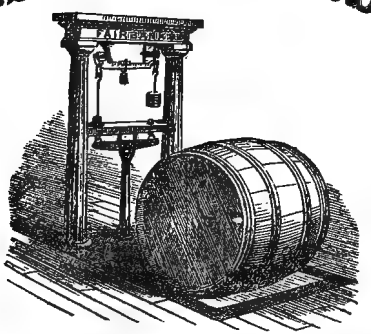
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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. NEW YORK, JANUARY 15, 1864. No. 6.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

We shall publish, in our next, extracts from the proceedings of the quarterly meeting of the Commission, now being held in Washington.

"WHY DOES THE SANITARY COMMISSION NEED SO MUCH MONEY?"

If the people furnish supplies liberally without cost, and if the storehouses and treasuries of the various Branches of supply are full, how is it that the Central Treasury of the Sanitary Commission calls for and disposes of so much money? This is a plain question, honestly asked; and there is a plain and honest answer. It is this: a large amount of money is needed, because the present machinery of the Commission, which is supported by the Central Treasury, cannot be kept in motion without a very large cash expenditure; and the judgment of sagacious, humane, and carefully calculating men, to whom the whole matter has been submitted, decides, without qualification, that all this machinery must be kept a-going—that large as its cost is, the results for good which depend upon it are so much larger, that the Commission, as the trustees of the people's bounty and representatives of their benevolence, the executors of their will, could not find a justification in allowing the expensiveness of the system to cause its discontinuance until a fair statement of their intention to discontinue it, and the reason why they intended to do so, should have been laid before the people, and the question put, Shall the Sanitary Commission, or shall they not, go on with this work in all its breadth, involving this annual expenditure? Shall they drop all other branches of their work, and limit themselves to the charge of merely "distributing the supplies" which are sent to them; or shall they keep up their entire system, embracing, with this distribution of supplies, sanitary inspection by medical men, of camps and of field hospitals; sanitary inspection, by medical men, of general hospitals; special relief, with all its agencies, and in all its various departments; the hospital directory, with its register, and its 500,000 names?

The fact of the case is this, that the work of distributing supplies to the sick and wounded, while of course it involves much expense, is but one of five directions in which the Sanitary Commission are laboring to ward off disease and death from the soldier, to insure speedy recovery, to relieve the anxiety of relatives at home, to make the dear-bought experience of regiments already long in the war, available to regiments just entering the field. Part of this work suggested itself and grew up as the Commission went on, but most of it entered into the original plan of the Commission, which was based upon the idea that what the army needed from outside itself, was not merely additional clothes, and food, and care in times of emergency, but a better understanding of the conditions for securing health, and more urgent inducements with more constant constraints and influences to lead to a regard for every possible law which would guard against or check disease. Hence the whole department of "Sanitary Inspection" was established in field and hospital, involving large expense, and to the casual observer producing no very important results,—in the whole of its work making less show of re-

lief or aid to the soldier than would be made by the distribution of one wagon load of supplies to wounded or dying men—yet in its actual effects probably saving more lives to the army and to friends at home than has ever been done by the distribution of any five hundred wagon loads of these same supplies.

The Special Relief department also involving now in its constant enlargement a heavy and increasing outlay, is one of the branches of the Commission's work which has very little to do with supply distribution, and was not indeed embraced in the original plan of organization. Yet this same Special Relief work with its "Lodges" and "Homes" all along the Atlantic coast, on the shores of the Mississippi, and inland, wherever an army is found, could not be given up to-day without to-morrow and each following day exposing to manifold evils, at least three thousand men who now are protected.

So of the "Hospital Directory," with its agencies for giving prompt and accurate information to those at home concerning the sick and wounded throughout the army; this involves large expense, so much so that a few months since those who hold themselves responsible for the right use of the money put into their hands by the people, almost decided that they had no right to continue this branch of the Commission's work, which after all was not for the aid of the soldiers so much as for the relief of the anxious solicitude of friends; but when the proposal to give it up was discussed, it was found that there was an immense pressure from "the people," demanding the continuance of this servant, and friend, and comforter of theirs. This too had grown up, not as part of the original plan of the Commission, and surely in nowise connected with the distribution of needed supplies, but it had come out of an urgent call of the people that those who in their name were helping the soldiers in the field, should now also help them at home—the fathers, wives, and mothers—by answering their inquiries about the sick and wounded. Thus it was that this Hospital Directory, with all its aids for securing and transmitting information, had sprung up out of the demands of the people, and the people ask to be and are called upon to defray the expense of its continuance.

Such is the history, brought down to the present time, of those four departments of the Commission's labor, additional to the work of "Supply Distribution." The cost of maintaining these four departments with the largeness which the interests of half a million enlisted men, and half a million homes ask for, and with the thoroughness which wise economy unites with medical science in demanding, cannot be less than thirty thousand dollars each month. And it is with the express understanding that to such use this much of the money will be appropriated, that funds are asked for and contributed to carry on "the work of the Commission." The detail of these expenditures in each one of these branches is open for examination, and the result of such examination by careful business men, who have themselves contributed largely to the very money thus used, and who measure also the work which is done, is this: Those men say, the Sanitary Commission would be false to duties assumed, and to duties providentially laid upon them—false also to the people, whose work this really is—false likewise to the age which gives the opportunity for just this work of filling up generously a great page of a nation's history—an opportunity given at just this time, the one year out of a century—false to all this, they say, would the Commission be if it did not persevere and carry on all these agencies for good, confidently and unhesitatingly asking the people for whatever money is really needed, with fit economy, for the work.

Thus it is that the "Central Treasury," from which all these departments of the Commission's work draw their support, needs constant renewal, although the Branches of supply (lately so amply furnished by the proceeds of the "Sanitary Fairs" held in various sections of the country) may be stored to overflowing with goods and money.

But the whole ground is not covered by this statement. All persons employed by the Commission in every part of the vast field draw their pay from the Central Treasury. Moreover, it has become the settled policy of the Commission to employ

paid agents. A large experience, with a jealous regard to a right and economical use of funds entrusted to their care, has convinced the Commission beyond question that in a work continuing thus for years, the only wise method is to employ the best men that can be obtained, with compensating pay; that thus only can be secured continued and experienced labor, (one of the most important of all things in this work)—systematic effort—a sense of responsibility to those in authority—entire yielding up of time and strength to the service—and a right on the part of the officers of the Commission to remove any person from the service who may prove to be incompetent or ill suited to the work. Under the volunteer system of agency, which may answer well where a comparatively narrow field is covered, and for a work which is limited to weeks or months—none of these absolutely essential ends can be secured. And although this work of the Sanitary Commission is a benevolent work, and its benefits are gratuitous to those who receive them, yet it has to be conducted in its large labors with *thorough business method.* This, too, is to be borne in mind, that this system of paid agents does not exclude the advantage of having in the work disinterestedness and religious earnestness. On the contrary, many men of just those characteristics, and who because of the spirit which was in them entered into the work, are now retained among the paid agents; they were men who could give a few months to the cause, but were not justified in giving years. And in selecting persons additional to be employed, the aim of the Commission is always to get men whose hearts are there before their hands are called to take hold.

But once more, the Central Treasury is drawn upon, not only for maintaining the various departments already named, and for the pay of all the persons employed by the Commission east and west—some two hundred men, including its corps of Medical Inspectors—but also for the purchase of such supplies as are needed in emergencies where there is no time to send to distant Branches and storehouses. In this way after a single battle, sometimes fifteen or twenty thousand dollars are used, every single dollar of which probably helps to meet some real want or to save a life. From the Central Treasury also comes the money which maintains in the field with each army corps independent means of transportation for carrying with the army as it moves and distributing there sanitary supplies. This is the system now adopted by the Commission. There is also the expense incurred of purchasing horses and wagons with which to transport supplies from the nearest depots to battle-fields. This expense is often very large, but it has more than once proved of incalculable benefit, enabling us to reach the wounded with our stores on the field, long in advance of the Government stores. For, as is well known, according to existing laws, the Medical Department can draw supplies, but is utterly powerless as to ordering them forward to the field, there being *no independent transportation* at the control of that Department. The Medical officer is obliged to make over his supplies to the Quartermaster's Department for transportation, where, with the immense burden which is heaped up there, there is often an unavoidable delay which is death to the wounded who are waiting upon the field. So long as this law continues, by which the hands of the Medical Department are thus tied, "so long"— as one of the Medical Bureau recently said, a member of the Regular Army—"is there an absolute necessity that the Sanitary Commission stand ready with its *independent transportation* to carry forward at the earliest moment supplies to the battle-fields."

Such is an enumeration of some of the principal demands which the Central Treasury of the Sanitary Commission must always be prepared to meet. In their aggregate these demands call for a monthly deposit in the Treasury of forty thousand dollars.

Such is the record, and the record is the appeal. It asks whether the people wish this agency in behalf of the soldiers in tent and in hospital, and on the battle-field—at the east, and at the west, and at the south—to cease; or whether it is their will to have it continue in its largeness of plan, its scientific exactness, its thoroughness of detail, its promptness in meeting emergen-

cies, its ability to do all that the friends at home would themselves desire to do for our soldiers. If the people say it must still go on with its work, then must they contribute liberally not only to the Branches, and to the local sources of supply, but also to the Central Treasury of the Commission; and as long as the war continues, so long shall a full record be furnished to them.

NEW YORK, January 7, 1864.

MY DEAR MR. OTIS: I acknowledged by telegraph to-day, your great contribution of $50,000, being the January and February installments of California's support of the Sanitary Commission.

I had the pleasure of opening your letter, with its now well-known and welcome handwriting, in the presence of half a dozen leading merchants of New York, who happened to be in the office at the time on other business; and could you have heard their tributes to the loyalty and generosity of your noble State, it would have repaid you for your long and devoted attention to our interests, and partly paid the people of California for their magnificent behavior. The constancy and methodical liberality of the Pacific Coast to our Sanitary Commission as their almoner, is our chief dependence. You will hear a great deal of the vast Sanitary Fairs at Chicago, Cincinnati, Boston, Buffalo, Albany, Washington, at which very large sums of money are raised, and you may very naturally think that it must be high water in our Central Treasury! It is important that the people of California should understand that all this money is fitly expended by the Branches themselves *in the purchase of supplies*—which supplies are forwarded to our receiving depot for distribution. But the whole cost of distribution, with the men, wagons, horses, and machinery of every kind which transports supplies and makes them useful and saving to the army, all these accumulated comforts and necessaries falls upon our Central Treasury; which has more to do, and is more indispensable, precisely according to the amount of supplies that are furnished to it. The more money the Branches have, the more supplies we have; and the more supplies we have, the more it *costs* to forward them, distribute and supply them to our vast army, scattered over our wide country.

All the money and all the supplies that could be raised and furnished would be as useless to the army without us, as the rains on the hill sides of the Croton River would be to the city of New York, if the city had not built an expensive aqueduct; which accumulates, economizes, and distributes, by an intricate and costly system of mains, and gates, and trainers, and pipes, and stop-cocks, this water to every house, every kitchen and chamber, every wash-bowl and pitcher and mouth in New York!

The United States Sanitary Commission is the aqueduct, with its enormous pipes of supply, and its diversified pipes of distribution, now laid down over the whole field of war, and maintained, with all the necessary breakages and changes of position and spread of operations, from Texas to Kentucky; from Kansas to Virginia; from the Potomac to the Rio Grande; from Portland to Charleston, and Fernandina, and Ship Island; from Chicago to Cleveland, Cincinnati, Louisville, Cairo, Memphis, Nashville, Chattanooga, and wherever the army stays or goes. Understand, then, that the wealth of the Branches is indispensable to the soldier's relief, but that their wealth only makes us poor—by giving us more to do and nothing to do it with! We are like a stage company, with an immense number of passengers, but left without forage for our horses, or horses for our coaches; or, rather, we should be so if California did not make herself the great motive power for the Central Machinery of the Sanitary Commission, and thus furnish horses and forage, by which our overflow of passengers (the supplies!) are all expeditiously transported to their destination, (the sick and wounded, or the naked and hungry soldiers!) Don't strain what I say too far. We are not so ungrateful as to say that the nation has left us without support for our Central Machinery; for we have received into our Treasury about a million of dollars: but of this million, the Pacific Coast has supplied us with nearly $700,000, leaving only $300,000 to come from the rest of the nation! The Atlantic States are waking up to this disproportion, and a wholesome emulation is aroused. They are now pre-

paring a great National Metropolitan Fair at New York, for the benefit of the Central Treasury of the Commission, which will come off late in March; at which they hope, at one blow, to raise perhaps a half million of dollars, and so equalize the contribution of the Atlantic with the Pacific! I rejoice at this holy jealousy. I have told our able and rich men that if they wished the United States Sanitary Commission to throw itself into the arms of its devoted friends in California, and depend *wholly* on her liberality for the support of its Central Machinery, that we were not afraid of the result; that the newspapers from the interior of that State and from Oregon and Washington Territory, as well as private letters, were all assuring me of the devoted and unstinted sympathy and pride of the Pacific Coast in the unexampled work of mercy and love that they had made so largely their own; and that the nation this side the Rocky Mountains had only to give us one cold shoulder, or to indicate its fatigue at our dependence upon her, to make us very sure of having the whole heart, and as much of the golden and silver veins as we needed, of your young and generous wealth, put at our disposal! But our people are too wise and shrewd to allow you to appropriate this privilege exclusively to yourselves!

The United States Sanitary Commission, our Central Board, originated, designed, and set in motion all this now vast machinery, both in the homes and peaceful States, where supplies are accumulated, and in the field, where they are distributed. Its operations are on too vast a scale, its relations to this war too momentous, its record too honorable, its work and principles too deeply wrought into the tender experiences and grateful memories of nearly a million of men, who in the field and in the hospital have at one time or another had their hunger and nakedness, their wounds and fatigues, their sore feet and bleeding limbs, ministered to by this Institution, not to make the sagacious and fore-looking think, that the time is coming, after the hurry of this war is over, when the question will be carefully asked, who planned, who worked, who supported this United States Sanitary Commission, who supplied the brains, and who the heart and who the *money* by which this the largest, most successful, and most beneficent charity which Christian history has ever seen, was set a-going and kept a-going? There are even people who begin to foresee that the political value of a good record in this Commission, is worth careful consideration. Now, the loyal North and West, numerous as the demands which the bounties and the supports of soldiers' families and all the other local expenses of the war make upon them, do not mean to be behindhand in their support of the Commission. They are beginning to see, too, that it is not enough to make their record perfectly clean to support merely the home branches generously, for they foresee that when a due consideration is given to the subject, it will appear to all that the Central Machinery, the Sanitary Commission proper, recognized by the Government, co-ordinated with the medical department, welcomed and trusted by the generals, loved and relied upon because alone known and seen by the soldiers themselves in hospital and camp, is the final heir of whatever interest, or national glory, or gratitude this movement has awakened, as it is the sole condition of the actual serviceableness of the branches themselves. Accordingly, the country here is beginning to say that California must not run away with all this gratitude of the soldiers, must not fasten on herself the eyes of the whole world and all future history, as the head nurse of the great American army in its memorable and glorious war for the permanent establishment of our national liberties. We hope, at least, that this is the growing feeling. We earnestly and fondly desire to make our support *national*, to draw no more from the Pacific than from the Atlantic. We are anxious to see the account squared, and as much in the scale, the centre being the Rocky Mountains, which hangs on this side, as on yours when the war terminates. If, however, we are disappointed in this hope, we shall not be discouraged; for we shall not be without *your* enthusiastic, *your* ever growing and evermore gracious and cheerful support. If I were not properly and sincerely jealous of my own Atlantic region, and did not for her own sake, and for the sake of her future honor and dig-

nity, wish to see her abreast with the Pacific, in this truly national enterprise, I should not hesitate a moment to fling the Commission and the soldiers, sick and wounded, on your exclusive nursing and care. I believe you would do it; I know you would do it. But I will not consent to relinquish to California this imperishable honor, which would give her a political and moral pre-eminence above her sisters for all times, without a struggle for New York and Massachusetts, and Ohio and Illinois, and Rhode Island and Pennsylvania, and every other loyal State in our cis-alpine region. But if the hour ever comes when the Central Machinery of the United States Sanitary Commission loses energy and efficiency through the neglect of its patrons and supporters here at home, you may be sure that we shall not see the beautiful and effective system we have matured impaired or abandoned, on any scruple of local or Atlantic pride. No! we shall seize the telegraph wire, attached to the hearts and the coffers of California, and give it such a pull as will be felt in every store, and house, and hut, and mine, and ranche, and heart, and hand in all your region; and at once, from the other end of that magic wire, will begin to drop into our treasury those big, golden heart-drops, which so many times have raised our nearly exhausted reservoir—the rich blood of California's patriotism and humanity poured out like water to assuage the wants and sufferings of our noble army. With our hand on the telegraph wire that ends in your rich hearts and mines, we can patiently and calmly wait the decision of the loyal people of these Golden States. Let them say, "We are tired of your demands; turn to friends less drawn upon than we are," and we shall click at once our despair here and our hope in you, with a faith that will never be shaken, that all the silver and the gold in your mountains must be exhausted before California denies one request of ours made in the name of our sick and wounded patriots. But that hour is not come, and I hope and believe it never will come. I am, however, in any and all events, gratefully and affectionately yours, for the army and the homes and the cause and the Commission, HENRY W. BELLOWS, *President.*

SANITARY MATTERS IN NORTH CAROLINA.

On arriving at Newbern, I sought the depot of the Commission, and was welcomed by Dr. Page, the gentlemanly inspector of that district, whose services in the department of the South have secured for him a reputation for probity and efficiency which is doubtless merited.

The district allotted to the doctor covers a wide range, embracing in all sixteen general and post hospitals, including a convalescent camp. To all of these stores have been supplied upon the requisitions of the surgeons, and I am happy to know that the most cordial relations exist between the surgeons and the Commission, and that they co-operate most earnestly to promote the well-being of our troops. During my visit it was my privilege to accompany Dr. Samuel McCormick, the Medical Director of the Department, whose inquiries into the condition of the hospitals were thorough and accurate. It was equally pleasing to notice the readiness with which the Medical Director of the post and his associates not only responded to the investigations of their superior officers, but were anxious to make a full exhibit of all the affairs intrusted to them. Dr. Page accompanied the Medical Corps, and the occasion presented a cheering evidence of the unity and fellowship existing between the surgeons and the Commission, and their joint efforts to aid each other in the great work of promoting the comfort of our soldiers.

The Stanley Hospital at Newbern, the Mansfield at Morehead City, and the Hammond at Beaufort, are the chief in size and importance. The two first are erected on the pavilion plan, and are well ordered in all respects. Dr. McCormick directed the use of China table furniture where tin was used, because of its wholesome moral influence upon the troops. It is more homelike, and promotes the reflection that the Government is careful for the comfort and well-being of its defenders.

During the siege at Washington, N. C., the agents of the Commission were on hand with their varied stores, and their useful[illegible]

pital transports were well supplied with the means for "aid and comfort" from the depot at Newbern. About forty regiments have been under inspection, and I judge, from an examination of many of their camps, that they are well policed in most regards. I was particularly impressed with the substantial and comfortable appearance of many of the camps. Log houses, with *glazed windows* and open fire-places, are common. The regimental hospitals are generally comfortable and well supplied.

In the marshy district between Newbern and Morehead City, and on the line of the railroad between these two places, there are several encampments, in which there has been much sickness. At Newport barracks, especially, the men have suffered from intermittent fevers. It is unsafe to allow the same troops to remain long at a time at this point. *The quinine ration has been used freely, and in some localities with marked advantage.* If company officers were held to strict account as to the care of their men, and were required to inspect each one daily, with reference to underclothing especially, cleanliness, the use of prescribed prophylactic means, the temperature and ventilation of quarters, &c., I am satisfied much sickness would be prevented. It is not unfrequently remarked that some companies in the same camp are more sickly than others, and the difference is doubtless owing to the difference in the attention and care given to the men by their officers.

Last year, the scurvy commenced among the troops in this district as early as July; and though it did not prevail to an alarming extent, it was sufficiently prevalent to indicate the importance of adopting means for its prevention this year. If some of the land now vacant in the vicinity of Newburn could be granted by the Government for garden purposes, under the management of the Commission, I am satisfied it would be a great blessing to the army in that region. The land is a sandy loam, with an alluvial sub-soil, containing large quantities of shells and other marine deposits; which, if brought to the surface as a fertilizer, would greatly increase its productiveness, and insure large crops of early vegetables. The ground might now be prepared for onions, which would be ready for use in April. Beans would ripen in May; tomatoes in June; and large supplies of carrots and potatoes might be gathered at various times during the growing season, and a considerable crop stored for winter use. The expense and labor of conducting such small farms as would be necessary to supply the several posts on the coast, would be very small, compared with the immense advantage that would accrue to our troops.

The prisoners of war, confined by rebel authorities, have also been the recipients of aid from our agents in this department; and the cases of individual relief afforded refugees and to soldiers needing transportation, &c., are not a few. Mr. Geo. B. Page acts as the relief agent, and is an earnest worker in the cause.

I should be intruding upon the province of the intelligent representative of the Commission in North Carolina, if I attempted to furnish for your readers the incidents and details which were observed, as they will be presented in his official report; but this hasty sketch is cheerfully submitted.—*Dr. Parrish's Report.*

THE CINCINNATI FAIR.

The Cincinnati Sanitary Fair having the experience of those of Boston and Chicago to profit by, seems to have outdone them both in the variety of its devices for the raising of money, and in the products of the sales. It was opened with speeches from General Rosecranz, Bishop McIlvaine, General Carey, and other notables, national and local. The work fairly started, the number of things that were done to secure its success defy all description or enumeration. There was an Autograph Committee, whose business it was to hunt down celebrities all over the country, and extort from them something in their own handwriting that would satisfy the public craving for this species of curiosity. Of Dr. Wendell Holmes, of Boston, they required that he should be funny "over his own signature," for this special occasion; and difficult as it is to make people laugh to order, he *was* funny accordingly. There has, we venture to say, been nothing in this walk of comicality equal to the following epistle since the list of book-titles

which Thomas Hood made out for the Duke of Devonshire :

BOSTON, December, 14, 1863.

DEAR SIR : You ask me for a list of questions in Natural History, with answers subjoined, for the use of the Instructor. I submit a few, which, I think, will serve your purpose for the proposed examination of the Scientific Class:

"1. What animal produces one of its own parents?

"Answer.—The beaver, which is well known to construct its own *dam*.

"2. Is the Dodo extinct?

"Ans. It is not, as shown by the following bill in my possession :

"'Mr. ——— to X———.	Dr.
One mongrel goose	$3 00
One " "	3 00
	$6 00

"3. What is the largest quadruped?

"Ans.—The *mole* of Adrian.

"4. What is the lightest quadruped?

"Ans.—The lynx. The lynx weighs less than an *ounce*.

"5. When does a horse stand on six legs?

"Ans.—When he stands on his *fore* legs and his two hind legs also.

"6. What other insect is the bee afraid of?

"Ans.—The beetle—(scare-a bee-us.)

"7. Is the otter of roses obtained from that animal when fed on other vegetables—cabbages for instance?

"Ans.—Probably. The musk deer furnishes his perfume when fed on *water* melons.

"8. What instance can you give of the cunning of serpents?

"Ans.—The simple fact that they secrete their venom where they can find it when wanted.

"9. Why do the above questions amuse you more than the answers?

"Ans.—Because the person who asks the question is the querist.

"As to the other questions about which you ask my opinion, my answer must be brief.

"Eighteen hours' study out of the twenty-four is too much, I think, for delicate young persons. It does not allow sufficient time for sleep, recreation, and meals.

"I doubt about the introduction of capital punishment as a part of the ordinary college discipline. It will have a good effect on the survivors, no doubt.

"OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES."

There was a "Committee on Trees," whose business it was to dress Christmas trees, and large numbers of them, we need hardly say, were disposed of. There was a Horticultural Department, and it was filled with flowers and plants from various parts of the State. There was a Refreshment Hall, and it was supplied in lavish abundance with every variety of edible, from every place in the neighborhood. The city and its vicinity was divided into districts, and each district covered the tables with cooked dishes of all kinds on a particular day assigned to it—coffee, oysters, turkeys, ducks, chickens, hams, tongues, beefsteaks, cakes, fruits—and a hundred ladies waited on the guests. There was a Ladies' Bazaar, in which almost every thing that ladies can either devise or manufacture, or that they or gentlemen are at all likely to require, was exposed for sale. There is hardly any art or manufacture that was not represented at it, and hardly any department of industry in the West which did not contribute to it. And though last, not least, there was an Art Gallery, containing all the most valuable pictures to be found in Cincinnati or its neighborhood, lent by their owners for the occasion. It must not be forgotten, too, that as we remarked in our last, Cincinnati, young as it is, possesses a collection of pictures and engravings such as only one or two other cities in the Union can boast.

The proceeds of the fair are already calculated in the rough at $200.000. This is a large advance on that of Boston, and a still larger on that of Chicago, and is doubtless due to the experience gained by the example of these cities, as well as to the growth of the enthusiasm which the success of the earlier efforts in this direction have inspired. There is, of course, very little doubt that New York will produce a result in money which will far surpass that of all the other fairs put together, and there is no reason why it should not.

But our readers will find, on our first page, a full, and it is to be hoped a convincing explanation of the fact, that all these fairs, so far from lightening the pressure on the central fund of the commission, increase it.

Dr. E. A. Crane, under date of Dec. 26, 1863, says of the national forces at New Iberia: "The sanitary condition of the army is remarkable. I have never seen in any of our armies so little disease. But little over *four per cent.* (4.3) of the present force is on sick list. Only 5.4 per cent. have been reported sick, including those sent to General Hospital since Oct. 1st. The highest rate obtains in the cavalry division, as most of the picketing now falls upon it. One division of the army reports only 1.4 *per cent. sick.*"

Dr. Crane attributes this remarkable freedom from sickness to "light duties, *fair rations, including sweet potatoes, and an abundance of fresh meat, and a healthy climate.*"

SHALL CALIFORNIA BE ALLOWED TO SUPPORT THE SANITARY COMMISSION?

There seems a probability that if the Atlantic States do not bestir themselves, they may find that California will take the whole work of maintaining the Commission out of their hands. The question already seems to be, not whether she is ready to undertake the task, but whether our self-love, or sense of duty, will allow it to devolve upon her. At a large meeting held in San Francisco a few weeks ago, Mr. William T. Coleman said:

I was somewhat surprised to see that a public announcement was made that a few individuals, mentioned by name, including myself and "other distinguished speakers," should address this meeting. It is scarcely necessary for me to say, that public speaking is not my forte; and I little expected that my name would be announced, as it was, when I consented to come here. Fortunately, the cause requires no eloquence; and, if it did, the requirement would be satisfied by the circulars of the Committee, and the reverend gentleman who is to make the closing speech. It was cheering to Californians in the East, to witness the emulation and spirit caused by the contributions of our state to the Sanitary Fund. Never did a people gain so much at so small a price. The donations coming in a bulk, appeared to be large, but, really, this State has given very little, in comparison to others. The loyal States of the East have all been called upon for contributions in many ways not witnessed here. There were soldiers to be fitted out, wounded soldiers to be received on their return, help to be sent to the battle-field, and appeals were made at every corner. People have not stopped to inquire any thing, save whether the sufferer was a soldier and in need. The Government provided arms and ammunition in abundance, but hospital supplies were lacking; the cause was in danger of great loss by neglecting wounded men in the field and in the hospitals. Then it was that California blazed up suddenly with a brilliant, a golden light, and our State gained a name of which Californians, with all their vanity, may well be proud. Though the Eastern States have given much more, their gifts were not in one large stream, but in numberless rivulets—by States, by cities, by villages, by societies. The treasurer of no eastern association has had the satisfaction of sending $100,000 at one time. But if California should give $100,000 per month, she would not give any more than her share. Congratulate yourselves that you have so little to do, but take care to do it well. This State ought really to bear the entire expenses of the Sanitary Commission. Let us send them more than they ask. We could do it and never miss it. The attention and favor of the Sanitary Commission are not limited to any class of soldiers. No lines are drawn of nativity, or of shades of religious or political opinion. Officers of the Commission do not turn their backs on wounded rebels, but supply their wants also, and God grant that they make better men. There were, not long since, 2,500 sick and wounded rebels at New York, and they were not neglected. The Sanitary Commission has saved more lives and spared more suffering, than any other effort of that kind ever made. I now ask you, fellow-citizens, to again come forward with your contributions and subscriptions. Your wealth is increasing at a rate unequalled in the world, and this great charity is ready to relieve you of part of the responsibility and burden. Send fifty bars of gold and a hundred of silver, through Wells, Fargo & Co., by way of steamer, to the Sanitary Commission, with the compliments of California, and you will strengthen the well with confidence and renewed zeal, and the wounded will find their cup sweeter and their beds softer, while they bless the Golden State. [Applause.]

The San Francisco *News Letter and Mining Journal*, commenting on this, says:

Why should not California assume the entire expenses of the Sanitary Commission? She is able to do it—she should be willing. Why? Through the Sanitary Commission alone can our people adequately and effectively give expression to their loyalty and generous patriotism. We are not called upon to sacrifice our sons on the battle-field, in the swamps, and on the tables of the army surgeons. Our homes are not draped in mourning for their noble manhood turned to dust in the deadly conflict. We are favored of Heaven and of men. Why, then, as our flesh and blood are spared, our property secure, our hearts and hearths safe from the desolation which has hung crape on nearly every door in the Eastern States; should we not willingly, voluntarily, reply to the appeal of the Sanitary Commission? Go on with your glorious work—we will furnish you the means. This shall be our contribution for nationality, liberty, and charity! Our citizens have heretofore given liberally, munificently. Sam. Brannan is reported to have given a thousand dollars recently. That was noble. That was probably not equal to his income for two days, yet it was generous and worthy. Ah, how many at the East would gladly give their entire revenue for two months, could that buy for their property and homes the immunity and prosperity enjoyed by our people! Let our State then take up the support of the Sanitary Commission. Its forces shall be California's army. The sick and wounded saved through our gifts shall be the crown of our glory, the laurels of our victories. Let us make the name of our State a synonym for generosity, which every soldier's heart shall bless whenever he hears it uttered.

It would certainly be a very noble thing for California to do, but it would not be a noble thing for us to allow her to do it. The expenses of the Commission, it must not be forgotten, have so far been regulated rather by its receipts, than by the extent of the work before it. It has never yet done half what it might have done, if it had more money; and if its income were double what it has ever yet been, it would still be

compelled to stop far short of meeting all the demands on its stores and on its energy. Consequently, no matter how much California may give, there will still be a vast amount of suffering left unrelieved, if the East does not likewise do its part.

HELP FROM ABROAD.

Everybody knows, although we possess no statistics on the subject, that there is hardly a city of any size or interest in Europe, which does not possess a colony of Americans, who have gone abroad either to study, themselves, or to educate their children, or to engage in business, or in quest of health, or simply to enjoy themselves. They are to be found in London and Paris by the hundred, in Florence, Rome, Munich, Dresden and Berlin, Baden and Pau, by the dozen, and are nearly all, especially those who are permanently resident in these places, persons of wealth, or, at all events, in very easy circumstances. They are, generally, remarkable for the facility with which they adapt themselves to foreign manners and customs, but are equally remarkable for the tenacity with which they cling to their nationality, and the eagerness, and almost ostentation, with which they proclaim it. Their love of their country, and interest in its fortunes, in fact, as has been proven by their demeanor during the war, seem to gain intensity in the direct ratio of their distance from it. No Americans have been so zealous in their support of the Government, so uncompromising in their loyalty to the Union, as those whose lot has, since our troubles commenced, been cast in foreign lands; and their zeal in its defence has probably been quickened by the fact that they have found themselves for nearly three years, on the continent as well as in England, incessantly engaged in repelling the attacks on the national cause, which, strange to say, most foreigners, for some time past, seem to take special delight in making, whenever, either in steamboat, train, hotel, or even in ordinary social intercourse, they find themselves in the company of Americans.

It has long been a subject of regret that this patriotic fervor of the Americans abroad could not be made to display itself in something more substantial and serviceable than a wordy warfare at dinner tables and in cafés, and that some means could not be provided that would enable them to share in that work of succoring and comforting the armies in the field, in which everybody at home is in one way or other engaged. We are glad to say that this want has at last been supplied by the establishment in Paris of an organization to be known as the "EUROPEAN BRANCH OF THE UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION." It has been started under the auspices, and in a great measure owing to the exertions of Dr. McClintock, the Minister of the American Chapel in the Rue de Berri, aided by a number of active and patriotic Americans, either temporarily or permanently resident in the French capital—and there are a large number of such. They have appointed a Secretary, hired offices, collected money, and are establishing branches in all the places most frequented by Americans in other parts of Europe, and have placed themselves already in communication with, and under the control of, the Sanitary Commission here. Money they hope to be able to send us in considerable sums—that is, considerable for the number of persons from whom it will have to be collected; and offer at the outset to contribute to our stores what it is difficult, if not impossible, to procure here, except at very high prices—a quantity of very fine and perfectly pure brandy. We are in hopes that they may be able to do much in collecting and forwarding contributions to the New York Sanitary Fair from the various European countries. There is one service which they will undoubtedly render, which though perhaps not so immediate in its results, may be of more permanent benefit to the country than any other, by the diffusion of information in Europe touching the medical and sanitary aids which the nation has provided for its armies during this war. There is certainly nothing in our history, or in our actual social condition, entitling us to so high a place in the scale of civilization, as our efforts to save life during the last three years; and they only need, we are quite satisfied, to be more widely known, in order to secure for us a wider and more lasting renown than will ever be won for us by our armies. How little they

are yet known in Europe is, however, revealed by the fact, that at the Sanitary Conference which recently met at Geneva, Switzerland, and was attended by all the leading army surgeons and sanitary reformers in Europe, and of the proceedings of which we gave a summary in the last number of the *Bulletin*, no mention whatever was made, nor did any thing seem to have been heard by the members of it, of the fact that the United States Sanitary Commission had for over two years been engaged in the successful prosecution of the very work of which the Conference met to discuss the possibility; no mention of the fact that we had rendered, through three campaigns, that very aid to the largest army in the world, of which they spoke in all their discussions as a new, unfamiliar problem; no mention of the vast, complicated, and yet perfectly successful organization by which this aid has been afforded; no mention of the great mass of facts of the highest interest, and of the completest novelty, bearing on this whole question of the sanitary condition of armies in the field, which we have collected and collated, and which are to be found in the documents which we have for the last three years been scattering broadcast over the country. Of course, this extraordinary omission, this strange spectacle of scientific men meeting to discuss, in the heart of Europe, the possibility of constructing a machine which had been for years in successful operation only a fortnight's distance from where they sat, was due simply to ignorance. We owe it to the cause of science and humanity, therefore, not less than to our own fame, to see that this ignorance is removed by a wider diffusion in Europe of the printed records of our labors, and this the "European Branch" will aid us materially in doing.

OUR DOINGS IN WASHINGTON.

The agency established by the Commission for the purchase of supplies for the hospitals in Washington, last summer, of the nature and object of which a full explanation will be given in No. 4 of the *Bulletin*, has now been in operation six months, and the report of the agent shows the total weight of the supplies purchased in Philadelphia and delivered in Washington during that period, as taken from the manifests of the Express Company, was 1,738,331 lbs., or 869 tons 331 lbs. This includes the weight of the boxes, barrels, &c., in which the supplies are packed for shipment.

The cost of the above supplies in Philadelphia, delivered to the Express Company, was	$87,361.10
Amount paid Express Company for Transportation,	11,380 06
Amount paid to purchasing agent in Philadelphia,	2,192.82
Amount paid for office and expenses in Philadelphia,	1,567.02
Amount paid in Washington for insuring,	721.21
Total amount of cost when ready for delivery to the hospitals	113,222.21

Although there was considerable complaint made at the first by the stewards as to various articles furnished, and also the prices of some of the supplies, we are convinced it was partly from the fact that it was a new work, and that we started before we were fully ready, and before there was a definite understanding between the purchasing agent in Philadelphia and the agent in this city, who was assigned to this duty, as was supposed, only temporarily.

As a rule, the surgeons of the hospitals seem perfectly satisfied that the supplies which they receive through the Sanitary Commission are of better quality, and at a much less price, than they could have obtained the same in the markets of this city.

Some of the stewards of the hospitals still get a large amount of their supplies in the Washington market; and one of the reasons that led the Sanitary Commission to undertake this work was, to prevent the stewards from receiving a per cent from the dealers there.

If the order issued by the Medical Director to the surgeons of the hospitals, bearing date of June 23d, 1863, in which he says: "The Surgeon-General directs that the purchase of such supplies will be made by you from no other source, except in cases of emergency," was obeyed to the letter, there is little doubt that the men in the hospitals would get a larger amount of fresh food than they can if the stewards are allowed to purchase elsewhere, and in this way reducing the hospital fund lower

than it would have been had they purchased through the Commission.

If the hospitals were all fully supplied by the Commission, it would be no extra expense, either in purchasing or in insuring, as the force which is necessary to do the amount of work now done, could do what extra work there would be from the increase of orders.

From the reports of other departments of our labor at Washington, we find that the organization for procuring soldiers' pay, in connection with Lodge No. 4, has been at work during the quarter ending Dec. 31st, 1863, with the following results:

Whole number of cases taken	457
Number completed by securing certificates of pay	291
Number completed in which no certificates were granted	80
Total number of completed cases	371
Total number of incompleted cases	86
Amount represented by completed cases	$12,201.00

And the "Home," at the same place, has, during the same period, given food, shelter, and assistance, in the following number of cases:

Whole number admitted	1,576
" lodged	9.954
" of meals furnished	24,885
Number admitted to the hospital	198
Number of deaths in hospital	8

Of the extent to which all parts of the Union are benefited by this department of our labors, and of the jealous and watchful indifference—if we may use the expression—to all distinctions of birthplace, status, or political creed, with which it is carried on, some idea may be formed from the following table. There is but one valid claim on the assistance of "The Home"—that is, sickness, or destitution, or friendlessness, caused by the war:

Maine	59	Delaware	29
New Hampshire	46	Pennsylvania	202
Vermont	46	Maryland	16
Massachusetts	164	Dist. of Columbia	13
Rhode Island	24	Ohio	16
Connecticut	40	Indiana	20
New York	102	Illinois	10
New Jersey	15	Wisconsin	46
Iowa	1	Michigan	95
Minnesota	6	Regular army	77
Missouri	14	Invalid corps	32
Colorado	1	Q. M. Department	25
Political prisoners	4	Nurses	2
Citizens	10		

HOW THE REBEL PRISONERS FARE.

The subjoined communication from one of our inspectors on the condition of the rebel prisoners at Point Lookout, Md., is a very emphatic rejoinder to the counter charges of ill treatment and starvation with which the Richmond papers are now seeking to cover up the misconduct of their own officials with regard to our men. When we last wrote on this subject, there was a good deal in the sanitary condition of the camp at Point Lookout that admitted of improvement. In other words, there was a want of thorough policeing, though not greater than is occasionally seen in our own camps, where officers are inattentive to one of their most important duties. This has now been remedied, and the fact with regard to the prisoners' increase in weight, which our inspector produces, proves beyond question that physically the condition of a Confederate soldier in our custody is much better than it would be if serving in the ranks of any of his own armies. And this is something that nobody will regret. Nothing can aid better in breaking down the military power of the Confederacy, which is now, beyond question, all that remains of the rebellion, than the kind treatment of the men who fall into our hands. Any thing like retaliation for the cruelties inflicted on our prisoners at Richmond, would only be excusable on the ground that it was necessary to secure a mitigation of their sufferings. Resort to it, for any other reason, would not only evince a want of self-respect on our part, but would be exceedingly bad policy.

General Butler has, we believe, sought to fortify his position in the negotiations now pending for an exchange of prisoners, by the affidavits of several rebel non-commissioned officers, touching the food and clothing of the prisoners, and we are informed their tenor is very similar, and on some points stronger, than that of the reports of our agents.

I have the honor to enclose six hundred (600) reports of individual inspection of prisoners of war at this point. My work goes on well. On the whole, I think the prisoners are satisfied with their rations and the treatment they receive from the officers having them in their charge.

Some interesting facts are developed in the course of my work. When I commenced this

inspection here, I was struck by the fact, that nearly every man examined, expressed surprise at his not weighing more; it was quite usual for them to say, "I have lost twenty, thirty, or fifty pounds." As an inducement to the men to be examined, I have permitted them (having been already examined) to use the scales, the dinamometer and spirometer, whenever they are not in use. The result is, I find they have almost uniformly increased in weight and strength. This with the fare and comforts of a "Yankee prison!" Many of them appreciate the luxury of having plenty of "Uncle Sam's hard tack" and salt pork, and express themselves determined never to go back to Rebeldom and short rations.

Under the excellent management of Surgeon Thompson, the camp hospital is very much improved, and the whole camp presents a much better appearance than that of a few weeks since. It is better arranged, better *policed*—better in every respect. Scurvy has nearly "made its disappearance." I think the condition of the rebels in the hands of the United States will compare *very favorably* with that of our men in Richmond, allowing that the reports received from there are four-fifths exaggerated.

I hardly think our men in "Libby" and "Castle Thunder" are *growing fat* on rebel rations.

THE PROTECTIVE WAR-CLAIM AGENCY IN PHILADELPHIA.

The Protective War-Claim Agency of the U. S. Sanitary Commission had its origin in the desire to effect a prompt settlement of the claims of soldiers and their relatives upon the Government, and to afford protection against the exorbitant demands too often made by claim agents. The measure met with the cordial approval of the departments at Washington, whose labors it tended to facilitate by diminishing the opportunities for the prosecution of fraudulent claims. A board of managers was organized, and an examining surgeon and solicitor were appointed in May, 1863, and, in the same month, an office was opened in the building occupied by the U. S. Sanitary Commission, at No. 1307 Chestnut street, Philadelphia. The result has fully demonstrated the value of the enterprise. Without any special effort to call public attention to the work of the agency, nearly one thousand claims were presented to it in the first six months of its operation, and the business has shown each month a steady increase. Two-thirds of these claims were preferred by soldiers coming from all parts of the loyal States, who had been honorably discharged from the United States service by reason of wounds or sickness incurred therein, and the remainder were made by the relatives of deceased soldiers. In addition to its regular work of prosecuting claims for pension and bounty, the agency has been instrumental in obtaining their descriptive lists for soldiers who had lain months in hospital without pay for want of those papers, and in correcting, through the aid of its correspondents at Washington, errors in the final statements of discharged soldiers, which would otherwise have occasioned them serious loss. By an arrangement with the paymaster, Major Taggart, and the United States District Attorney, the back pay due prisoners of war at Richmond is also procured for their wives or mothers upon sufficient proof being made of such captivity and of the claimant's identity. These matters are all adjusted and payments made without any cost to the applicant, except a trifling fee paid to the magistrate for executing the necessary affidavits. The saving thus effected to parties who are, in nearly every case, of very limited means, may be computed already at thousands of dollars. A few instances, selected at random, will effectually prove this: A woman, residing in Philadelphia, whose husband died in the service about eighteen months ago, applied, shortly after his death, to a firm doing business as claim agents, who engaged to procure her pension and bounty for the sum of ten dollars; at the end of eighteen months they handed over to her the amount of her claim for bounty, less a charge of twenty-five dollars for their services, and then told her that they had overlooked her claim for pension altogether. Another lady, the widow of an officer, to whom large arrearages were due, but whose claim required very little proof, and that of the simplest sort, and was promptly adjusted by the department, was forced to pay ten per cent. to a claim agent, whom she had employed for its collection. Although a severe penalty is imposed by the act of July 14, 1862, where the charge by an attorney for prosecuting a pension claim exceeds the sum of five dollars, the provision is often evaded, by charges for additional papers, which are seldom requisite if the claim is originally properly prepared.

One great hinderance to the satisfactory adjustment of claims for the bounty and back pay of soldiers dying in the service, and it is feared, to the work of enlisting recruits, is found in the tedious process to which those claims are subjected before final action upon them is had at the Second Auditor's Department. At least a year usually elapses from the date of the soldier's death before the bounty and back pay remaining unsettled can be secured to his widow or children. This period is usually the one in which his loss is most felt, pecuniarily, by his family. Legislation upon this point,

either in the way of increasing the force of clerks in the departments charged with the settlement of these claims, or in that of simplifying the accounts of the army, is imperatively needed. To alleviate, in some degree, the distress occasioned by this delay, it is designed to set apart a sum from the funds of the Commission, from which to advance small sums in very necessitous cases, upon claims on file at the agency; but the relief thus afforded, it is manifest, must be very meagre and inadequate.

The value of the Protective War-Claim Agency must be evident from this statement of its purposes and principles. If any further evidence of its right to the confidence of the soldier, and the friends of the soldier, were needed, it would be found in the character of its officers. Mr. Wm. H. Tilghman is the Chairman of the Committee, and among its directors are Horace Binney, Jr., Alexander Brown, William Welsh, Hon. J. J. Clarke Hare, Charles J. Stille, Benjamin Gerhard, Wm. L. Rehn, George Trott, George D. Parrish, George M. Conarroe, H. Lennox Hodge, M. D., and Atherton Blight. Mr. William M. Ashman is the Solicitor of the Agency. The institution has been quietly doing a good work for some months, and we think it right that the public should fully know it

Another branch of the same institution is at work in New York, as our readers will see by reference to the advertisement in our columns.

DRESS AND HYGIENE IN THE BRITISH ARMY.

Whatever errors are conspicuous in the dress of the army and the volunteer force, may be traced mainly to a neglect of those hygienic considerations suggested by the duties peculiar to the soldier and the volunteer. The former is sacrificed to decorate sartorial effects; the latter has too commonly sacrificed himself by adopting an attire which is but a mongrel version of the dress of the soldier of the line, lacking the relief derived from brilliancy of color and ornamentation, and equally unsuited for active service in the field. What can be more lamentable, from an æsthetical point of view, than a volunteer regiment composed of the long and the short, the meagre and the stout, the angular and the rounded, clad in tight-fitting and straight-cut trowsers? Fitted only for the well-formed, no dress more fully brings into prominence all the ugliness of the ill-formed; dependent upon the integrity of the stiff lines originally devised and set up by the tailor, and not on easily and gracefully flowing folds, for such beauty as it possesses, none is more unsuited for the rough wear and tear of campaigning.

That complete diffusion of body and limbs on the ground, which is a necessity of proper rest after marching or fighting, is an impossibility while the body and extremities are so tightly girthed; and comfort in squatting on the hams or kneeling is to be obtained only by reckless indifference to the original formation and integrity of the inexpressibles.

It needs but a glance at the condition of dress of the regular soldier off duty at nightfall, in in the field, in camp, or in barracks, to see that the tight-fitting tunic and straight-cut trowsers were devised only for the erect position. Every button unloosed, to secure some degree of freedom to his limbs, he is the very antithesis of the orderly, well-set locomotive uniform which most gratifies the eyes of the martinet.

The loose jacket with which the soldier is permitted to indue himself in the intervals of duty is not merely a hygienic requisite, but it is also necessary as a preventive of mutiny.

Previous to the Crimean war, the soldier, sartorically regarded, was simply looked upon as a tailor's block, and not as a living sentient being. It was anticipated that the inquiries of the Royal Commission of 1857 on the sanitary state of the army, would give the *coup de grace* to this perverted notion. Certainly they led to the excision of that portentous decoration and illimitable expenditure of braid and gaudy worsteds, which had previously constituted the highest expression of military æsthetics.

But the great principle by which the Commission sought to ballast the sartorial vagaries of the Horse-Guards has proved far less effective than was to have been desired. "Too much importance," said the Commission, "cannot be attached to an easy adjustment of the clothing, so as to leave to the respiratory and other organs of the body, as well as to its muscular development, the utmost freedom." Six years have elapsed since this important opinion was enunciated, yet we find a recent committee of officers formed for the purpose of simplifying the equipment of the soldier, occupied chiefly with the following questions: The substitution of a loose serge-jacket for the tight-fitting and uncomfortable shell-jacket, now in use for summer and ordinary field days; the selection of a forage cap of presentable aspect and comfortable for wear, the Kilmarnock cap in use being as difficult to "set up" and keep in order as starched linen, and when set up destructive of mental and cranial comfort; removing the useless hand-slash of the tunic, and giving a larger and more comfortable sleeve. Other al-

terations in dress and equipments are proposed, all tending to ease somewhat the bound-up limbs of the unhappy soldier. Is there no military Teufeldrockh to show that ease and freedom, durability and military smartness and handsomeness, are not inconsistent with each other, and may be combined in one attractive whole?

The recent Royal Commission on the Indian army approached the subject of dress with great diffidence. Admitting there had been great improvements of late years, it gave a qualified approval to the present dress of the European soldier in the tropics, and limited its suggestions to the under-clothing, the head-dress, and the boots. It urged that the use of a light flannel garment next the skin should be made imperative—an admirable suggestion, if the texture of the material be such as not to make its adoption a torture.

The form and structure of the boot were justly animadverted upon. The English gentlemen's broad-soled, broad-toed, flat-heeled walking shoe or boot, is the perfection of a covering for the foot, in form, ease, and utility. Why, then, should our soldiers be condemned to the present wretched shapeless abortions of ammunition-boots? The head-dress, murderously perverted too often at home, is of pre-eminent importance in India. It would be impossible, probably, to suggest any thing to surpass in ease, comfort, or elegance, a modification of the turban; but the conventional sartorial notions of the military mind seem to interpose an insuperable obstacle to its adoption. The wicker-work helmet now in use in India affords considerable protection to the head against the sun's rays; but several improvements are suggested by Mr. Julius Jeffreys, F. R. S., of the Bengal army, to which the Commission directs particular attention. "He proposes to make the outer shell of the helmet double, with a ventilated space between the layers, and within the shell there is a lining to fit tight to the head, leaving another ventilated space between the inner surface of the shell and the wearer's head.

The object of the contrivance is to insure the passage upwards of two distinct currents of heated air between the outer shell of the helmet and the head. In order to diminish the power of the outer shell to absorb the sun's rays, the inventor proposes to cover it with a thin, highly-polished metallic surface. The fatal objection to this helmet is its ungainly aspect.

It is a curious and somewhat inexplicable fact, that Mr. Merret's ingenious "Ventilating Gusset" should not have received the attention of the Commission. The advantages proposed to be derived from this invention are best set forth in a report on an experimental trial made with it in the 7th Royal Fusiliers, stationed at Ferozepori. The commanding officer, in his official report, states that the gussets had the effect of preventing an accumulation of perspiration; they kept the parts they covered cool and clean, and they strengthened the garment. Few things are more obnoxious during active or practical exercise in hot weather than profuse perspiration in the arm-pits, overheating and irritation of the cleft of the buttocks, and chafing of the upper part of the thighs. The remedying of these evils must be a boon to the civilian as well as the soldier. Many of the former have already certified to the efficacy of Mr. Merret's invention in bringing about this desirable result, and it is to be trusted that the military authorities will subject it to wide experiment with the latter. —*Lancet.*

THE GREAT BROOKLYN AND LONG ISLAND FAIR.

We publish below a circular prepared by the Corresponding Secretary of the Executive Committee of the great Sanitary Fair, and also a full list of the committees appointed to carry its objects into effect:

CIRCULAR.

DEAR SIR: In the terrible conflict now being waged for the preservation of our Government and Nationality, every thing belonging to our personal, social, and political welfare is at stake, and the brave and gallant men in arms are perilling their lives, and giving up the comfort and joy of their homes in our stead. They fight these hard battles for us. They endure severe exposure for us They are wasting away in the filth and starvation of rebel prisons for us. And, when stricken down by the diseases of the camp, or wounded and maimed in the field, they have a right, sanctioned by every patriotic and humane consideration, to expect the nation to come to their succor. The United States Sanitary Commission, by its most disinterested and gratuitous labors, has proved itself the wise, prompt, faithful, reliable, and sufficient agent of the nation in this regard; and, therefore, by a Fair, to be opened on the birth-day of the Father of his Country, the 22d of February next, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, we purpose and confidently expect to secure from the city, and the entire island, a contribution of at least one hundred and fifty thousand dollars to its treasury. The inspiring examples of other cities, Chicago, Boston, Cincinnati, should excite among us an honorable emulation. Let it be seen that in this great national crisis we are at least as generous, self-sacrificing, and resolved, as the foremost of them. This enterprise has been undertaken at the instance of the Woman's Relief Association and the War Fund Committee of this city. As an earnest of the spirit which has prompted it

and will carry it through, we point to the fact that at a meeting of the General Committee, on the 19th ult., twenty-five thousand five hundred dollars were subscribed on the spot—an amount already increased to forty thousand dollars. As a further pledge that the enterprise shall not fail, we subjoin the names of those of either sex who have consented to share its management; with those of the various sub-Committees, who are responsible for the complete working of the several departments of the Fair. We appeal to our fellow-citizens and noble women here and throughout the island, and to those elsewhere who may fairly be expected to sympathize with us in our undertaking, to lend their aid by personal efforts and by the largest contributions of material and money, of agricultural produce, of the fruits of manufacturing and mechanical skill, of works of art, of any thing and every thing from their industry, ingenuity, or abundance, which may swell the grand result for which we look.

Further particulars in relation to the arrangements for the Fair will be made known as early as possible, by circulars from the several special committees, and by other documents from the Executive Committee.

Meanwhile, any desired information in regard to the Fair may be had of the Corresponding Secretary, either by personal application at the rooms of the War Fund Committee, 16 Court street, daily, Sundays excepted, between the hours of 9 and 11, and 3 and 5; or by mail to his address; or, for ladies, at the Depot of the Woman's Relief Association, 30 Court street.

FREDERICK A. FARLEY, D. D., Cor. Sec.

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A meeting was held on Saturday evening last, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, in aid of the Fair, at which Henry Ward Beecher said:

I had hoped to meet several gentlemen present whom I do not see, and who were to bear their welcome part of this task, which is not a task, not even a duty, but it may be said is a necessary pleasure. There are some things that it is painful to do; there are some things that, because they are painful, bring so much exertion to the doing of them, that men are thought to do them with a will, whereas it is because they are painful that men bear up toward them with such earnest effort. But to stand in the midst of a Christian community, known and widely reported for its charity, whose example is quoted the world over—to stand in such a community to plead for such a charity as that we now meet to serve, that is not a task, or even a duty, but a necessary pleasure. Allusion has been made already to the general topics of the day, the conflict which is waged and yet to be waged—that which gives occasion for such a meeting as this; but it is not of these that I would or shall speak, but simply a word or two in regard to those that have gone forth and are suffering in this conflict. I was asked to-day by a friend, whom I see present this evening, whether I thought this Sanitary Commission was really needed, and whether there was not some little humbug about it; for, he said, he was told by a friend that an officer in the army had informed him that there was no need of it, no occasion for it. I cannot say who that officer was; I will not suppose but that he was sincerely mistaken; but I have no doubt that he was mistaken, wholly and absolutely, for I do not speak merely in consequence of the enthusiastic utterances which you as well as I heard here last year from that most laborious public servant, Dr. Bellows, nor merely from the reports in the papers. It has been my good fortune to have a brother-in-law called into this service, and for more than a year he has been laboring in behalf of the sick and wounded of our army in Washington, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New York, and New Orleans, where he now is; and it is through him that I learn of the interior reality of this great mission of mercy; and though I do not undertake to endorse that which needs none, yet I say I have no more doubt of its necessity and mercy than of the sun that shines in the heavens by day, or any other fact of my existence. If there lingers in any mind a doubt—and "he that doubteth is damned already," it is said—of the the great good of this association, let the doubt be cleared away at once. I have confidence in the society and the men who manage it, and there is no other channel through which you can better convey your help to those who need it than this. I have sometimes thought that we know very little of true patriotism. It is not such as we, who are comfortable at home and pitch from the loaf of our abundance a crumb here and there—a large crumb perhaps from the individual, but how small in the aggregate, when compared with our comforts and the necessities of those to whom it is given. I was conversing to-day with a friend of former years, who in an incident she related to me revealed the temper of her own kind heart. Her little boy, not able to speak plainly, seeing a pale soldier on the street before her house, went up to him and asked him if he was sick. The soldier replied, No, that he was hungry. The boy lisped out in his broken prattle, "Ma keeps a soldiers' hotel; come in." He came in and got a cup of coffee, and the little fellow, encouraged by the success which had attended his first endeavor, went out and brought in twenty-seven others. They had been on a boat traveling from Friday until Monday, with nothing to eat but crackers and river water, and were quite ready to appreciate the excellent breakfast to which they soon sat down. As they sat at the table, the good lady noticed a resemblance between two of them—they were brothers. "Ah," said she, "how pleasant it must be to have a brother with you in the army." "Oh," he replied, "there are more than two, there are five of us brothers here." So there were; five stalwart, brave fellows had gone together from one family. There was another who was a cripple who could not go, and another who was too young, but it was all they could do to prevent the old man going too. That I call patriotism. Who of us have done any thing that can be mentioned in the same day as that? I know of instances in which the only child has gone and not been taken back; and when one and another falls, and every day brings nearer the prospect that this only child may fall. I know heroic mothers who stand firm to the offering they have made, and will not draw back their gift. Who of us is patriotic in this measure? Let me read a line from a young woman, a woman of education and culture, belonging to a wealthy family in the West, who has given most of her time since the war began to the soldier's service, having gone out with the first regiment from that noble State, Indiana:

"Nothing ever touched me so much as cheers from those hospital cots. When the fall of Vicksburg was announced in Jackson Hospital, at Memphis, the whole great building, filled with terribly wounded, rang for an hour with cheers and songs. Some sang and shouted who never had strength to speak again, and many who knew they should never hear of another victory on earth.

"I am trying to be patient and stay at home without fretting; but I can't see how people can say, 'Well, you ought to rest and enjoy yourself awhile, you have done enough.' All the work I ever had in my life that gave me full heart-room and the best of rest and joy is that same hospital work, and nothing could induce me to endure this sort of 'rest' a minute but that father needs me, and my duty is at home for the present. I pray every hour for the chance of going back with a clear conscience, and I know I shall.

"I speak of it as 'work.' It isn't work to me. I *love* everybody who has raised a hand for true love of the cause, and my first enthusiasm never wore off. Ignorant, filthy, and coarse as some must be who need the services of hospital nurse, yet always the first sight of a wound or a pale face that is the price of a service to our country, makes its owner a hero to me at once, and all labor for him an honor and pleasure. I

do get tired, but it is only the flesh, and that isn't real weariness."

It is my pride to believe that there is not a city or village in the land that has not such patriots as these; and where such natural ministers of peace are stirred up at once to such true patriotism—where they give not merely their possessions and their labor, but their own selves, their very spirit and body becoming a hovering and ministering presence in sickness and the camp—shall we doubt one single moment? There is a zeal, a divine spirit of patriotism in the country, that shall bear us through, and we shall be true to every duty of humanity, every instinct of pity and piety.

I might add some considerations drawn from your position in this city; but though I do not disregard or undervalue them, I base my appeal to you on higher grounds. I should be proud to have Brooklyn stand, if not first, at least high up on the roll of honor; and still further should be proud to have my own people stand highest among you; but local pride, though it might have a subordinate place, is not that to which I would appeal.

It is to that common to you and all the people of New York and the whole land; our common love of humanity, our common love of country, our common love of God, who, in the person of his Son, our Saviour, went about doing good, healing the sick, and comforting the suffering. It is to these higher motives that I would appeal, and I know I would not appeal in vain; and when Brooklyn shall have accomplished her labor of love, I know there will not be one thing to be ashamed of, but much to be proud of, and that God shall be pleased with the offering we shall bring. [Applause.]

And Mr. Moses F. Odell said:

I was at the White House nearly two years ago, and I remember to-night very well my sail up the Pamunkey River. I started with quite a company on the excursion, and we very soon came up to a vessel with the flag of the Sanitary Commission flying at her mast-head, and soon another, a larger steamer, flying the same flag. The Daniel Webster, and Wilson G. Small, and the Wissahickon, a little tender, and several others, were all there with the flags of this Commission flying from their mast-heads. I thought it a grand affair; very large it must be, to employ all these vessels, but probably very useless; but before I had been long at the White House there came down from Fair Oaks some five or six hundred wounded soldiers on a train of cars, and then I discovered the vast resources and usefulness of this Commission. I found on board those steamboats numbers of ladies and gentlemen, ready to go to work with willing hearts and able hands to administer to the wants of those wounded and dying men. Now the Government, I have no hesitation in saying, from the beginning of the war have had a proper appreciation of the needs of the soldier, and have done all in their power, but under such circumstances as these the Commission was ahead of them—hours and days ahead of the Government in the supply of what was needed on that occasion. [Applause.] I joined this Commission then at once, enrolled myself as a working and active member, and remained there four days and nights, during which time there were 3,465 wounded men received, their immediate wants supplied, and necessary medical assistance furnished by the Commission, and they were then sent from there to the Washington and other hospitals. And had not these vessels been there with their bountiful supplies to make the soldier comfortable in his wants and sickness, the suffering would have been untold. I shall never forget one incident, occurring during my services there. I had taken in my hand a pail of iced lemonade, prepared from the stores of the Commission by some ladies from New York, who were with us, and went out to the cars to distribute it among the wounded. I never shall forget one poor fellow I saw there. He had been left for dead on the field, and the rebels had robbed him of every thing—that is their profession; they have done it ever since the beginning of the war; they had taken all his clothes, and he was wrapped in a blanket. He was scarcely able to speak, but he showed me his wounds, and I gave him a glass of lemonade, for which he returned a look of inexpressible gratitude. A ball had taken out his right eye and came out behind his ear, and he was not expected to live; but two or three weeks afterward, in a hospital where I went to find some of the Fourteenth Regiment boys, I found him with a patch over his eye, seemingly getting well, and he said to me: "Sir, I wish I had a house and lot to give you." Now I was only the instrument of the Sanitary Commission; it was their ice and their lemonade, and I was simply the instrument to carry it from their boat to the car, to this poor fellow. You may give many dollars, but cannot pay for or balance the comfort and good they did that man and thousands of others like him. And such scenes as this I witnessed constantly during the four days and nights I remained there.

The agents and employees of the Commission (but few of them paid, I am happy to say) rendered most efficient and faithful service the whole time. I will tell you another instance of how good a thing this Sanitary Commission is. A young man came to me one evening, saying: "There is a young man in the second cabin whom I think you would like to see." "They are rebels there," I said. "Yes," he replied, "they are; but come and see the man." I went with him, and meeting on the stairs that good man and true philanthropist, Mr. Barclay, of Philadelphia, he went with us. Seeing the man's condition, I said to him: "They tell me you are badly wounded." "Yes, sir," said he: "I don't suppose I shall live long; but I want to tell you that ever since I have been brought among you here I have been treated with so much kindness—all my wants have been satisfied, and even luxuries supplied me, so very different from what I had been led to expect, that I want to make one more request of you. I want you to write to my wife and four little children, and say I died penitent for ever raising my hand or gun against so good a people as you are." That rebel's heart was softened by the kindness of this Sanitary Commission. I saw the same things again at the battle of Fredericksburg. The Commission was there again, long ahead of the Government, with all their plenteous bounty, bestowing it with a liberal hand on all who needed it.

Again at Gettysburg I saw the same class of incidents. I there went to a hospital where I

was informed that some of the Fourteenth Regiment wounded were lying, and I found on the ground floor of a small house seventeen men connected with that regiment, every man with an arm or leg off, lying upon straw. The surgeon was kind, and did all he could, but they were, as I have said, lying upon straw, and all as they were picked up off the field, grimy, bloody, and dirty. I went through the town trying to buy seventeen clean shirts for them, but could not get them for love or money. I at length went to the quarters of the association, and told Dr. Bellows, whom I found there, of my need of shirts, bed-ticks, and sheets. "Knock open that box, John," called the Doctor to an assistant, and in a few moments I had all I wanted. And if you had seen me then in Gettysburg, you would have seen a man not very fond of carrying bundles, by the testimony of his wife, perfectly happy in the possession of an immense bundle of all those poor fellows needed. How their countenances lit up with joy when they saw what was then more to them than houses or lands! Why, the $35,000 you raised the other day did not pay for those seventeen shirts, bed-ticks, etc. Mr. Beecher says he wants Brooklyn to be very near the head of the roll. I want her away up head, and I think we will get there if this same spirit lasts.

THE WORK OF RELIEF IN EASTERN VIRGINIA AND MARYLAND.

Dr. Steiner, Chief Inspector of Relief, has made the following very interesting report at the session of the Commission now being held in Washington, on the work of relief since July last, in the armies of Eastern Virginia and Maryland, excepting the troops in Washington, Baltimore, and Maryland:

The Field Relief Corps, placed in the Army of the Potomac July 18, 1863, has since that time steadily labored in that field, down to the date of the present Report, gaining the respect and confidence of the officers of the army as well as the good will and gratitude of the men. It has become an "*institution*," so to speak, in the army, and has adapted itself in such a way to meet the wants of the service, that the plan of the Commission, as a supplementary organization to the medical corps, acting with its approbation, and, where it is possible, under its direction, has been strictly carried out. Experience has been gained by its members which has wonderfully increased its efficiency; and I have no hesitation now in claiming for it the right to be considered one of the best modes, if not the very best, of administering the bounties of the people to the soldiers, without interfering with the regular routine of military life and discipline in the slightest manner.

The operations of this corps have been conducted up to date in the manner indicated in document No. 72, viz.: the agents live in the respective corps to which they have been assigned by the superintendent, have their tents pitched along with the ambulance corps, where their wagons and stores are generally retained. They visit the hospitals, whether division, brigade, or regimental, find out wants from the medical officers or from personal inspection, and then see that these are supplied, the surgeons generally dispatching ambulances or wagons for them; or, in case of their inability to obtain this transportation, the agent employs his own wagon for the purpose. When the army moves the sanitary wagon moves with it. The agent looks out for cases where individual relief is needed, and furnishes it directly, because such cases are sometimes so circumstanced that it would be impossible to get medical attention without long delay. By his acquaintance with the officers of the corps he is enabled to move along the marching column unhindered by questions that would necessarily meet the stranger. The reports of the agents, referring to the movements of the army of the Potomac, will show how great were the opportunities afforded them from time to time of bringing kindly relief to the suffering and wayworn soldier.

This work demands not only zeal and earnestness, but that the agent should be possessed of a good judgment, enabling him to distinguish between an affectation of suffering and distress and that which is real and unaffected. The former can be assumed by the malingerer in so plausible a way that the novice to this work of philanthropy is always liable to gross deception. He gives *because* the demand is made. He does not investigate the nature of this demand, nor the probable truth on which it is based. He gives freely and without stint. The undeserving are thus rewarded for their cunning and lies, and the stores which the sympathizing women of the nation have forwarded for the use of the suffering, are prostituted to satisfying the greed of the worthless. This is especially the case with lady visitors to our camps. With hearts

full of generous sympathy, and spirits eager to relieve suffering—their sole desire being to aid their brothers in the name not only of a common national cause, but in accordance with the Christian rule that meat should be given to the hungry, drink to the thirsty, lodging to the houseless, clothing to the naked, and consolation to those in prison. The idea of deception on the part of those requesting aid is never dreamed of by these ministers of charity. Their mission is a holy one, and all thought of untruth on the part of those claiming assistance is necessarily absent from their minds. There is another class of persons, also, unfitted for the work of relief—those proceeding from State organizations, and eager to give publicity to the results of their operations in the army. They give to every one asking, give freely, and thus do injury also to the cause of relief. The principle underlying the work of the Relief Agents of the Sanitary Commission—that underlying the whole design of the Commission—is to work as far as possible with the approbation of the Medical Officers, furnishing supplies under their orders, or directly to *individual* cases after carefully examining into the real character of such. A sound judgment, unaffected by mere sentimentalism, or unsuspecting tenderness of heart, and most certainly free from all desire of parade and show—a sound judgment, I say, conjoined with an earnest sympathy with *real* suffering, and a holy love of the Union and all its defenders—this is imperatively demanded from every one who wi hes to do satisfactory work in the way of Field Relief.

One important feature in our operations is, to make every effort so that the soldier shall receive every thing to which he is entitled from Government. Whenever articles are properly obtainable from the purveyor, quartermaster, or commissary, an effort is always made to aid him to secure such from the regular sources; and when this fails, then to come to the rescue with the voluntary bounties of the people. If the want is so imminent as to demand immediate attention, the needed stores are furnished at once.

In the month of November my attention was directed to a plan for the addition of a flying ambulance arrangement to the Field Relief Corps. After some weeks' consideration of this subject, on the 23d of the same month I approved a plan which was proposed by a Russian physician, Dr. Herman Baalen, who was represented as having had considerable experience during the Crimean war in the management of a flying ambulance depot. This plan was shortly afterwards put into operation, through the orders of the associate secretary in Washington, Mr. Knapp. Finding on my return to duty, after a few weeks' leave of absence, necessitated by increasing indisposition, that this flying ambulance arrangement would not be required during the winter, and that very important changes would be necessary before it would adapt itself to the needs of the Commission, an order was issued dispensing with it on December 11, 1863.

The arrangements for the Field Relief Corps during the coming quarter will require certain changes, which economy and the character of the needs of an army in winter quarters require. It is intended that the agents shall have the field store-house, which is generally situated at the quartermaster's depot of supplies, as their headquarters. The wagons will be brought in during the months of inactivity. The agents, with their saddle horses, will move through the corps as occasion shall require, ascertain what wants exist, and endeavor to have these supplied, either through the medical officers, or by personally carrying the stores and directly meeting individual want. The superintendent will have the opportunity of learning almost daily the condition of the work in each corps, and of giving directions continually on the subject. The whole family will have frequent opportunities of profiting by each other's experience, and stimulating each other to continuous good work. One or more wagons will be retained at the field store-house to meet such emergencies as may require the transfer suddenly of stores from one point to another. When active operations are once more resumed in the army, the wagons will be replaced. It must be understood that in this arrangement it is not necessary that the agent should reach the field store-house every night—indeed, the nature of

his business may require him to remain away from the headquarters for days on a trip—the only change of the plan as regards the quarters of the agent being that these shall be now for the winter at the field store-house, and not separated from the rest in each corps.

An earnest effort has been made to keep the expenses of this corps within reasonable limits, and the compensation allowed the agents is barely enough to meet the expenses necessarily incurred; still there has been no complaint, because the service has been entered upon with a strong attachment to the Federal cause, and an anxious desire to aid those who are so nobly fighting in its defence. The ordinary life of the army when inactive offers no attractions to most men, although the promptings of morbid curiosity will bring them in hosts to battle-fields; and it is during this inactive life that our relief agents are called upon to do yeoman's service. They must labor so that all obstacles to health shall be removed, and that the soldier shall be fitted for whatever may be required of him. A strong sense of duty must be the ruling motive, or more attractive positions would draw them off. Again, the position is frequently one of danger. Some of the agents have been under the enemy's fire in the performance of their duty, and all of them are exposed to capture in their lonesome rides through the corps of the army. Our position as the almoners of a people's bounteous consideration for the sick and wounded, has as yet practically *not* been recognized by the authorities of the Confederate Government. One of our teamsters, attached to the 5th Corps, George W. Longley, was seized by the rebels in a late attack on the army train, and is now believed to be a prisoner in Richmond. Considering that the invariable rule of the Commission has been to supply the wants of all the wounded and suffering within the Federal lines, and that the eyes of all Europe have been turned toward the general recognition of a corps of *Infirmiers Volontaires* as free from capture in time of war, (as specially shown in the late Congress held at Geneva,) it is mortifying to find that a similar recognition will not be granted by the Southern contestants to persons holding similar positions in our own armies. It is shameful that the reward for bringing succor to the wounded should be incarceration within the walls of a loathsome prison, and exposure to want, hunger, and loathsome disease. As the matter stands now, all this really impends over every one who works in the Field Relief Corps, and the danger is freely and fearlessly braved.

As a general thing, a weekly report has been made, through the Superintendent, on the work of relief in his corps by the agents. These reports are transmitted herewith, without correction or alteration, so that the record may exist as it was made at the time, and may be placed in the Archives of the Commission for the use of the future historian of this war.

I must state my candid opinion, that a more energetic, zealous body of young men I have never met with than those which constitute our corps in the Army of the Potomac. The position calls out all the faculties of mind and body. The agent has frequently to play hostler, cook, tailor, shoemaker, teamster, and indeed must know how to help himself out of every dilemma in which a man can possibly fall who is in the field away from the aids as well as the refining influences of civilization. He must be prepared for any and every form of accident that may meet him in his nomadic life—undergo all the hardships and much of the danger of a soldier's life, and yet be unaffected by the hope of preferment, the increase of rank or pay, or even by a notice in a general order. They labor on in their work quietly and unobtrusively, scattering the handiwork of the sewing circles of villages and country towns, as well as the larger stores of great cities, and thus making available what the glorious charities of our people are eager to extend to the suffering soldier. What a noble work is thus done by the joint aid of the furnishers and distributors of supplies, is only to known to Him who knows all things!

In this connection I must make special mention of the untiring assiduity of Capt. Isaac Harris, the Assistant Superintendent of the Corps, who has had charge in the field during the temporary absence of Mr. J. W. Johnson. His vigilance and activity are

only equaled by his jealous care for the good reputation of the Commission, and his resolute determination that no quasi-philanthropist shall use it for his own personal advantage or advancement. It is a fortunate occurrence that we have two men so devoted to our work as Mr. Johnson and Capt. Harris in the Field Corps. At best, only general directions for this work can be issued by the Chief Inspector, and it is a fortunate circumstance that these gentlemen have taken such an enthusiastic hold of their duties. Like every one connected with this hard-working, patient army, the love of country and of doing good nerves them to meet all exigencies as they arise.

Since the first formation of the Field Relief Corps at Boonsborough, Md., July 17, 1863, in addition to the four wagon loads of stores first sent forth—of which no account was made—the following articles have been issued through its agents up to the date of this report:

Brandy, Rum, and Whiskey.	1,936	bottles.
Foreign and Domestic Wine.	1,271	"
Jamaica Ginger	840	"
Extract of Beef	2,792	cans.
Condensed Milk	4,400	"
Corn Starch, &c., &c	4,533	pounds.
Soft Crackers	89½	barrels.
Pickles	436	gallons.
Jellies	610	jars.
Dried Fruit	21	barrels.
Tea	223	pounds.
Chocolate	1,012	"
Sugar	1,074	"
Chloroform	81	"
Tamarinds	110	gallons.
Tomatoes	156	cans.
Shirts, wool and cotton	6,301	
Drawers, "	5,513	
Socks, "	4,739	
Bed-ticks	1,522	
Blankets and Quilts	2,310	
Pillow Cases	1,712	
Handkerchiefs	1,414	
Tin Cups	1,204	
Towels	3,547	
Slippers	843	
Pillows	992	
Sheets	1,017	
Work Bags	200	
Tobacco	735	pounds.
Buckets	20	

In concluding this general sketch of *what the Field Relief Corps has been, and what it has done*, I must state that I consider my connection with it as one of the most satisfactory and extended opportunities of doing good that has ever fallen to my lot, and express my sense of thankfulness to Providence for the great privilege I have enjoyed of superintending and directing its operations.

On the 8th of December, 1863, I was put in charge of a district, including not only the Army of the Potomac, but all the troops in "Eastern Virginia and Maryland, (east from Cumberland,) excepting those connected with the defences of Washington, and those stationed at Baltimore and Annapolis." As the troops in the western portion of this district are mostly stationary, I did not deem it advisable to establish a depot of stores within its limits, or to keep a permanent relief agent with the command, but concluded to work for the present through the reports which our Sanitary Inspectors would make, as to the needs of the troops, hospitals, &c., on their visitations, intending, in case there should arise any special need, hereafter to detail a relief agent for this business. Acting in accordance with this plan, Dr. W. S. Swalm, Sanitary Inspector, was ordered (December 7, 1863) "to proceed by the earliest train to Cumberland, Md., with the view of ascertaining the wants of the troops and hospitals located in and near that town; thence to proceed to Martinsburg, Harper's Ferry, and Charlestown, for the same purpose," and if he should find hospitals at intermediate points, to visit them also. Dr. Swalm reported on the wants as he found them in his tour of inspection, and the needed stores were forwarded at once from the storehouse in Washington. From time to time similar visits for ascertaining wants in this portion of my district will be made by proper officers.

The section of Norfolk, including so much of Major-General B. F. Butler's command (18th Army Corps) as is stationed in Virginia, has been under the special care of James Gall, Jr., Relief Agent, whose sound judgment, kind heart, and gentlemanly character have enabled him to render efficient aid to the needs of this section, to support and give additional strength to the reputation of the Commission, and to gain the respect and confidence of the military officers with whom he has come into contact. He has steadily and regularly visited all the regiments and hospitals in his section with promptness, sent in his weekly reports of the nature of his work, furnished intelligible and accurate vouchers as regards expenditures of stores and moneys, and, in

a word, has shown himself to be *a model Relief Agent.* I have reason to believe that our work has been done most thoroughly and efficiently in this section.

When there was an opportunity of forwarding stores to Richmond, he acted promptly in this matter; and abundant proof has been afforded us of the acceptability of this work through the letters of Brigadier-General Neal Dow, and others, now incarcerated within the walls of Libby and Castle Thunder.

The stores forwarded from the Washington storehouse for use in Mr. Gall's section, (large quantities were also dispatched from Baltimore,) will be shown by the abstract accompanying this report.

I also ask attention to the Statement of Issues from the Norfolk storehouse during the year 1863, prepared by Samuel Bacon, the Commission's Storekeeper at that post.

BEDDING AND HOSPITAL FURNITURE.

		Issued.
Air Cushions		
Air Beds		
Bed Ticks		1089
Bed Pans		81
Blankets		758
Brooms		30
Chambers		28
Candlesticks		40
Combs, Coarse		140
Hospital Cots		8
Cushions		141
Head Rests		1
Lanterns		8
Medicine Cups		
Medicine Tubes		
Netting, Mosquito	pieces.	216
Oil Silk	yards.	62
Pillows		1632
Pillow Cases		5936
Pillow Ticks		254
Quilts		1579
Rubber Sheeting	yards.	32
Bowls		22
Sheets		4573
Tin Coffee Pots		2
Tin Pails		17
Sponges		124
Soap	lbs.	169
Towels		7166
Tin Cups		920
Tin Basins		185
Urinals		24
Wood Pails		3
Tin Plates		329
Knives and Forks		12
Spoons		84
Wash Boards		10
Clothes Pins		352
Shelter Tents		49

WEARING APPAREL.

		Issued.
Coats—Cotton	pairs.	150
Woolen	"	
Drawers—Cotton	"	3201
Woolen	"	2504
Canton Flannel	"	1245
Ear-Laps		124
Flannel Bandages		174
Handkerchiefs—Pocket		4460
Mittens	pairs.	304
Neck Ties		12
Arm Slings		50
Pants—Cotton	pairs.	165
Woolen	"	
Shirts—Cotton, Convalescent		
" Hospital		6166
Woolen		3376
Canton Flannel		324
" " Hospital		
Fancy Caps		28
Slippers	pairs.	3104
Socks—Cotton	"	
Woolen	"	4179
Vests—Cotten and Woolen		115
Wrappers—Thin and Thick		641
Mixed Vegetables	bbls.	12
Herring	boxes.	8
Apple Sauce	gals.	52
Eggs	bbls.	1

HOSPITAL FOOD AND DELICACIES.

		Issued.
Rice Flour	lbs.	113
Toast	bbls.	2
Apples, dried	"	105
Arrow Root	lbs.	917
Beef Soup	"	568
Beef, Concentrated Extract	"	1383
Brandy	bottles.	666
Butter	lbs.	311
Coffee	"	394
Canned Meat, Tripe	cans.	87
Tamarinds	gals.	230
Canned Vegetables	cans.	277
Cocoa	lbs.	182
Chocolate	"	2673
Coffee, Extract of	"	62
Condensed Milk	"	3955
Crackers	bbls.	35½
Corn Starch	lbs.	1561
Corn Meal	bbls.	19
Dried Fruit, assorted	"	68
Extract Jamaica Ginger	bottles.	550
Farina	lbs.	1465
Fruit Cordial	bottles.	56
Gelatine	pkgs.	36
Jellies and Preserves	bottles.	861
Flax Seed	lbs.	24
Maizena	"	108
Mustard	"	19
Lemons	boxes.	2
Oat Meal	bbls.	9
Onions	"	10
Pickles	gals.	745
Pepper	lbs.	41
Potatoes	bbls.	12
Sugar, White	lbs.	1307
Oranges	box.	1
Syrups	bottles.	127
Spices	lbs.	8
Tea, Black	"	255
Tapioca	"	121
Tobacco	"	48
Vinegar	bottles.	90
Vinegar, Raspberry	"	101
Wine, Foreign	"	632
Wine, Foreign, in bulk	gals.	84
Wine, Domestic	bottles.	293
Wine, Domestic, in bulk	gals.	7
Whiskey	bottles.	835
Whiskey, in bulk	gals.	16
Rum	"	12
Rum	bottles.	193
Ale	bbls.	10
Porter	gals.	279
Brandy	"	15

MISCELLANEOUS.

		Issued.
Chloroform	bottles.	60
Bay Rum	"	145
Catsup	"	11
Cologne	"	10
Camphor, Spirits of	"	6
Quinine	"	22
Crutches	pairs.	23
Apple Juice	cans.	8
Fans		461
Ext. Fruit	cans.	23
Games		20
Sago	lbs.	32
Lint	bbls.	5
Candles	lbs.	3
Magazines, &c	boxes.	9
Old Linen	bbls.	13

Pincushions and Needle Books	boxes.	3
Roll Bandages	bbls.	8
Horse Radish	bottles.	2
Matches	boxes.	144
Cod Fish	lbs.	830
Chicken	cans.	48
Lager Beer	bbls.	1

STATIONERY.

		Issued.
Envelopes		2875
Ink	bottles.	25
Letter Paper	reams.	
Note Paper	quires.	173
Pencils		
Pen Holders		105
Pens		288

As regards the troops in the defences of Washington, upon whose condition Dr. Steiner does not touch, a most satisfactory statement is made in a report from Dr. Julius Nichols, one of our inspectors, which has also been read at the present session of the Commission. He gives a consolidated report, showing the rate of sickness in each regiment, furnishing an exhibition of the most satisfactory state of health. He reports the prevalence of excellent morals among the men, and says that there is no tendency to any form of epidemic disease. Scarcely any typhoid exists, and there is a universal absence of scurvy. Everywhere throughout the forces, the greatest satisfaction was expressed by the men as to the quality and quantity of the Government rations; and in every regiment the "company funds," well gathered and used, provided a variety in the dietary of such articles as butter, milk, eggs, vegetables, etc., etc. A very general inclination to re-enlist among the veterans is reported by Dr. N., thus confirming the often-expressed belief of patriotic observers of the national army, that its soldiers are thoroughly in earnest in their devotion to the good cause, and determined "to see the thing out," as some of them commonly call the rebellion.

What Dr. Nichols says of the high morals of the forces within the defences of Washington, is true of the entire Federal army, with scarcely an exception. The lapse of more than two years, and the trials of repeated and severe campaigns, have eliminated from the army much of the poor material that clogged its ranks during the earlier period of their enlistment. We have now a rapidly increasing army of veterans.

☞ There is at present a great scarcity of warm mittens in the storehouses of the Commission, and the severity of the weather of course makes the want of them greatly felt in the army. It is earnestly requested that efforts may be made by our readers and all friends of the cause to supply this want, by sending forward supplies of them *at once* to the depots of the branch societies, the addresses of which are all given on page 187 of this number of the BULLETIN.

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3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

BROOKLYN AND LONG ISLAND FAIR.

The LADIES who have been notified of their appointment as Managers of the Fair in aid of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, to be opened at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on the 22d February next, are respectfully reminded that they are expected to take immediate measures, within their respective congregations, and social or family circles, according to their own best judgment and discretion, for insuring the largest possible amount of aid to this great enterprise.

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January 6th, 1864.

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Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
G. W. Cullom, U. S. A.
A. E. Shiras, U. S. A.
R. C. Wood, Assistant Surg.-Gen'l U. S. A.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., New York.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clarke, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, Jr., Philadelphia, Penn.
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J. H. Douglas, M.D., Associate Secretary.
F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, and the New England States, address "Office Women's Central Union, No. 10 Cooper Institute, New York."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, andwhere he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 22 Summer Street, Boston, Mass.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 4th Street, Pittsburg, Penn.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, Ohio.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

General Superintendent, Rev. F. N. Knapp, Washington, D. C. Chief Assistant, J. B. Abbott.
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Lodge No. 5, Maryland Avenue, near Railroad Station.
Nurses' Home, Washington, D. C.
Soldiers' Home, Third Street, east of Broadway, Cincinnati, Ohio—Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill.—C. N. Shipman, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky.—James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn.—L. Crane, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio——, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio—Clark Warren, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn.—C.W. Christy, Sup't and Relief Agent.
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We have only been able here to refer to certain of the more prominent facts concerning diphtheria; but we believe we have said enough to recommend this well-written treaties to the attention of the profession.—*British Medical Journal.*

ADVICE TO A MOTHER ON THE MANAGEMENT OF HER OFFSPRING IN INFANCY, CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH. By P. HENRY CHAVASSE, M. D. Price 50c.

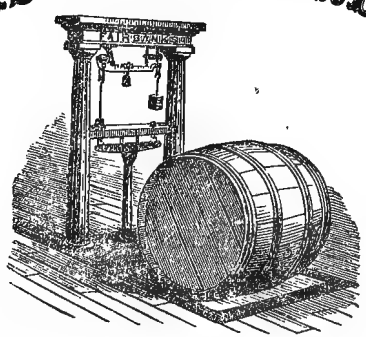
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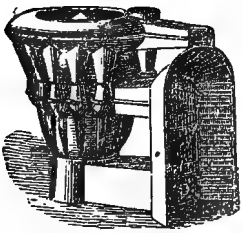
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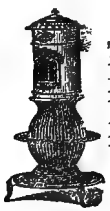
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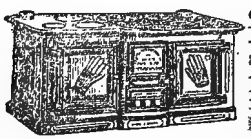


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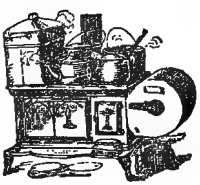


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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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THE WOMEN'S COUNCIL.

After the late session of the Board at Washington, which terminated on Friday evening, January 15th, a Council of Women, representing the various Branches of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, assembled at the Central Office, and were in session Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, January 18th, 19th, and 20th. Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, were represented, and—to name some cities and towns—Portland, Boston, Brattleboro', Middletown, (Conn.,) New Haven, Watertown, (N. Y.,) Buffalo, Rochester, New York city, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Elmira, (N. Y.,) Wilmington, (Del.,) Chicago, Troy, Sharon, (Conn.) In addition to the ladies, who were formal delegates from the Branches, the wives of some Senators and Representatives most interested in the war were present, and a few ladies distinguished for their activity in the public service, Miss Dix, Mrs. Senator Harlan, Mrs. Gibbons, and the wives of two generals in the army. Besides the President, and the General Secretary and Associate Secretaries, and other officers of the Commission, several medical and military gentlemen attended the council.

It was no part of the design of the meeting to discuss or effect any change in the organization of the Branches—which have long been working with commendable efficacy; nor to bring about any greater conformity in the details of local work—there were no special embarrassments or obstacles to remove or overcome. The meeting of women held under Mr. Olmsted's superintendence a year ago, had effected all that was desirable in that respect; and then not by force of any compulsory or binding regulations—but only by the comparison of views and the diffusion of light. One after another of the eastern Branches had voluntarily adopted the general method first assumed by the Boston Branch, until there was little to choose in the order and success of their operations. Nor were the Branches in want of light upon the views, the plans, and the machinery of the Central Board. The numerous and thorough publications of the Commission had furnished, to all attentive readers of them, sufficient illumination upon these points. Yet it was not vainly thought, that the meeting of these representative women would bring out, by wholesome friction of opinions and exchange of experience, much that would be both new and interesting to themselves and valuable to the Commission itself; that the sight of each other would be gratifying and stimulating; and especially that the bringing of the experience and work of the Branches, and the experience and work of the Commission itself in the hospitals and the field, into direct contact and comparison, or rather into their real relationship to each other, would present the whole work in its completeness, and give to the usually divided or discriminated halves of the common enterprise, the feeling of wholeness, in which our nature so much rejoices.

The first thing, then, attempted in the meeting, was to convey to the women in council a full and living conception of the work of the Commission, in the hospital, the field, and with the soldiers everywhere. This was effected in various ways:—1st. By carefully laying out in *words*, the distinction between the objects, and methods, and duties of the Branches—in their collection of supplies—and the objects, methods, and duties of the Commission in their distribution of them. 2d. By lecturing from a gigantic diagram, in which each and every part of the work of the Commission is laid down in lines, (of different colors)—the medical, or preventive service, in green, the special relief service in red, and the general supply service in black; and by which diagram the system of responsibility adopted in our Commission service is illustrated. 3d. By lecturing on the black board on the geographical position of our corps and on our relief stations, with illustrations of the difficulties of transportation and the distance of four armies from their base. 4th. By inviting questions and furnishing answers, or by asking questions and obtaining answers from the ladies present—many of whom had been in the field.

The chief questions the Commission had to ask the Branches were:

1. As to the efficiency of the new plan of associate managers.

It was found that wherever faith and zeal had taken hold of the cause, the least patriotic towns and neighborhoods had yielded to the efforts of the single-handed ladies who had championed our plan. One lady had found that when three or four letters of inquiry and entreaty for some town organization had failed to effect it, the fifth, sixth, or seventh accomplished it. Another (and this was a general testimony) had found, that where all letters had failed, personal visits succeeded. One manager had visited forty different towns. Another had quickened loyalty and humanity in the very nests of copperheadism, and made several towns, given over to hopeless hatred of the war and all its fruits, take to active exertions in behalf of our sick and suffering soldiers. Twenty-seven counties in New York, with associate managers, furnished three times the amount of supplies of twenty-seven other equally favorably situated counties without associate managers. It was found that the western region was more generally interested, though not so systematically at work as the eastern; and the comparison of notes between the representations of different districts left an impression upon some of the Branches, that the fields that they now tilled needed, and would bear, much deeper plowing and a wider sowing.

2. The influence of canvassing agents was a point on which the Commission needed information from the Branches. It was generally allowed that the information communicated by the living voice, by well-informed and experienced canvassers, had done great good, and that documentary, or even newspaper publications, would not take its place. Many communities dated their faith in, and zeal for, the Commission, from the visit of some earnest and thorough canvasser. More of this work was asked for.

3. The influence of the *Bulletin* and of our documents in general, was another question we had to ask. There seemed to be a divided judgment on this point. Those who were comparatively new to our work valued these publications, and thought them very essential, indeed indispensable. Those who knew it best, thought the *Bulletin* too heavy; the articles not short enough; not enough crowded with spicy and affecting incidents; too much occupied with business reports and scientific matter. The ladies were informed that the *Bulletin* had several functions:—1. To take the place of other and expensive printing, and preserve our official reports for circulation among our own corps of workers. 2. To advance sanitary science. 3. To communicate with the medical men in the army and the profession elsewhere. 4. To keep the money-giving public posted as to the substantial nature and extent of our work. 5. To address the sensibilities and affections of the homes of the land. We could not sacrifice the other four objects wholly to the last; but we would endeavor to make the last more prominent.

4. The influence of Sanitary Fairs upon our future prospect of supplies, was an-

other question of great interest. As "in dry weather all signs fail," so it was commonly thought, in a critical and exceptional period of our national history like this, the usual rules break down as to the unfavorableness of spasmodic excitements upon the normal interest of the public in sanitary work. It was stated that in Chicago and in Boston the fairs, very unpopular among business men at the start, had grown in favor as they came to the practical test; that the business interest had found them their best advertising card; and that trade, instead of suffering by their competition, had actually thriven in a marked way under their stimulus. Chicago, it was represented, was quite ready to have another, if necessary. The amount of patriotism created by the fairs quite overbalance any loss of regular industry through the temporary exhaustion caused by them. There seemed to be little evidence that the usual returns of the receiving depots were lessened by the existence of the fairs, while the increase of numbers freshly interested in the work, by the attention thus called to the subject, largely exceeded, in its prospective results, all possible injury produced by these local excitements.

The main questions which the Branches had to put to the Commission were these:

1. There is a common impression; industriously increased by the rivals or enemies of the Commission, that the cost of the Sanitary Commission is excessive—particularly in salaries and in printing. The ladies present had no misgivings on this point, but they wished to be able to answer the gainsayers with authority. It was shown that the Sanitary Commission had received (by estimated value) about seven millions of dollars in supplies, and about a million dollars in money; that the money had been used, about *half*, in purchasing such kinds of supplies as the homes of the land do not furnish—medicines and food necessary for the sick and their relief; and the other half in distributing efficiently, by a thoroughly organized and necessarily costly system, the seven millions of supplies, or in maintaining Homes and Lodges and special Relief. It was shown that at a cost of $15,000 a month, two hundred experts, medical inspectors, relief agents, clerks, and assistants were maintained in the field, distributed all over the country, from Texas to New York; from Port Royal to Kansas; that these men did not average the wages of carpenters and masons, although most of them were men of education, taste, and skill, who could earn many times over their salaries in other fields of labor; that, for instance, the Relief Corps of the whole army of the Potomac did not average $2.00 a day to each man, and that no volunteer service could take its place, or compare with it in efficiency.

2. As to printing, everybody was amazed to learn that the whole cost of printing to the Commission, for its whole existence, three years nearly, had been about $10,000, including advertising, reporter, *Bulletin*, medical tracts, and other documents. The Chicago Branch, by its eloquent and enlightened delegate, Mrs. Hoge, urged that *advertisements*, by newspaper, pulpit, and circular, was the very life of all success; that in their Branch the matter had been reduced to an absolute system, and that they hesitated at no expense found necessary in bringing their wants before the public. She urged the importance of frequent and of *specific* calls by printed circulars, and explained the efficacy of an "*Onion Circular*," only eight lines long, which brought that wholesome anti-scorbutic on strings into their depots, till hundreds of barrels were despatched. This was followed, by "a Potato Circular," and that by "a Pickel Circular," with similar productiveness. The whole press, secular and religious—the whole clergy, by careful lists made out according to denomination, were made mediums of advertising in the West, with wonderful results.

3. The question of security in the transportation of supplies, and of a prompt and just distribution of them among the sick, without ravage from surgeons, stewards, and nurses, was treated with great copiousness. The Commission exchanged their testimony with those ladies who had been at the seat of war in quest of evidence on this vital point. The Commission has always assumed the general trustworthiness of the Medical Department, the army surgeons, and stewards, on ordinary grounds

of confidence in the decency of persons holding responsible stations. It has admitted a small per centage of loss and ravage. But apart from this general trust, its positive watchfulness and direct observation have warranted none of the suspicions so vulgarly prevalent against the honesty and ordinary humanity of the surgeons of the army. Mrs. Hoge testified that with the fullest opportunities of tracing supplies, she had not been able to see how they could, or that they did get stolen, or lost on their way; or that after reaching the hospital, it was possible that they should be misappropriated without producing universal scandal. She stated that in Memphis, where several large hospitals existed, out of all the numerous wards she found but two in which the least complaint existed among the men that the supplies did not reach them, and that the ward-masters, in these two cases, were at once dismissed on her complaint to the surgeon in charge.

She stated an affecting anecdote of a surgeon, worn down with many sleepless nights, whom she had exhorted to go to bed—who said, "How dare I go to bed, with these rumors constantly circulating in the homes that we surgeons are a slothful, self-indulgent set;" and in another case, when she begged an exhausted surgeon to take some white sugar in his tea, he exclaimed, "No, brown sugar for me; I must deny myself the ordinary comforts provided for other sick men, or I shall be set down among those worthless wretches called surgeons, who are eating up the poor soldiers' delicacies."

As to the washing in the army, a vast improvement was recognized, and the system appeared to be working well. It appeared to be even better in the hospitals near the field of war than nearer home, where pure sloth—which seemed to invade alike ward-masters and soldiers—kept them all alike often filthy and unwashed.

Besides the President, Dr. Jenkins the General Secretary, Dr. Newberry the Associate Secretary for the West, Mr. Knapp the Associate Secretary for the East, participated largely, and each with some special contribution of experience. Dr. Newberry, whose personal experience has been as vast as his labors have been abundant and efficient, was specially instructive on the topography of our western operations—illustrating the vast difficulties of transportation, and the length of the lines along which we forwarded our supplies.

Miss Dix met the ladies by special appointment after the adjournment, and gave them an address on Hospital Nursing of great interest and value.

The ladies visited "the Home," the "Lodges," the Store-houses, the Convalescent Camp, the Hospitals, and other objects of interest, including the President. Their visit appeared as eminently satisfactory to themselves as it was interesting and instructive to the Commission. Those who came together as strangers, parted as warm friends. The faith of the highly intelligent, practical, and useful women who thus came together—whose judgment, sound, sober, and experimental, would be no common ordeal—was, if possible, fixed with firmer roots in the cause of that Commission which they had trusted and labored for so long, and which they found bore the closest scrutiny and the most punctilious questioning.

Expressions of regard for Mr. Olmsted—who had presided at the last meeting—were heartily united in by the Council before they adjourned.

An address was delivered by the President of the Commission at the opening of the Council, of which the following is the substance:

The object of this meeting is to establish the most satisfactory and efficient relation between the Central Board of the Sanitary Commission and its Branches.

The satisfactoriness and efficiency of this relation depends—

I. Upon a clear understanding of what the distinctive functions of the Branches and of the Central Board are.

THE BRANCHES ARE DESIGNED:

1. To organize affiliated societies within their own geographical districts; afford them, by circulars and correspondence, by lectures and printed matter, all needed information and incitement to intelligent zeal and permanent effort.

2. The Branches [illegible]

and forward supplies, to the order of the Central Board, through its General Secretary.

3. They attend to such local relief, distribution, and hospital care of sick or wounded soldiers, as may be needed in the Home-field, by soldiers in transit, or while in process of preparation for the field of war, and supervise such local interests of the Commission as may arise in their special spheres. This is sometimes under the separate organization of a committee of associates, and sometimes wholly without it. The principle is in either cases the same.

4. The Branches, having originated under different circumstances, two at least even before the Commission itself, are not strictly analogous, either in form of title, or methods of operation, and in this respect follow the genius of our institutions; according to which the separate States, while all loyal to the Federal Government, have certain special characteristics and laws suited to their origin and circumstances. This difference in unity is a bond of strength, allowing the Branches to sway with ease in the direction of the local winds that sweep them, without forsaking or endangering the common stock into which they are grafted.

5. The Branches are independent in their local rule, their special methods, their by-laws, their treasury, the choice of members, and officers. They are bound to the Central Board only in this :

(1.) An engagement to distribute supplies exclusively through the Sanitary Commission and its authorized agents.

(2.) An obligation to receive and acknowledge the fundamental principles of the Commission, *i. e.*, (*a*) the great federal principle of absolute ignoring of State or local claims, in favor of the National or United States soldier; and (*b*) the co-operation of the Commission with the Medical Department and the Government, as a strengthener and supplementer of their plans, and rules, and method—not their rival, antagonistic, or unfriendly critic.

THE CENTRAL BOARD

has it for its duty, to study the wants of the army in the field :

1. To see its dangers to health and life, and to prevent them, by diffusing information, warning, and anti-scorbutics, sometimes in the form of food—fresh vegetables or change of diet—and sometimes in the form of prophylactic medicines, and sometimes in the dissemination of vaccine virus. This preventive service requires three different agencies :

A. A Corps of Medical Inspectors, whose time is passed with the armies in the field, visiting camps, hospitals, and transports ; experts, who watch the perils from climate, malarious exposure, from hard marching or active campaigning, from inadequate food or clothing, growing out of imperfect facilities of transportation, and report to the Associate Secretary in charge, or to Relief Agents under their control, what is to be done in the way of supplies, cargoes of vegetable, or loads of clothing, for their protection. This preventive service, by its processes, collects the scientific materials for our Bureau of Statistics, by which we reach those generalisations that teach us how to do our work better and better. The comparison of climates, and circumstances, and discipline, and age of troops, and method of treating them, forms the basis of instruction which must influence the whole future of soldiers in the field.

B. A Corps of Special Hospital Inspectors, selected from the most learned physicians, make from time to time the circuit of all the general hospitals, and report upon their wants, condition, progress, *personnel*, and capacity for improvement—the substance of which reports is confidentially made over to the Surgeon-General.

C. The preparation and circulation of medical tracts, and information important and indispensable to the officers, soldiers, and especially the medical men in the field.

II. We pass from the Preventive to the Relief Service.

This is divided into two branches, General and Special Relief.

GENERAL RELIEF

consists in supplementing such ordinary and recognized wants of the soldiers in the field, as our Medical Inspectors and Relief Agents may discover to exist, or as experience has taught us necessarily must exist.

These wants are all theoretically met by the army system; and if it worked *in vacuo* without friction or disturbance, there would be no occasion for eking out its deficiencies, which would not then exist. But in the two first years of the war the machinery had not got into gear and full running order ; the army grew faster than the medical, or any other military department could ; and then we were necessary to take the place of great vacancies and acknowledged breaks in its true order.

These grew out of ignorant and untrained quartermasters, unskilled surgeons, imperfect administration, fallible generals, colonels, and captains ; while the deficiencies in the strained commissary and transportation and medical stores, both in medicines and clothing, added frightfully to the embarrassment.

Then, even general hospitals, the nearest home, were shabby, ill-designed buildings, with poor kitchens and no fit arrangements for washing, without adequate hospital clothing or delicate food, and with too much ignorance to accumulate a hospital fund, or perhaps unable to get it from our strained Treasury, when they knew better. This made for more than a year our work in furnishing clothes and supplies to general hospitals immense, even in Washington itself. What must it have been elsewhere?

But regimental hospitals, transports, hospital cars, and sick in quarters, cannot but be pressed for supplies, long after general hospitals are well off; and the further from their base, the worse off they are. There is no reason to doubt that but for the millions of supplies, clothing, and delicacies distributed to these places during the first two years of the war, the suffering would have been too horrible to relate.

Oftentimes our store and supplies have been the main dependence in some exigency of transportation, or change of base, or other military move.

The meeting of these field necessities compels us to keep a corps of Relief Agents with every considerable body of troops in the field, and their duties are as regular and as urgent now as they ever were.

But within the last year, we may concede that the military preparations of the Government are complete; that the Medical Department is working as nearly according to theory as is possible, and is theoretically able to meet all demands. Now, we are discovering that a state of war, in a country as wide as ours and on so vast a scale, creates an amount of misery in the army which the most perfect machinery of the Government, working in the most perfect way, cannot diminish to a point to satisfy humanity. We find that the exceptions to rules, which must be broad and general to cover a million men, are sufficient to require a special corps like ours (as large as a whole Medical Department in a moderate war) to meet them. And this is sufficiently proved by the fact, that humanity requires us to call as loudly as ever for stores, and will not permit us to diminish our working force.

Turning from General to

SPECIAL RELIEF,

we have perhaps quite as large a department as the other.

It is called special, not because adapted mostly to individual cases, but because it is not designed to eke out any thing which the Government undertakes to do at all. It is a pure invention of our own, and consists:

1. In providing Homes, with shelter and food and medical care and general superintendence, at all the main points where soldiers are found in any considerable numbers, for those soldiers who are not yet under the care of the Government, or have just got out of their care, or have somehow lost their status and cannot immediately regain it,—recruits, or men on leave, sick-leave or furlough, going to and fro; strays, men without skill to care for themselves, ignorant, under-witted, vicious; men discharged prematurely from hospitals; men found in the streets, or left behind by their regiments. It is enough to say that we estimate that every day we have 2,300 such men on our hands at night—in our beds and at our tables at each meal of the day. To see one of these Homes is to see all; and they are little military towns, with barracks, mess-rooms, hospitals, arsenals, baggage-rooms, accommodations for visitors, reading-rooms, places for soldiers' wives and children, &c.

2. Besides the Home proper, come "Lodges," which are miniature Homes, supplementary to the larger one, and meeting wants of a local character. We have, scattered though Washington, Paymaster, Pension, and Ticket-offices.

3. Under the name of Special Relief must come every thing done to secure pensions, or back pay, or transportation, to correct soldiers' papers, save them from sharpers, and dispel their ignorance and their fears.

To this is to be added our Battle Field work, too often described to make it necessary to say any thing here; then our Hospital Transports; then our Hospital Cars and Trains; then our Hospital Directory.

Now, to keep all this machinery in motion, there must be a power behind it to animate and direct it. This power is made up of men and money. The men are: The U. S. Sanitary Commission Board, the Standing Committee, the General Secretary, the three Associate Secretaries, the two great offices—one Washington, two Louisville—with the smaller office co-ordinating them at New York. Then the Medical Inspectors, Relief Agents, Ordinary Clerks, Special Aids in time of battle—about 200 in ordinary times. The Board has no salary. Cost of Agents is $15,000 a month.

Here Dr. B. described the office work in all its variety, by the diagram.

MONEY.

This great work cannot go on without money.

This money is got by keeping the public constantly informed of our wants and methods. Hence our advertising, our documents, our Sanitary Reporter and Bulletin, and the expense of printing. Hence our canvassing agents for money and supplies. California has been our principal resource for money.

OBJECTS OF THE MEETING.

Now, after this explanation of our work, it seems easier to come to the objects of this meeting:

1. Our Branches want to diffuse a spirit of confidence and of information among our constituents in all parts of the country, as to the wisdom, energy, economy, and success with which their supplies are disposed; and this they must acquire or strengthen here.

2. To interest the public in the principles and methods of the Commission, by what they learn, or add to their previous stock of learning.

3. To compare notes *with us*, telling us from their own fields of sympathy and observation what we need for our better guidance, and receiving such information from us as may help them in their field.

4. To compare methods, obstacles, and successes with each other, so that each may have the light of all; not so much in the way of agreeing on any common plan, as of obtaining counsel, inspiration, and light upon their own chosen path.

5. To give us the benefit of their experience as to the way *the Fairs* are going to affect our future supplies.

6. To tell us what our relations on the Home field are with other Commissions or State agencies.

7. To give us their idea of what canvassing agents should be and how work, and what they think of those they know.

8. To suggest any improvements in their working relations to the Commission.

9. To report, as far as they are prepared, upon the number of Societies they represent, the amount of work they have done, their past, present, and future, and to make any special written or verbal communications.

TRANSPORTATION IN TENNESSEE.

The following report, addressed by Mr. Butler to Dr. Newberry, our Associate Secretary in the West, December 26th, may serve to give our readers some idea of the difficulties with which the Commission has to contend in the transportation of supplies for the army in Tennessee:

In compliance with instructions received on the eve of our departure for Chattanooga, 6,000 pounds of the choicest stores were shipped from Louisville, and duly received and stored at Camp Nelson, to await transportation by the first train from Knoxville, Tenn.

On my arrival at Camp Nelson I found that a large shipment of stores, much more varied in kind, had been sent to my care for the same destination by the Cincinnati Branch. Orders for transportation for both shipments having been received separately from General Burnside, would have been promptly honored by Capt. Hall, A. Q. M. at Camp Nelson, had not the presence of Longstreet's rebels and sundry guerrilla forces on the various routes forbidden transportation to Knoxville. Under these circumstances, seven or eight days were unavoidably lost; but the great impediments were finally removed on the second day of the present month. A train of seventy teams was, in the space of one day, prepared for the journey, six of which were ordered to transport our stores.

Having previously calculated on loading 2,000 lbs. to each team, the transportation furnished might have been sufficient, but the A. Q. M. being better advised of the condition of the roads, imperatively restricted each team to 1,200 lbs., thus making it necessary to leave for the next train some of the less important boxes and barrels.

Leaving Camp Nelson on the 3d, we reached the foot of "Big Hill" at noon on the 7th without trouble or adventure; notwithstanding that the guerrillas had appeared in Mount Sterling, Ky., and were frequently reported in the vicinity of our train, we did not see them. We had been so far favored with a good road that we made moderate progress, but now the Big Hill was before us. The ascent, though only one mile, occupied two of the hardest days' work that we had yet known, and involved considerable destruction of mules, harness, and teams.

From the foot of Big Hill, we look in vain for any thing but rocks and ruts, consequently a few miles, from three to fifteen, suffice for a day's travel.

Stores are ruinously jolted; boxes and barrels unavoidably break; while rarely a day passes without a team being capsized into a creek, or river, or down a precipice.

We reached Camp Pitman on the 13th, distant from Camp Nelson about eighty-five miles.

Through the wagon-master of our train, I obtained an order from Captain Hall, which made our train independent of the brigade train, and consequently put an end to the annoying delays to which we had been repeatedly subjected.

At Camp Pitman, I found the 51st New York regiment guarding the post, and the Assistant Surgeon, Dr. Burd, was doing good among numberless obstacles.

In nearly every house from the top of Big Hill, I found that soldiers in every degree of disease had been left upon the hospitality and care of the people. In one house I found six soldiers occupying beds, and the constant attention of a widow lady and her two daughters. The poor sick and weary men were unable to proceed any further, and these patriotic Samaritans, whose brothers were among our soldiers in the field, were, out of their scanty means, administering to their relief and comfort.

Having received information of such necessities before leaving Camp Nelson, I had provided a quantity of beef extract, milk, crackers, an assortment of woollen under-wear, and sundry other things, which I found were actually required by men, sick, hungry, and naked.

I found Dr. Burd collecting these poor fellows, and affording all aid possible within his power. He had procured a building, which he had made as comfortable as his resources would allow, and he strove arduously to make his miscellaneous hospital as effective as the emergency demanded. I was gratified in being able to furnish him with a variety of stores for his sick patients, for I know him to be one of the kindest and most faithful of men.

During the forenoon of the 16th instant, I reached a house on Lincamp's Creek. and saw two men working at a coffin. After some inquiries, I learned that twelve days previously a soldier had stopped at the house, complaining of chronic diarrhœa and rheumatism. The people shared their morsel with him, and employed their limited knowledge of medicine for his relief.

The poor fellow also suffered with colic, which finally set in as an adjunct to his complicated disorders, and tortured him until he threw his armor down for his long rest in a mountain grave. I desired the sergeant of the guard to ascertain his effects, and finding only ninety cents, I threw the sum over to the poor family, as a very small remuneration for their attention to the soldier.

Turning one day, a mile from the road, I found a grave, which I was informed contained six soldiers who had died in the neighborhood; but no human scribe was found to register their names ere death made them oblivious to all but God. And so it has been with many others, how many God only knows. But in the case of him whose rude coffin was being made before my eyes, I especially realized my duty to the soldier, although dead, and also to his parents.

I gleaned from the family all the particulars necessary to advise his parents of his disease and death, and also the locality of his grave. I wrote at Barboursville to his father, Aaron Bachtle, Roanoke Post Office, Huntington county, Ind. The deceased soldier's address was Hiram Bachtle, Commany C, 115th Ind.

While so many soldiers, sick and debilitated, were passing over the mountains toward Camp Nelson, in most cases totally dependent on the meagre hospitality of the people, I ardently wished that this rude section of the country had resources similar to those of more favored people; for with all their poverty and abject indigence, which nearly every dwelling in some counties presented, I never knew a soldier denied participation in their meal of corn bread and bacon—vegetables, milk, butter, sugar, and coffee being great rarities among them.

Dwelling generally in what we would term miserable log houses, squalid women and children live month after month on their very scanty fare, and tell the stranger —soldier or citizen—of the fathers and sons in the Union army.

The winter is now upon them, and they are ragged. Their corn is about eaten, and they have little or no money to buy more, if perchance one might be found to sell. The alarming alternative is only too visible, and they shrink from it with dread. The necessities of the Government service had aided very materially in the exhaustion of their staple product, so that now there is almost nothing along the route to Cumberland Gap for either man or beast.

That they will need much and suffer extremely if unaided in their need during the winter, is indisputable; and as they are proverbial for their fidelity to the Government, and have invariably befriended our sick, straggling soldiers, they should receive our practical sympathy to the extent of our ability and their necessity. A word to philanthropists is sufficient.

Before leaving Camp Pitman we obtain a new supply of mules, harness, and wagon tongues, also a large amount of forage. No event, except such as have become of common occurrence, transpired until we had passed through Cumberland Gap on the 20th inst., when a rumor was afloat that no train would be allowed to pass on the direct road to Knoxville, as the rebels were infesting that portion of the country. By the advice of the Post Commandant we took the Jacksboro' road, though twenty miles further, as it was considered safe.

Leaving Cumberland Gap on the evening of 21st, we made better progress, while the forty guards, who had heretofore been employed in assisting the teams, were ordered by the officer in command to march in advance of the train, under arms.

Several encounters had taken place in

our vicinity between General Wilcox and Longstreet only a few days previously, and others were pending, while the cannonading was distinctly audible in our train.

There was marked anxiety among the guard to protect the train to Knoxville, as they knew the great need which existed in the hospital there.

On the evening of the 24th inst. we encamped twenty-two miles from Knoxville, and on the following morning I started on horseback, arriving in the recently besieged city before noon.

I soon met with our agent Mr. R. N. Strong, who was expecting me, and had procured two store-rooms adjoining each other. The train arriving on the following evening, the stores were transferred to the building on the morning of the 27th inst. I was surprised to find so little damage done to the stores, a few pounds of crackers and dried apples were the amount of the loss, after so long a journey over such miserable roads.

There are in Knoxville five hospitals, having their branches, and containing nearly 2,000 patients. While the Commissary has been recently well replenished, the supplies of the Medical Department were scanty. Our stores were anxiously expected, and they were joyfully received.

On Monday the 28th inst., Mr. Crary arrived from Chattanooga with three hundred packages of select stores. Other shipments have been arranged from and by way of Chattanooga. I am gratified with the intelligence that the river is opened for transportation from Bridgeport to Knoxville, so that our stores may not be subjected again to such delay as on this journey, however unavoidable.

"HOW ARE YOU? SANITARY."

BY F. B. HARTE.

Down the picket-guarded lane,
Rolled the comfort-laden wain,
Cheered by shouts that shook the plain,
Soldier-like and merry:

Phrases such as camps may teach,
Sabre cuts of Saxon speech,
Such as "Bully! "Them's the peach!"
"Wade in, Sanitary!"

Right and left the caissons drew
As the car went lumbering through,
Quick succeeding in review
Squadrons military;

Sunburnt men, with beards like frieze,
Smooth-faced boys and cries like these—
"U. S. San. Com." "That's the cheese!"
"Pass in, Sanitary."

In such cheer it struggled on
Till the battle front was won,
Then the car, its journey done,
Lo, was stationary;

And where bullets whistling fly
Came the sadder, fainter cry,
"Help us, brothers, ere we die—
Save us, Sanitary!"

Such the work. The phantom flies,
Wrapped in battle-clouds that rise;
But the Brave, with dying eyes,
Veiled and visionary,

Sees the jasper gates swung wide,
Sees the parted throng outside,
Hears a voice to those that ride—
"Pass in, Sanitary!"

—*San Francisco Bulletin.*

THE METROPOLITAN FAIR.

SCOPE AND PLAN OF THE FAIR.

The Metropolitan Fair is not designed to be a mere fancy fair on a large scale. In its plan, as well as in its scope, it is intended to be worthy of the great city in which it is to be held, and of the great occasion to which it ministers. To that end, it must be universal in its attractions, enlisting all sympathies, pleasing all healthy tastes, and satisfying all honest needs. It must be democratic, but not vulgar; elegant, but not exclusive; fashionable, but not frivolous; popular, but not mediocre. Therefore, it is intended that this Fair shall afford, in its getting up, something for everybody to do; something, when it opens, for everybody to buy; something to gratify the sober and please the gay, to win the approval of the serious and the utilitarian, and at the same time to catch the eye and suit the taste of the young, the light-hearted, and even the trifling. The good, the rich, the well-to-do—those in humble life, the fashionable, the politicians, the clergy, the Chamber of Commerce, the Police, the Fire Department, the Trades' Unions, and all the great industrial establishments, should be interested in this Fair.

Chicago, Cincinnati, and Boston have done nobly in this direction, and it becomes New York to do, at least, as well in proportion to her means and the advantages of her position. There is an espe-

cial reason, too, why we of the Atlantic seaboard should make unusual exertions to fill the treasury of the Sanitary Commission; and this is, that of the money received by the Commission, considerably more than one-half has been contributed by our countrymen upon the shores of the Pacific—California, alone, having sent more than five hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars.

For such a Fair as this, those who have undertaken its management will not *beg* contributions. They would not so insult the community of which they are a part, and of which, in this matter, they are but the servants and almoners, richly paid for the duties they perform by being made the channels through which its bounty passes. And, indeed, such is the alacrity and heartiness in this cause, that they have already received, even before the project was well brought before the public, such handsome and spontaneous offers from representatives of all departments of industry and commerce, that it is plain that this Fair will be not only an adequate expression of the loyalty, love, and devotion of the people of this city and State to their country and its defenders, but a grand and worthy Exposition of the Manufacturing, Agricultural, Commercial, Literary, and Artistic resources of New York.

The Fair being planned for these purposes, and under these auspices, its Managers invite all MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, and ARTISANS to contribute of their wares to its stores, giving just such goods as they make or deal in—no matter what their character—just such goods as are made profitable to them by the power and prosperity of our country, which our soldiers and sailors are now fighting to maintain.

They invite the FARMERS from all the country round to visit the Fair, and bring with them gifts from their barns, their stalls, their dairies, and their poultry yards.

They ask the PAINTERS and SCULPTORS, who have done so much for the honor of our country, and all who are connected with the FINE ARTS, either as creators, as dealers, or as amateurs fortunate in the possession of Art Treasures, to send their contributions, for exhibition or for sale. A proper gallery will be erected for the display and the due preservation of such works.

The peculiar interest which attaches to Literature, warrants the establishment of a special department, to supply which PUBLISHERS and BOOKSELLERS are confidently looked to. In this department will be a SECOND-HAND BOOK STALL, to which contributions are asked from the shelves of those who are cumbered with duplicate copies, or who have books which they no longer use.

Connected with the department of Literature will be a table for the exposition and sale of valuable AUTOGRAPHS.

On the MUSICIANS, MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MAKERS, and MUSIC DEALERS, the Managers confidently rely for a worthy representation in this Fair of the beautiful art of which they are the ministers, by the giving of Musical performances, and of instruments and music for sale.

The Managers and Artists of the various THEATRES of the city are invited to follow the example already set by some of their number, in offering to set apart one evening during the Fair, the performances on which shall be for the benefit of its fund.

It is hoped that our PUBLIC SCHOOLS, and PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS of a benevolent character, may contribute in some fitting manner to the interest of this Fair.

To the public spirit and the patriotism of the FIRE DEPARTMENT and the POLICE, the Managers feel that they may look for even more than that habitually honorable and efficient discharge of duty on their part which would insure the preservation of property consecrated to the use of those who are suffering in their country's cause. But it is also hoped that in some other manner, as may be most agreeable to themselves, they may bear a part in this patriotic undertaking.

As appropriate to the occasion of this Fair a department of ARMS and TROPHIES will be established, to which not only arms and flags captured in the present war, but all articles of this kind which have an historical or an intrinsic interest will be acceptable contributions, either for sale or for exhibition.

An OLD CURIOSITY SHOP will afford all those persons who have interesting relics of the past in their possession to enable others to share the pleasure of examining them. Contributions of noteworthy character and value have already been received for this department. It should be particularly stated whether articles of this kind are for sale or only for exhibition.

A NEWSPAPER will be published daily, which, in addition to the latest telegraphic news up to the time of going to press, will contain short and piquant articles upon incidents of the day, and especially of the Fair.

A POST OFFICE will be established, at the illegality of which it is hoped that the Honorable the Postmaster-General will wink, if official dignity be capable of such an act, and at the novel promptness and regularity of which it is believed the public will wonder.

As people cannot see all these things, and do all these things, and buy all these things, without exhaustion of the vital forces, a RESTAURANT of corresponding magnitude and completeness will be established, the arrangements of which, supervised by ladies and gentlemen of taste and discretion in such matters, will be in the immediate hands of an accomplished public caterer.

The accomplishment of this grateful but multitudinous task has been placed in the hands of the undersigned Executive Committees, who depend chiefly, however, upon the hearty co-operation of the General Committee of Managers, from which the body of the various Special Committees are mainly recruited.

A member of the Executive Committee will be at the head of each Special Committee, whether of ladies or of gentlemen. It is expected that the members of the ladies' and gentlemen's Special Committees will be in constant communication and act together, reporting through the respective heads of their committees to the respective Executive Committees.

It is intended that, if practicable, each city in the State which desires that its contributions shall be kept together, shall have a separate table or space specially set apart for them, and that each of these cities shall be represented in the General Committee of Management.

A certain number of each Executive Committee will be at its Office—the Ladies' at No. 2 Great Jones Street, the Gentlemen's at 842 Broadway, every day, from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Contributions to the Fair are to be sent to the Receiving Depot, No. 2 Great Jones Street, where they will be credited to their givers, and their receipt acknowledged by the proper committee.

It is particularly requested that each contribution be plainly marked with the name of the contributor, for exposition during the Fair, and that each article be accompained by a memorandum of its value.

To carry out the design of the Fair in accordance with the spirit in which it has been planned, it has been thought proper to adopt the following

REGULATIONS.

1.—Every application by note for contributions shall be upon paper bearing the symbol of the Fair, and signed in writing by a member of the Executive Committee; and every member of a Special Committee shall be provided with a similar certificate of authority.

2.—It is earnestly requested that all contributions in money be sent to the Treasurer, to whose order all checks should be made payable.

3.—At the Fair every article shall be sold at its current market value, when that is determinable.

4.—In all raffles the number of tickets sold shall not exceed the original valuation of the articles raffled for.

5.—No person shall be importuned to buy articles or tickets for raffles.

6.—In every department a cashier shall be appointed to receive money and make change.

7.—No punch shall be sold.

OFFICERS.

LADIES' ASSOCIATION.

President,.....Mrs. Hamilton Fish.
First Vice-President,.. " David Lane.
Second Vice-President, " A. V. Stout.
Treasurer,..... " Ellen R. Strong.
Secretary,..... " John Sherwood.
Assistant Secretary,....Miss Catherine Nash.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

[*Office No.* 2 *Great Jones Street.*]

Mrs. Marshall O. Roberts, Francis Lieber, William H. Van Buren, Richard M. Hunt, Jonathan Sturges, Alfred Schermerhorn, David Dudley Field, Samuel G. Courtney, Daniel Le Roy, Benjamin Nathan, John Jacob Astor, Gurdon Buck, Ogden Hoffman, Josiah S. Colgate, Frank E. Howe, John A. Dix, Alexander Hamilton, Jr., Thomas F. Meagher, Philip Hamilton, Frederick Billings, Morris Ketchum, Miss Catherine Hone.

GENTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

President,.....Major-Gen. John A. Dix.
First Vice-President,...Mr. Jonathan Sturges.
Second Vice-President,. " James T. Brady.
Chairman of Gen. Com'ee " Wilson G. Hunt.
Secretary,..... " Rich'd Grant White.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

[*Office No.* 842 *Broadway.*]

Mr. George Griswold Gray,.. *Chairman.*
" Richard Grant White,... *Secretary.*

Messrs. Marshall O. Roberts, Arthur Leary, James L. Kennedy, Charles H. Marshall, Alex. Van Renssalaer, Nathaniel P. Hosack, Peter Marie, Abraham M. Cozzens, Lawrence R. Jerome, William T. Blodgett, Fletcher Harper, Lloyd Aspinwall, William Scharfenberg, Levi P. Morton, Christian E. Detmold, Henry Chauncey, Charles Astor Bristed, Thomas Acton, C. Godfrey Gunther, Henry S. Fearing, Augustus R. Macdonough, Francis A. Stout, James A. Roosevelt, Le Grand B. Cannon, Edward Delano, John F. Kensett, James F. Ruggles, Moses Lazarus, Joseph G. Heywood, Philetus T. Holt, Uriel A. Murdock, Elliott F. Shepard, Edward Matthews, S. B. Janes.

HEADS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES.*

Arrangements.—Mrs. R. M. Hunt. Mr. George Griswold Gray.

Art—Including Artists' Materials.—Mrs. Jonathan Sturges. Mr. John F. Kensett.

Arms and Trophies, including Sporting Materials.—Mr. William T. Blodgett.

Agricultural Products and Implements.—Mr. Nathaniel P. Hosack.

Bakers.—Mrs. Richard M. Hunt. Mr. Alexander Van Rensselaer.

Boots and Shoes.—Mrs. D. Bridgham. Mr. Francis A. Stout

Building.—Mr. George Griswold Gray.

Confectionery.—Mrs. H. Fay. Mr. Alexander Van Rensselaer.

Cabinet Work, Upholstery, Carpets, and Looking-Glasses.—Mrs. George M. Miller. Mr. James A. Roosevelt.

Charity.—Mrs. Ogden Hoffman.

Contributors from without the City.—Mr. Elliott T. Shephard.

Drama and Public Amusements.—Mrs. John Sherwood. Mr. Richard Grant White.

Dress Making.—Mrs. G. K. Forsyth.

Drugs and Perfumery.—Mrs. Wm. H. Van Buren. Mr. James L. Kennedy.

Furs, Hats and Caps, and Clothing.—Mrs. Jaudon. Mr. Henry S. Fearing.

Florists.—Mrs. Frank E. Howe.

Flour, Grain and Provisions.—Mrs. H. K. Bogert. Mr. Philetus H. Holt.

Finance.—Mr. Leonard W. Jerome. Mr. John H. Gourlie.

Hardware, House Furnishing, and Metals.—Mrs. Mitchell. Mr. Uriel A. Murdock.

India Rubber Goods.—Mrs. C. R. Degen. Mr. Francis A. Stout.

Jewelry and Retail Fancy Goods.—Mrs. William Parker. Mr. Peter Marie.

Lingeries and Trimmings.—Mrs. William T. Blodgett.

Millinery.—Mrs. Clymer.

Music—Including Musical Instruments.—Mrs. H. W. Hills. Mr. William Scharfenberg.

Newspaper.—Mrs. Charles Butler. Mr. Augustus R. Macdonough.

Old Curiosity Shop.—Mrs. Wolcott Gibbs.

Optical, Mathematical, and Surgical Instruments, Carriages and Saddlery.—Mr. Christian E. Detmold.

Plumbing, Gas-Fitting, Stoves and Heaters.—Mr. Edward Delano.

Porcelain and Glass.—Mrs. Thomas F. Meagher. Mr. Abraham M. Cozzens.

Police.—Mr. Thomas C. Acton.

Post Office.—Mrs. Charles E. Strong. Mr. Augustus R. Macdonough.

Printing, Stationery, Photographs, and Playing Cards.—Mr. James F. Ruggles.

Private Schools.—Mrs. Vincenzio Botta.

Public Charities.—Mrs. D. Fearing.

Public Conveyances and Transportation.—Mr. Le Grand B. Cannon.

Public Schools.—Mrs. George Vandenhoff. Mr. Richard Grant White.

Publishers and Booksellers.—Mrs. Francis Lieber. Mr. Fletcher Harper.

Receiving Committee.—Mrs. Alexander Hamilton. Mrs. Alfred Schermerhorn.

Restaurant.—Mrs. Marshall O. Roberts. Mr. Abraham M. Cozzens.

Retail Dry Goods.—Mrs. John Van Vechten.

Retail Groceries.—Mrs. De La Montaigne. Mr. Joseph C. Heywood.

Ships and Shipbuilding.—Mr. Charles H. Marshall.

Stonework and Masonry.—Mrs. Henry A. Coit.

Thread and Needles.—Miss Cary.

Toys and Small Wares.—Mrs. Sidney Ashmore. Mr. James L. Kennedy.

Visiting Committee.—Mrs. S. G. Courtney, Mrs. Gurdon Buck.

Wholesale Dry Goods.—Mrs. A. V. Stout. Mr. Levi P. Morton.

Wholesale Fancy Goods.—Mrs. Frank E. Howe.

Wholesale Groceries.—Mrs. William H. Aspinwall. Mr. Lloyd Aspinwall.

Wines, Liquors, Tobacco, Fruits, &c.—Mr. Henry Chauncey.

ELIZABETH G. SHERWOOD,
Sec. Ladies' Exec. Committee.

RICH'D GRANT WHITE,
Sec. Gentlemen's Exec. Committee.

* List of the members of the General Committee, and of the various Special Committees, will be published as soon as they are completed.

THE GREAT WESTERN SANITARY FAIR.

CINCINNATI, January 14, 1864.

REV. DR. H. W. BELLOWS,
President U. S. Sanitary Commission.

MY DEAR SIR: Your manuscript came duly to hand some days since, and was handed to the compiler of the history of our Fair.

I am glad to see the movements for your Metropolitan Fair. It ought to have the character from our chief city, and greatly exceed all that any other city could do. We here feel that those who have contributed have done nobly; but there are many who have up to this time denied themselves the satisfaction of having contributed to the comfort of our national defenders, through this Fair, the greatest ever yet held on this continent. Such may yet, by acting promptly, find their names recorded in our history as friends of our soldiers. We expect to realize at least $200,000 net. Unavoidable circumstances have operated against our realizing the sum we aimed at of $250,000. Those participating in the Fair have reason to be grateful for being able to devote that sum to the help and comfort of men who deserve tenfold more at the hands of their fellow-citizens.

It is a satisfaction to know that as yet Cincinnati is in advance of all others; but it would afford us more satisfaction to know that our Metropolitan city, so indebted to our Great West for its wealth and prosperity, would average at least one dollar to each of its population, and thus raise one million of dollars. The large population residing without the city limits, yet depending on the commerce of your city, ought

to contribute at least enough to make up any deficiency of your people to average one dollar each. Suppose they should thus do, how small a sum would that furnish, on an average, to each of our soldiers, sacrificing themselves that our and your lives and property should be sacred?

Some of your noble merchants and citizens, with a few of such in Boston and Philadelphia, have liberally contributed to our efforts to supply our soldiers without regard to their nativity or residence.

The moral power of the fairs that have been held is doing much to encourage re-enlisting, and to convince the South of the folly of persisting in its madness against a united North. It is beginning to be seen in the North that voluntary offerings of the people are more economical in outlay of money and life, than to simply depend on legal requirements. One million of dollars furnished by your city as a voluntary offering, will carry more power in it than an outlay of one hundred millions in the usual form of appropriations that the people would have to pay at last. It will not only discourage the rebels in the South, but their allies in the North. As a people, we must act for ourselves, and thus strengthen our Government, and shorten and cheapen the war in treasure and blood. Sound humanity and economy demand this of us.

Having the numbers, wealth, and interests to be promoted, you have only to will that you may thus act justly toward those sacrificing their all for you, and the million of dollars will promptly come, and no one feel the poorer for it. Less than that would not supply needed comforts for our soldiers, nor be a fit offering or example for the chief city of this continent. All Europe would be forced to respect you for it, while our Great West would honor and be proud of you for so doing.

I trust that amount will be your final report.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDGAR CONKLING,
Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Great Western Sanitary Fair.

RELIEF WORK AT NEW ORLEANS.

Our special relief agent at New Orleans, Mr. Bullard, writes:

I herewith sent you a report of the Special Relief work in this department from the date of our organization to January 1st, 1864.

My communication will be limited to a statistical report of the "Soldiers' Home," as returned to me by the superintendent, Mr. Nute, since the transfer from the Western Sanitary Commission; and a brief record of the work in the Special Relief Office. The necessity for this office, and the importance of this branch of the work, were apparent from the first. There was some delay in organizing while the negotiations for the Home were pending, since the question of locality was one of considerable importance.

So far I have had the hearty co-operation of the several paymasters with whom I have come in contact. Every facility is afforded for the prompt and favorable settlement of all claims of invalid discharged soldiers, and for the adjustment of all imperfect papers which *can* be given in a department so far removed from Washington.

As it becomes known that there is an office in New Orleans, where all sorts of inquiries are kindly and freely answered, there is a daily increase of applicants for various degrees of assistance. The minor cases are made up, in part, from discharged soldiers, by questions of transportation, their just dues in mileage and subsistence, and the never-failing subject of bounties. Furloughed soldiers are constantly applying for information as to how they may draw the back pay on which they depend for means to defray their expenses, as they find themselves bewildered in a large city, and uncertain about the matter of transportation. Both of these classes of soldiers are deriving a great benefit from the Home. Many of them, after reaching New Orleans, perhaps from a distant part of the department, are obliged to wait here till a Government transport is ready for New York or Cairo. There have been times when "Military necessity" has called off all such boats for some expedition. Under such circumstances, the poor fellows must stay in this city at their own expense, perhaps for two or three weeks. Without the "Home" for a resting-place, it will be readily understood that such delay would be most disastrous to them.

When the cards and posters for this office were first issued, in which assistance was promised in the matter of arrears of pay, bounty, and pensions, it was supposed that very little could be done in this department other than on discharge papers, directly through the paymaster; and by directing discharged soldiers going home to reliable agencies north. But it soon became apparent that a large number of applications would be made from claimants for the pay and bounty of deceased Louisiana soldiers, and for pension. These claimants are mostly widows and dependent relatives, really needing all that is due from Government.

There are some difficulties attending this work here, not so common in other sections; some uncertainty as to what would be accepted in Washington; what evidence would be required of the loyalty of the claimants and witnesses. And in the present condition of the courts in this State, it was a question before whom to have the necessary acknowledgments made. I have arranged with the Judge of the First Justice Court, appointed by the Military Governor, who has very kindly offered to assist me in this work; and Governor Shepley will attach his official certificate to each application going to the Second Auditor's Office. The forms sent me do not indicate the necessity of such certificate on pension claims.

I have forwarded applications for three widows to the Second Auditor's, and for the same parties for pensions. One of these was a free colored woman; her husband died while in the service. She brought a certified copy of marriage license, and record of marriage; and one of the witnesses was the colored pastor who married them. We sent on this as a test. Probably there will be some trouble in furnishing satisfactory evidence of marriage relation in a majority of cases among the colored people.

Besides, I do not know what rule, if any, has been adopted relative to the Corps d'Afrique touching these matters.

Some dozen or more cases are either waiting further action, or have been dismissed as too questionable.

No special efforts are being made to increase this branch of the work, nor is it thought expedient to do so till we learn how our experiments have been received.

The office was opened about the 20th of November. But little was done during the first ten days. There was some delay in getting cards and posters printed and properly circulated, and considerable time necessarily consumed in completing the arrangements relative to the Home.

Up to January 1st, 1864, the number of cases recorded in the journal is forty-eight. Of these, twenty-one have received personal aid in the collection of their pay. Amount collected $3,289.44.

The Paymaster prefers that all soldiers who are able should present their own papers. He has shown great kindness in furthering my efforts in behalf of those needing assistance. I therefore make it a point to send to him such soldiers as can comfortably walk the short distance to his office, providing their papers are correct. By this course the Major understands that my object is simply to help those unable to help themselves. I am seldom denied any reasonable favor for a sick or wounded soldier.

The rule here with a discharged soldier is, for the Paymaster to give him an order for transportation, either to New York or to Cairo, and allow him mileage for the rest of the way to the place of enlistment, with the usual rate of subsistence for the whole distance. This order the Quartermaster endorses, giving the name of the transport on which it will be good for passage. The man gets by this simply steerage privileges, and takes along his own rations.

The very feeble can hardly endure the hardships of such transportation. The Paymaster makes exceptions in favor of extreme cases; and when I have stated that a man whose papers I hand in is not able to go by Government transport, he allows him mileage. I use this advantage cautiously, that I may not fail in the really deserving cases.

W. S. Bullard is acting as clerk in the office of the Home. The experience that he has acquired in Baltimore with soldiers' papers, enables him to be of considerable service to the Special Relief office while doing his work for the Home.

He is instructed to examine the papers of the discharged soldiers as they come in, and direct those who need no special aid to the Paymaster. This, of course, reduces the number of applicants at my office; but the work is done, and another object is attained. The soldier is put right at the start. If there is any thing wrong about the papers, or the soldier under false impressions thinks there is, it is better that these things be looked after before a collision with officials. I have during the past month kept approximate notes of the calls at this office for advice or direction, when not of such importance as to require record in journal. The number so recorded is about two hundred,

There is one noticeable point of difference between the Special Relief work in this department and that in Washington. So far, we have had no cases of discharged soldiers with those troublesome records against them on the rolls, of absence without leave, desertion, &c. This department is comparatively isolated. The men, when sick or wounded, are not exposed to an indefinite round of transfer from hospital to hospital, with a final drifting into Convalescent Camp, to be discharged without descriptive lists. The surgeon of a hospital, all of whose inmates are from the department, can generally, with proper effort, obtain the military history of each man before discharging him.

tremely difficult to get such papers corrected and approved at this distance from Washington.

Under the present arrangements of the Home great good is being done for the soldiers. Improvements in the working will be introduced as fast as they can be judiciously suggested.

A WORD ABOUT SALARIES.

WASHINGTON, January 13, 1864.

Dr. C. R. AGNEW,

MY DEAR SIR: You ask me to give you some information as to our Field Relief Corps in the Army of the Potomac, which I shall now attempt in as few words as possible.

At present we have one four-horse wagon and one cart, with twelve or fourteen team and saddle horses, mostly pretty thoroughly used up by hard work during the six months' service they have seen in the army.

Our field supply store-house is at Brandy Station, where the agents have their headquarters, and where also the two Sanitary Inspectors, Drs. Gordon Winslow and Isaac Fairchild, have their headquarters. The agents move from this central point out to their respective fields of duty, on horseback. The agent of the Fifth Corps is at present an exception to this rule, because that corps—being employed as railroad guard—is scattered over a very wide field, and hence the necessity that he should live in it. When at headquarters, they are all expected to help at all work required by the needs of the Sanitary Commission family—to build houses, cut wood, cook, issue goods, draw water, harness horses, feed and nurse wounded men—in short, to do good Samaritan work generally.

The estimated expense for the maintenance of this corps in winter is about $750 per month, which estimate will probably cover all the expense of the machinery for distributing supplies in the Army of the Potomac. I give the names of the corps and the pay allowed each man, which pay will hardly cover the expenses of clothing and sundries that are needed by these gentlemen. It will be understood that this subsistence is furnished by the Commission:

S. Warner Johnson, Superintendent, Volunteer.	
Capt. Isaac Harris, Assist. Supt.,	$60
Charles S. Clampitt, Field Storekeeper	45
Assist. "	45
Wm. F. Dubosq, Acting Relief Agent	45
S. M. Blazier, " " "	45
Charles C. Harris, " " "	45
George E. Holbrook, Relief Agent	45
David S. Pope, " "	45
W. C. Whittelsey, Messenger	45
Henry C. Freeman, Messenger	30
G. W. Norris, Teamster	30
Thomas Mulkearn, "	30
John Smith, "	30
Charles Toft, "	30
Oscar Little, "	30
Three colored men, (temporarily)	50
Subsistence for family about	100
	$750

The number of teamsters may seem large, but the men were each in charge of a team until the first instant; and rather than turn them adrift now in mid-winter, I propose to use them as cooks and general assistants—thus enabling us to get rid of our contraband assistants in the field. These teamsters also act occasionally as messengers, and lend some help at the central stables. As we had considerable trouble in securing reliable men for these positions, it was thought best to keep them in places where we would be obliged to secure other labor.

It is proper to state, in order that you may understand the real nature of the pittance paid this corps, that laborers in Washington receive from $1.25 to $1.50 per day; carpenters from $2.50 to $3.00; masons $3.00, and painters $3.00.

I should have stated, as the First Army Corps is quartered around Culpepper, that a sub-store-house has been established there, which is managed by Mr. Dubosq, aided by a teamster.

The results of the work of this corps can best be told by conversation with the medical directors of divisions and brigades, who have personally been made acquainted with it.

Yours, respectfully,

LEWIS H. STIMER,

Chief Inspector U. S. San. Com., Army of Potomac, etc.

It is sometimes said that the Commission spends large sums of money for salaries. The above simple statement may be taken as indicative of the principles which influence the Commission and its employees in the matter of salaries. The sums paid to the latter are such as would not secure in any industrial field the services of persons actuated merely by the desire to obtain a pecuniary return for their labor. The sums paid by us are barely sufficient for the maintenance of those whom we employ, most of whom carry to their duties a degree and character of self-denial and patriotic devotion, to which common delicacy forbids at this time prolonged allusion.

The following circular has been addressed to the Field Relief Corps of the United States Sanitary Commission by the Chief Sanitary Inspector of the Potomac Army. It will give an idea of the care taken by the Commission in this part of their work:

It is desired that visits on the part of the agents be not only made to division hospitals, but also that regimental hospitals be visited; and above all, that the agents become acquainted with the wants of the *men*. While you should cultivate the most intimate relations with the officers, you must recollect that the relief of suffering and want among the men is the end and design of the Field Relief Corps; that it is for this the liberal people of our land are freely spending their money, and to this object every relief agent in the Field Corps must consider himself devoted. What has been known as special relief, that is, relief to individual cases, must be frequently administered. Find out where want and suffering exist, try to alleviate them—*through* the surgeons, if possible—if not in this way, then *with* the surgeon's consent. Let instances of this kind fill your reports. They will tell in the way of stimulating the people to additional liberality. And, moreover, weekly reports, giving a journal of each day's work, must be sent in. This rule, as I have stated in my letter of 9th inst., is imperative.

Your attention is asked to the following rules, which were issued July 30, 1863, for the governance of the Field Corps:

"The relief agents, after their assignment to corps by the superintendent, will remain in connection with the same until relieved. Leaves of absence for twenty-four hours may be granted by the superintendent; when a longer furlough is required, it must be approved by the Chief Inspector, or some one representing him at his office. In every case of a visit to Washington, the agent must report at the office of the Chief Inspector.

"Although relief agents may have been assigned to corps, it is not to be understood by them that their duties end with these. Wherever want in the army comes to their knowledge in field hospital, in regiment, or in the single soldier by the wayside, it is their duty to try and alleviate it.

"The agents must look upon themselves as helpers, and not interferers with the routine of military duty. They have no time for what is known as indolent pleasure. So long as they remain in the field, energetic work is required. When the system will not admit of this, they should ask at once to be relieved by other and fresher spirits.

"As most of the acting relief agents are new to the work, it has been deemed proper to give the views held as regulating and governing the corps by the Inspector in charge."

"SOLDIERS' HOMES" IN TENNESSEE.

The reports from the Soldiers' Lodge at Memphis, Tennessee, for the five weeks ending January 2d, show that during that period the number admitted was 1,962, coming from seventeen different States. The number of meals furnished was 6,354; the number of lodgings, 1,849. The average number cared for each day was, the first week, 116; the second, 91; the third, 103; the fourth, 136; and the fifth, 99. Transportation was procured for 59; defective papers were corrected for 14; 13 were aided in drawing pay. At the Nashville Home there have been admitted, during the five weeks ending January 2d, 2,367, coming from seventeen different States. The number of meals furnished was 8,149; the number of lodgings, 3,735. The average number cared for each day was, the first week, 166; the second, 184; the third, 155; the fourth, 201; the fifth, 159. Transportation was procured for 1,228, and 107 were aided in drawing pay. The total amount of pay collected and paid over during the five weeks, was $15,215.45.

CORRESPONDENCE.

IRVINGTON, *West Chester Co.*,
January 20th.

To the Editor of the Sanitary Bulletin:

In these days of monster city fairs, it may interest some of your readers to hear how a village fair, recently held in Irvington, N. Y., was started and carried through, and what its results have been.

This village, like so many others, began early in the war, with sewing circles contributing to the comfort of our soldiers, through the Sanitary Commission. As times went on, the interest in the meetings flagged; they grew smaller, and finally ceased—when last summer the ladies again took hold of the work in earnest, and reorganized their society, adopting a plan circulated by the Woman's Central Association of Relief.

The principal feature of this plan is, to make the young people connected with the society support it, by collecting a monthly subscription of not over twenty cents a head. By keeping strictly to the rules of the society, and enforcing them in a business-like manner, a matter which "Soldiers' Aid Societies" are too apt to neglect, the new society worked admirably. Its meetings were so well attended, that the funds proved inadequate to supply material for the ready workers. So a fair was proposed, was planned, and worked for with some hesitations and anticipations of small results. To the surprise of those engaged in it, they soon found the interest of the whole neighborhood gathered around their modest undertaking. The whole village took it up as *their* Fair. Everybody wished to have a hand in it. Some one stood ready to give the room; another to furnish a stove; others to clean the room and get

it in order; and so on down to the very boards that made the tables. Labor, policeing, all—was freely given, with a heartiness and good will which surprised and delighted the managers. The result was, that in a village of twelve years' growth, this Fair, open only for one day, secured to the society, with all expenses paid, seventeen hundred dollars.

Three hundred dollars of this were sent, by a unanimous vote of the ladies, to the Treasurer of the U. S. Sanitary Commission. It seemed but little to send, they thought, "but it might make three hundred men a little more comfortable."

To J. Foster Jenkins, M.D.
General Secretary.

Dear Sir: At Elmira, N. Y., the Commission has a home. It lives in the hearts of the people of that enterprising town. The following are some of the evidences of it: On the 15th of July, 1862, they established a Soldiers' Home, near to the Railroad Depot, furnished it with cots, beds, &c., and opened it for the reception of soldiers who pass over the great throughfare to the Capital from Central New York. The funds for its organization were contributed by a dramatic and musical association which was raised for the purpose.

The Misses Tyler devote their time to the care of the sick and homeless, of whom five thousand and seven hundred have been cared for. It is conducted on the same principle and under the same inspiring genius that has animated and sustained all the Homes and Lodges of the Commission in other places. The State has recently appropriated two thousand dollars for its support, and thus the people are set free from any local hinderance to their laboring heartily for the general work. As the average expense of maintaining it is not more than seventy dollars per month the State appropriation will sustain it for a long time.

On Sunday evening, the 10th inst., a large and enthusiastic meeting was held at Ely Hall, and it was my privilege to meet the various clergymen and a multitude of citizens there in behalf of the Commission. The churches being generally closed by common consent, there was no interruption to a full attendance. The Rev. Dr. Lincoln of the Baptist church presided. At the close of the address the Rev. Dr. Curtis offered a resolution endorsing the principles and plans of the Commission, and urging its claims upon the people by forcible remarks. Rev. T. K. Beecher seconded the resolution, by an earnest speech. The resolution was adopted by the standing vote of the great congregation. On Monday evening a conference of some fifty or more of the leading minds of the town was held to perfect a systematized plan of collecting stated subscriptions from the people; and the ministers of the different congregations agreed to keep the people educated to the work, by holding quarterly union meetings, one of their members to address the people on the current history of the war and the operations of the Commission.

Mrs. A. Stuart, the associate manager, and her co-laborers in the cause, are most earnest and thorough, and much may be expected of them in the future. The smaller places in the surrounding country are being awakened, and you will soon hear of the Southern Tier Sanitary Fair in such a way as will do good to your honored Treasurer. In my next I will furnish you with an account of the Fair, if the good ladies of Chemung, will have it completed by that time. They are resolved to do a good work.

North Pitcher, Chenango Co., N. Y.,
January 15, 1864.

George T. Strong, Esq:

Dear Sir: Enclosed please find draft for $146.15—the result of a festival held for the benefit of our sick and wounded soldiers. We did not know whether it would be better to send the cash, or purchase goods and manufacture garments. Will you, in your receipt, please state which would be best, as it may govern us in the future.

This contribution is from a section of the country that is sparsely settled; no village—but a farming community. It is nothing more than what any neighborhood might raise by a little effort. All we did was to give notice that there would be a festival for the sick and wounded soldiers, and all that attended would be expected to bring in some refreshments. Also, the young people got up a little entertainment, by the way of scenes, tableaux, &c., &c., at the conclusion, solicited donations, the result of which, to our surprise, amounted to over one hundred and fifty dollars.

All it wants in almost any community, is for a few active men and women to start, and the like result may be obtained.

Yours, truly,

J. S. Blackman.

Bondout, N. Y.

"It would give us great satisfaction to contribute to the *Bulletin* some information that would encourage and stimulate our fellow workers everywhere; but unfortunately our

Society has had a struggling existence, and owes its continuance to a faithful few. We have received during the past week forty dollars from one of our young men, the amount realized from the sale of an old watch bequeathed him by his grandfather, and for many years an heir-loom. Perhaps this may remind some one of some like treasure hidden and useless except as an heir-loom, and suggest how greatly enhanced its value as such must be by being devoted to such a cause."

"WHY DOES THE COMMISSION PAY SALARIES TO ITS AGENTS?"

The Commission has from the first enjoyed a degree of public favor and confidence greater than it had any right to expect. Certain objections, however, are made to its system and methods which require a brief notice, though they have for the most part been already anticipated.

The objection that has been made to its employing permanent salaried officers, instead of unpaid volunteers, giving a fortnight or a month each to the work of Army Relief, is untenable and short-sighted. It has to distribute millions of dollars worth of bulky stores over an area of many thousand square miles. This is, in a merely business point of view, a work of serious magnitude. It is, moreover, a work of special delicacy and difficulty, because it must be so done as not to interfere with the machinery of the army, or weaken the reliance of the men upon their officers. Without a corps of agents who understand their work, give their whole time to it, and are bound to perform definite service during a definite period, loss, waste, and misapplication of supplies are inevitable. This branch of the Commission's work may fairly be compared with that of our largest railroads and express companies, and is at least as worthy of being well and economically done. But how long would any railroad corporation keep out of the hands of a Receiver, if it confided its freight business to volunteers over whom it could exercise no real control, and who felt themselves at full liberty to leave its service whenever they tired of it, or whenever they thought themselves overworked or unfairly criticized, instead of employing superintendents, clerks, and porters, engaged in the usual way and on the usual terms? The poetry of the Relief Agent's work may be spoiled if he receive a salary, but in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred its practical value to the army is doubled. It would be easy to name splendid exceptions to this rule, but they are only exceptions.

The work of Army Relief, like every other practical and serious business, requires skill which can be got only by experience, and men cannot, as a general rule, be secured for service long enough to acquire experience and skill, unless they receive moderate pay. But the difference between a skilled and an unskilled agent is equal to a difference of at least fifty per cent. in the amount of practical good each can do the soldier with the stores entrusted to him; and it costs the Commission less than two per cent. on the estimated value of its supplies to distribute them through skilled salaried agents, instead of unskilled volunteers. This is not all. The volunteer is necessarily unacquainted with the complex regulations under which Government supplies the wants of the Army, for thorough familiarity with their practical working can be acquired only by months of actual contact and experience. He cannot tell, therefore, when called upon to relieve a regiment or a hospital, whether its officers have done or have neglected their duty, and whether they can or cannot promptly obtain what is needed through regular official channels. His impulses prompt him of course instantly to relieve the suffering he sees before him. He distributes his supplies at once, asking no questions, and goes home thankful that he has been enabled to relieve so much destitution and distress. But he has too often been merely covering up the shortcomings of some inefficient officer paid by Government to do precis ly the same thing, and has thus shielded him from exposure and dismissal, and done the army in the long run more harm than good.

The Commission avoids this danger. It reserves its supplies for the cases of accidental failure which must from time to time occur in the working of every military system, and especially of one newly organized on so vast a scale as ours, and seeks rather to strengthen the official agencies through which Government provides for the army, than to set itself up as a rival source of supply, and thus weaken the confidence of the men in their military superiors.

The more general charge that the Commission's system is a costly one, is believed to be wholly unfounded. Its salaries are on a most moderate scale. It may be proper here distinctly to state, that no member of the Commission receives, or ever has received, a dollar from its treasury, or from any other quarter, in the shape of salary, or compensation for his services as Commissioner. Four of its members hold office, viz.: its President, Vice-President, and Treasurer, and its Associate Secretary at Louisville. Of these, the first three have been able to do their official work without absolutely sacrificing all their other duties, and they have done it without dreaming of "pay" from any quarter

The Associate Secretary, who has removed his home from Cleveland to Louisville, abandoned his profession, and devoted his whole time and energies to his official work, receives a moderate salary. Thanks to the co-operation of Government and the liberality of Railroad, Telegraph, and Express Companies, and other private agencies, its expenses for transportation and telegraphing are not one-tenth of what they would otherwise be. A reference to the statistics given in Document 69 of the cost of its special relief system at Washington, Alexandria, and Annapolis, show how much work it has done at comparatively trifling expense. The value of the supplies it has actually issued to the army from its numerous depots, East and West, can only be estimated, and these estimates vary largely, the lowest estimate being about four millions of dollars, and the highest exceeding seven.

These supplies have been carried all over the country, from Maine to Texas, and from Washington to Vicksburg, in charge of special agents, and deposited in Relief Stations where store-keepers are necessarily engaged to protect them, and Relief Agents to distribute them; yet this great mass of bulky stores has been moved, stored at the depots, moved to the front, stored again in temporary depots, and then distributed, at a total expense to the Central Treasury of less than one and seven-eighths per cent. on their lowest valuation.

The Commission is of course the permanent subject of a due proportion of the swarms of "authentic statements," "valuable reports," which are daily put in circulation about the army and everybody connected with it; and that as regards the Commission many of them are disparaging, need excite no surprise.

It must be remembered that the work of the Commission necessarily makes it enemies. Medical and other officers who know that their incapacity or indolence has been detected and noted by a relief agent or inspector, naturally think it a meddlesome and mischievous organization, and are always ready to report, and sometimes to embellish and magnify, every case of failure in its work. Officers of the Medical Staff who stood high on the list, and were expecting speed promotion and additional rank and emoluments, when Government was prevailed on to fill the higher offices of the Medical Bureau according to ability, and not, as before, according to seniority, (or, in other words, by selecting the best man instead of the oldest,) cannot be expected to admire the Sanitary Commission. Some of them think (very naturally) that it has "ruined the service," and are not disinclined to believe and to endorse any story that tells against it. Many of our most thoughtful and far-sighted people, misinformed as to its aim and policy, suppose it to seek merely the immediate relief of the sick or wounded soldier, at any cost to military self-reliance and discipline, and distrust it accordingly. Thousands of warm-hearted and energetic men and women, diligently laboring for portions of the army through State agencies and local societies, find the Sanitary Commission throwing cold water on their work, because it is not conformed to the system which the Commission holds to be the most economical, the most National, and altogether the best. They cannot help becoming more or less prejudiced against the Commission, which seems thus to discourage and discredit what they rightly feel to be the most unselfish and the most important work of their lives, and they are thus unconsciously predisposed to believe any thing they may hear against it.

MISUSE OF SANITARY STORES.

Many good people, and a still greater number of that class to whom censure and grumbling and the rumination of troubles are as the breath of life, have no little misgiving as to the final disposition made of the overflowing bounties distributed to the army through the medium of the Sanitary Commission. Do the ones for whom they are meant receive them? Do they get the larger part of them even? Or does the lion's share filter out in passing through the hands of various officials, between the donor and the sick soldier in hospital? We have labored, and still labor, and shall so continue to do, to give the public all the light we can, all we have and all we can obtain on the subject. None can feel more solicitous than we in regard to it. No insignificant part of the labors of our agents in the field, and of our own in the collection and publication of reports and statistical information, springs from this solicitude. We are a part of that public whom we address, and share, we trust, in the fullness of its anxiety respecting the welfare of our army and the triumph of our arms.

But aside from this, our official relations to the sanitary work naturally enough give an added and special intensity to the interest we hold in common with others.

Let us look the question then squarely in the face. Our means of knowledge respecting it are various, and not lacking in abundance. We have well-organized agencies, as everybody by this time is aware, in all parts of the grand army. These agencies are intrusted with a variety of duties. Prominent among these is *hospital visiting*. That is, an inspecting from day to day and time to time, of the personal condition of the patients—the food they eat, the clothing they wear, the general comforts with

which they are surrounded or which they lack. Inquiring as to the sanitary supplies on hand or in demand is included in this inspection. And to this the number of casual visitors—persons in search of sons, brothers, husbands, or persons voluntarily spending a brief period of observation and of benevolent labor in all the larger hospitals within and beyond army lines, and one can see that it would be not a little surprising if any flagrant, persistent, or very considerable purloining of sanitary stores could escape detection. We can give unqualified assurance to those who are unaffectedly anxious on this subject, that there is no difficulty in procuring due punishment and adequate prevention where detection does occur. Army orders in regard to this and all other kinds of plundering from hospital stores are stringent, and extremely plain and definite. No official would venture to neglect the execution of them on others, where occasion required it, not though he should chance to be secretly a culprit of the same sort himself. And again, it must not be overlooked that Government has a corps of Medical Inspectors—sixteen in number—distributed throughout the military districts of the country, a part of whose duties is to look into this very matter of the appropriation and consumption of hospital stores. In addition to this, nearly every army corps has one or more of its surgeons detailed to inspection duty, with functions every way similar to those of the regular inspectors. The reader will thus perceive that the means of detecting and correcting mal-practice of whatever kind on the part of hospital attendants are not wholly omitted, to say the least. And with the information furnished us from these several and important sources, we feel qualified to answer the question: "Is there any considerable or constant diversion of sanitary stores from their legitimate destination?" And we are glad to be able to answer, *There is not.* Instances of plundering do certainly occur from time to time, both in hospital and while the stores are *in transitu* between donor and patient. Instances of the former kind cannot be many times repeated without detection, whilst the amount of loss from plundering during transportation is, all things considered, surprisingly small. Where an abuse of the kind occurs in hospitals and is found out, the people at home are pretty sure to hear of it, whilst the *correction* of the abuse, however prompt it may have been, is not so likely to transpire. We have personally known instances of just this kind, where corrected abuses have been published—all but the correction. And can readily understand, therefore, how the gravity of such cases gets overrated, and how the cases themselves awaken unnecessary apprehension amongst the friends and contributors of the Commission, and furnish an unfortunate resource to captious and inborn fault-findings. The reader will see that the way of the transgressor is hard in this *stealing* (to put it in square honest Saxon) of sanitary stores. But there is unquestionably a small per centage of loss to be abstracted as a constant sum from the noble bounties of the Commission. Taking the whole army and the entire field of war into account at once, and an eye that could sweep the whole at a glance, would probably witness this most despicable species of theft somewhere within those wide limits as a constant fact. But whilst a constant fact to the witness, it would be a variable one with any given offender and in any given locality.

We have repeatedly had this experience—too often, in fact, to enable us to recall any signal examples—namely: We have asked some patient in a hospital if he ever received any thing from the Sanitary Commission, and received a prompt and emphatic "No" for an answer. Farther inquiry developes the fact that he has been for weeks the daily recipient of sanitary stores—both food and clothing. We have known persons of irreproachable integrity perpetrate just this absurdity, (for we cannot call it falsehood.) The patient, finding his own personal condition decidedly uncomfortable, and that he is only moderately well off for external comforts, not unnaturally concludes that he is indebted to Government for what little relief he does receive. He is not informed by nurse or surgeon where a given article administered to him may have come from. It is not practicable that he should be. Surgeons and nurses have enough to do with that omitted. And articles of diet are not likely to bear the Sanitary stamp, when cooked and ready for the palate. And if they did, many a patient, from lack of observing habits or from the gravity of his illness, would fail to see it. They frequently fail to see it on the very clothing that invests their persons. Many a rumor, painful and mischievous in its effects, has had just this kind of origin. We have never when in the field neglected to trace up all reports of the plundering of our stores, which gave the least promise of having a foundation, and we generally find them ending in some such smoke as this. And if otherwise, and an offense is eventually discovered, we have never encountered difficulty or delay in having the offender punished, and the way blocked to the repetition of the offense.

The actual percentage of loss to Sanitary stores in transit from donor to patient, "by flood and field," it is impossible to give with any considerable accuracy. But we feel justified in saying with absolute certainty that it is small; and whatever the amount is we should be spurred by it

rather than depressed. The means of prevention being as nearly complete and as extensively applied as the nature of the case will admit of, we must put down the losses that occur in spite of these means, as a part of the inevitable course of things, an item in the inexorable statistics of crime.—*Sanitary Reporter.*

THE CRIMEAN WAR—THE BRITISH ARMY AND MISS NIGHTINGALE. By Charles Shrimpton, M. D.

We regret that we have not space for a lengthened review of a pamphlet bearing the above title. The following quotations contain many principles and deductions applicable to our present national experience:

Doctor Shrimpton says: "It is one of the greatest characteristics of the present age, that the cause of humanity is become identified with the strength of armies. The history, then, of a war can no longer be confined to bare details of the plans of battles, and of the manœuvres of armies; we must refer to other elements, and principally to the *sanitary condition of troops, as the causes of our victories, or the reasons for our disasters.* The historian, in following soldiers in their campaigns, should note every thing that may be favorable or unfavorable to their sanitary condition; and, consequently, he should not neglect any opportunity of exposing every error that may be committed on this important point, from whatsoever source it may spring. There are particularly two important results to be obtained from this scrupulous care in compiling the history of a war. The first is, that of reducing to less than half the mortality of those brave soldiers who so generously shed their blood for their country; the second, merely a corollary of the first, that by reducing the mortality of soldiers the strength of armies will be proportionably increased, and thus very often the fortune of war decided."

Dr. Shrimpton then alludes to some of the more prominent causes of the fearful sickness and mortality among the British forces during the first twelve months subsequent to their reaching the Crimea. He says the British army was deficient in "Military Administration;" that is, in a method of co-ordinating the different branches of administration—such as victualling, clothing, forage, hospitals, campment, transport service, and corps of workmen.

"Even Malta, a British colony, was taken by surprise by the arrival of the British troops; and at Gallipoli the same neglect was repeated, the British Consul there was not informed that English troops were to arrive."

"When the British troops arrived at Gallipoli, they were three days in landing, and had neither mattresses nor blankets for the men, nor medicines nor shelter for the sick." The French did not suffer, because every thing had been provided for them by the centralizing power of the "Intendant-Général." While the French had plenty to eat, the wants of the English may be described by the condition of the men of the Ninety-third Regiment, "who were obliged to kill the oxen which had brought their baggage on the 'arabas' or rough carts of the country, and thus deprived themselves of their only means of transportation."

While our armies have not suffered as the English army did in the Crimea, we have had abundant reason to regret the want of some such co-ordinating functionary as the "Intendant-Général" of the French army, an officer only subordinate to the commanding officer, and charged with the duty of having food, shelter, medicines, clothing, and means of transportation at the right place at the right moment.

Dr. Shrimpton attributes the fearful mortality among the British troops to the great want of prevision in the matters alluded to above.

Dr. Shrimpton testifies as to the absolute necessity of having female nurses in the General Hospitals, "for," says he, quoting from Mr. Sidney Herbert, "hospital orderlies must be very rough hands."

DIMINUTION OF DRUNKENNESS IN THE BRITISH ARMY; ITS PROBABLE CAUSES.

[Extracted from London Lancet, Dec'r, 1863, p. 806.]

It is difficult from a mere "return" to arrive at any just conclusion as to the causes which have influenced the increase or decrease of intemperance in the several portions of the army located in different districts of the kingdom. Drunkenness is a vice dependent on such various causes apart from locality, that it would be satisfactory to have some further particulars on the subject. All causes which have a tendency to depress the mental or physical condition of the soldier, have more or less power over his habits with respect to drink.

We learn that the annual report on military prisons presents some curious statistics of the number of soldiers committed for being drunk. In the five years, 1848–'52, the annual commitments in England average seventy eight in ten thousand on the force stationed in England. In Scotland the average was one hundred and twenty-two in ten thousand in the force stationed there. In Ireland two hundred and one. In the next five years the average fell to seventy-three in England, sixty-four in Scotland, and one hundred and forty-four in Ireland. In the last five years it has been seventy-nine in England, only twenty-nine in Scotland, and but sixty-eight in Ireland.

It will be seen that the decline of the commitments is enormous, but still greater in Scotland. The returns are not according to nationality of the men, but locality of station.

Is not this gratifying result due to the improvement in the construction of soldiers' barracks, which has been brought about by the intelligent labors of the first Sanitary Commission appointed by the British Government? There is no measure more likely to lessen the vice of drunkenness amongst soldiers than providing them with comfortable quarters, reading-rooms, and innocent amusements for their leisure hours.

[EDS.]

THE NEGRO TROOPS.

The French Mexican expedition furnished an additional example of the freedom of the negro race from the diseases which, in hot climates, exert so devastating an effect upon whites. M. Reynaud, Inspector-General of the Marine force in Mexico, addresses a letter to the Academy of Medicine, in which he states that the last epidemic of yellow fever exemplifies the above fact, just as did that of 1862; while the yellow fever produced great numbers of victims amongst the Europeans employed at Vera Cruz and the fort St. Jean d'Ulloa, not a single death from this cause occurred among more than 600 soldiers and sailors from the West Indies, almost all of them yet undergoing the most trying labor.—*American Medical Times.*

A DINNER IN CAMP.

Wagons accompanied by strong guards have been sent out, in the direction of saw-mills and houses, for boards and bricks. Many have returned laden with these rich and valued spoils. Nothing is more sought after, better appreciated, or more ingeniously used in this army, than boards. With a few of these for his bed, table, chair, &c., and a few bricks for his chimney, your soldier with his shelter-tent builds him a comfortable domicile, and lives well.

When in a permanent camp, where supplies are readily sent to the army, the soldier gets his full rations and is satisfied with them. Within the last few days he has been drawing in the way of vegetables, potatoes, onions, and turnips.

The other day I received a pressing invitation to dine with some of the men. "They were nicely fixed, and wanted me to see how they lived." Some dozen or fifteen of them had obtained permission to occupy a kind of barn, formerly used as a corn-house. It was divided into three apartments; the men divided into three messes. With one of these I dined. There were two other guests, and the preparations were extensive. Early in the morning they began to clear up, &c. When I arrived all hands were busy; one cooking this and another fixing that, and so on. The most noticeable thing was the cook-stove; which, one of their number, remembering sufficient of the craft he used to practice when a civilian, extemporized out of old camp-kettles, spades, and a part of a mowing machine, and an excellent thing it was both for warmth and utility.

Our dinner was well-cooked, and in abundance. Bill of fare consisted of soup, beefsteak, fresh bread and butter, coffee, mashed potatoes, roasted ditto, fried onions, turnips, &c., and peaches and milk. The latter luxury was obtained in this way: Mine host, the sergeant—formerly a squire—a man of good education and culture, the ruler in the company, the oracle, consulted on all affairs of general interest, very popular, a pleasant talker. The men laugh at his sayings, quote them, and love him. He is very generous and open-hearted. One of the men being sick, the squire purchased some peaches for him, at enormous prices, from the fleecers of the army, (the sutlers.) The friend recovered, and the peaches were forgotten until to-day. After dinner we had music—the banjo—the favorite instrument in the army—singing and dancing. They told me that they managed to live in camp right along in this way. None of them liked the life of a soldier, might perhaps re-enlist, would make the best of events that turn up, were sort of contented, and would live as jolly as they could. This mess represents a fair average of what might be found throughout the corps.—*Extract from Report of Relief Agent, Sixth Corps, Army of Potomac.*

AN OFFICER ON THE COMMISSION.

I have referred to the Sanitary Commission; and no one could visit these hospitals without becoming a firm believer in the importance and value of this institution as supplementary to the regular surgical department.

So extensive are the ramifications of this Commission, and so thoroughly have its agents been drilled in the good work, and so completely has it the confidence and aid of the Government officials, that one dollar expended through its channels is equal to three expended by private benevolence or State societies. It is natural that our kind-hearted women should desire that their offerings should go to their special friends, though if they reflect, they could hardly wish that one man should enjoy these delicacies, while his brothers in patriotic devotion, the men who stood shoulder to shoulder with him in the hour of trial, are left without them. Surely, if there be a place in the world for impartiality in the distribution of articles of comfort and solace, it is the hospital of those who have been wounded in a common cause; besides, this private bounty is simply impossible. What we need is, to have these supplies ready at once, even before the battle is over, and this is the well-performed office of the Sanitary Commission.

I believe that this Commission is one of the first fruits of our most advanced Christian civilization, the first inroad into the domain of war of a practical Christianity which shall yet throttle and destroy this demon forever. When I seek to estimate its value and significance in its various supervisory, reformatory, and scientific, as well as benevolent operations, to say nothing of those exceedingly valuable statistical collections which are to be the corner-stones of future history, I confess I know of no calculus

by which correctly to compute them. Could the tens of thousands of the blue uniformed sufferers it has relieved utter their testimony, we might reach some adequate expression.—*Captain Noyes in the "Bivouac and the Battle-field."*

QUININE AS A PREVENTIVE OF MALARIAL DISEASE.

Dr. J. W. Page, Inspector for United States Sanitary Commission in Department of North Carolina and Virginia, reports that the greatest benefit to the health of the forces stationed in the malarial regions about Newbern, has resulted from the regular administration of a quinine ration to the men. It is gratifying to hear this statement from Dr. Page, whose long residence in the malarial regions of North Carolina makes him a critical observer. One of the earliest efforts of the Commission, in the direction of the prevention of disease in the army, was to impress upon commanding officers and the Government the prophylactic or preventive powers of quinine. All who are familiar with the Medical Documents of the Commission, will remember the able and exhaustive Monograph by Dr. Wm. H. Van Buren on this subject. From all the columns operating in malarial regions, we have heard nothing to impair our belief in the value of quinine as a preventive of malarial disease. It should be taken in doses of three grains at bed-time, and two or three in the morning, continuously, through the malarial season. Its value is enhanced when given in connection with coffee. It is scarcely necessary to state that the curative power of quinine is greatly lessened in the case of those who have become saturated with fever and ague poison, by long residence in malarial regions; of course, the experience of such persons cannot be taken as impairing one's belief in the preventive power of the agent.

THE VENTILATION OF THE IRON-CLADS.

The good fortune of meeting with intelligent medical officers of the Navy has enabled the writer to compare notes upon important questions, that relate alike to military and to naval hygiene, and to the relative status of medical officers in these two branches of national service. In this letter I will refer only to one or two of the hygienic questions. In a number of the MEDICAL TIMES some time ago, you rather sharply called attention to the sanitary condition of the *Monitors* and iron-clad gunboats. The questions to which you then solicited official attention were at that time receiving the earnest and intelligent consideration of the best men in the medical service of the navy. We hazard nothing in asserting that the *savant* or the mechanical engineer who will devise and put into successful operation a system of ventilation that will supply fresh air to the cabins, quarters, and berth-decks of the *Monitors*, at the rate of from five hundred to one thousand cubic feet per hour, to each man of the ship's company, will confer a priceless boon upon the crews and officers of those new war-vessels, and at the same time will do his country a patriotic service scarcely inferior to that rendered by the renowned ERICSSON himself.

Only think of the sanitary prospects of eighty or a hundred men shut up in a submerged iron encasement, with only about sixty-five cubic feet of air-space to each person, and that sepulchral atmosphere unchanged, except by the very imperfect process of "blowing" a feeble current from the "turret." According to our own rough estimate, each man during battle, or in a sea at all rough, when scuttles and hatches must be closed, would receive *less than two cubic feet per minute* of fresh air for respiration. Add to this the inevitable humidity and the excessive heat and darkness of the *Monitors*, and you have the elemental and *inevitable* causes of a fearfully high invalid-rate.

Is there no *intro-mechanist* who will immediately devise the means for remedying this evil? We venture to offer the clue to the desired invention by saying that the ventilation must be secured upon the *vacuum* principle, or by suction of the foul air, and not by the present inoperative *plenum* or blowing method. Even for the ventilation of ordinary transport ships, the problem of effective ventilation depends mainly upon the means and certainty of *egress of foul air*. No plenum blowing in a *Monitor* will ever accomplish the desired result, except at the expense of the invulnerability of the war ship itself. Mr. ERICSSON has provided fans *in the turrets*, but it is not pure fresh air they blow; and even the broken current of the impure air they do control, is sent first down to the hold, then, after feeding the furnace fires, it slowly mixes with the yet impure air of the berth-deck and officers' quarters.

Nothing is plainer than that there must be a specific method and power of *egress* for the foul air, and this fact is so well stated in a brochure just placed in our hands by the Sanitary Commission [*Medical Document* S. *Hints for the Control of Infectious Diseases in Camps, Transports, and Hospitals*], that we beg leave to quote a paragraph relating to this point:

"The special improvements or works for ventilation in ordinary transports, consist mainly in greatly increasing the area and the places of *egress for foul air*. This is best effected, temporarily, by increasing the area of the windows and air-shafts at the stern, and, if admissible, elsewhere. The *ingress of fresh air* is easily provided for, after establishing the channels and amount of outlet."

After showing how egress may be given to the foul air of a ship's decks, the author says that the methods he advises for employment in crowded transports, "will provide 1,000 cubic feet of fresh air per hour to each man, in a vessel sailing five knots an hour; but, *if no special outlets are provided, even twice the number of wind-sails, all injecting, would fail even to supply at the rate of* 100 *cubic feet per hour.*" But the inventor of the *Monitors* has attempted to ventilate those remarkable gunboats by the hopeless plan of *blowing* down through the turret, which is like blowing into a bottle through its neck.

In a future communication your readers shall have the results of some observations upon the ventilation of tents and barracks.

—*Medical Times.*

NOTES ON NURSING.

PETTY MANAGEMENT.

All the results of good nursing, as detailed in these notes, may be spoiled or utterly negatived by one defect, viz.: in petty management, or in other words, by not knowing how to manage that what you do when you are there, shall be done when you are not there. The most devoted friend or nurse cannot be always *there*. Nor is it desirable that she should. And she may give up her health, all her other duties, and yet, for want of a little management, be not one-half so efficient as another who is not one-half so devoted, but who has this art of multiplying herself—that is to say, the patient of the first will not really be so well cared for as the patient of the second.

It is as impossible in a book to teach a person in charge of sick how to *manage*, as it is to teach her how to nurse. Circumstances must vary with each different case. But it *is* possible to press upon her to think for herself: Now what does happen during my absence? I am obliged to be away on Tuesday. But fresh air, or punctuality, is not less important to my patient on Tuesday than it was on Monday. Or: At 10 P. M. I am never with my patient; but quiet is of no less consequence to him at 10 than it was at 5 minutes to 10.

Curious as it may seem, this very obvious consideration occurs comparatively to few, or, if it does occur, it is only to cause the devoted friend or nurse to be absent fewer hours or fewer minutes from her patient—not to arrange so as that no minute and no hour shall be for her patient without the essentials of her nursing.

A very few instances will be sufficient, not as precepts, but as illustrations.

A strange washerwoman, coming late at night for the "things," will burst in by mistake to the patient's sick-room, after he has fallen into his first doze, giving him a shock, the effects of which are irremediable, though he himself laughs at the cause, and probably never even mentions it. The nurse who is, and is quite right to be, at her supper, has not provided that the washerwoman shall not lose her way and go into the wrong room.

The patient's room may always have the window open. But the passage outside the patient's room, though provided with several large windows, may never have one open; because it is not understood that the charge of the sick-room extends to the charge of the passage. And thus, as often happens, the nurse makes it her business to turn the patient's room into a ventilating shaft for the foul air of the whole house.

An uninhabited room, a newly-painted room, an uncleaned closet or cupboard, may often become the reservoir of foul air for the whole house, because the person in charge never thinks of arranging that these places shall be always aired, always cleaned; she merely opens the window herself "when she goes in."

An agitating letter or message may be delivered, or an important letter or message *not* delivered; a visitor whom it was of consequence to see, may be refused, or one whom it was of still more consequence to *not* see may be admitted—because the person in charge has never asked herself this question, What is done when I am not there?

At all events, one may safely say, a nurse cannot be with the patient, open the door, eat her meals, take a message, all at one and the same time. Nevertheless the person in charge never seems to look the impossibility in the face.

Add to this that the *attempting* this impossibility does more to increase the poor patient's hurry and nervousness than any thing else.

It is never thought that the patient remembers these things if you do not. He has not only to think whether the visit or letter may arrive, but whether you will be in the way at the particular day and hour when it may arrive. So that your *partial* measures for "being in the way" yourself, only increase the necessity for his thought. Whereas, if you could but arrange that the thing should always be done whether you are there or not, he need never think at all about it.

For the above reasons, whatever a patient *can* do for himself, it is better, *i. e.* less anxiety, for him to do for himself, unless the person in charge has the spirit of management.

It is evidently much less exertion for a patient to answer a letter for himself by return of post, than to have four conversations, wait five days, have six anxieties before it is off his mind, before the person who has to answer it has done so.

Apprehension, uncertainty, waiting, expectation, fear of surprise, do a patient more harm than any exertion. Remember, he is face to face with his enemy all the time, internally wrestling with him, having long imaginary conversations with him. You are thinking of something else. "Rid him of his adversary quickly," is a first rule with the sick.

For the same reasons, always tell a patient and tell him beforehand when you are going out and when you will be back, whether it is for a day, an hour, or ten minutes. You fancy perhaps that it is better for him if he does not find out your going at all, better for him if you do not make yourself "of too much importance" to him; or else you cannot bear to give him the pain or the anxiety of the temporary separation.

No such thing. You *ought* to go, we will suppose. Health or duty requires it. Then say so to the patient openly. If you go without his knowing it, and he finds it out, he never will feel secure again that the things which depend upon you will be done when you are away, and in nine cases out of ten he will be right. If you go out without telling him when you will be back, he can take no measures nor precautions as to the things which concern you both, or which you do for him.

In institutions where many lives would be lost, and the effect of such a want of management would be terrible and patent, there is less of it than in the private house.

But in both, let whoever is in charge keep this simple question in her head (*not*, how can I always do this right thing myself, but) how can I provide for this right thing to be always done?

Then, when any thing wrong has actually happened in consequence of her absence, which absence we will suppose to have been quite right, let her question still be (*not*, how can I provide against any more of such absences? which is neither possible nor desirable, but) how can I provide against any thing wrong arising out of my absence?

NOISE.

Unnecessary noise, or noise that creates an expectation in the mind, is that which hurts a patient. It is rarely the loudness of the noise, the effect upon the organ of the ear itself, which appears to affect the sick. How well a patient will generally bear, *e. g.*, the putting up of a scaffolding close to the house, when he cannot bear the talking, still less the whispering, especially if it be of a familar voice, outside his door.

Never to allow a patient to be waked, intentionally or accidentally, is a *sine qua non* of all good nursing. If he is roused out of his first sleep, he is almost certain to have no more sleep. It is a curious but quite intelligible fact that, if a patient is waked after a few hours' instead of a few minutes' sleep, he is much more likely to sleep again. Because pain, like irritability of brain, perpetuates and intensifies itself. If you have gained a respite of either in sleep, you have gained more than the mere respite. Both the probability of recurrence and of the same intensity will be diminished; whereas both will be terribly increased by want of sleep. This is the reason why sleep is so all-important. This is the reason why a patient waked in the early part of his sleep loses not only his sleep, but his power to sleep. A healthy person who allows himself to sleep during the day will lose his sleep at night. But it is exactly the reverse with the sick generally; the more they sleep, the better will they be able to sleep.

I have often been surprised at the thoughtlessness (resulting in cruelty, quite unintentionally) of friends or of doctors who will hold a long conversation just in the room or passage adjoining to the room of the patient, who is either every moment expecting them to come in, or who has just seen them, and knows they are talking about him. If it is a whispered conversation in the same room, then it is absolutely cruel; for it is impossible that the patient's attention should not be involuntarily strained to hear. Walking on tip-toe, doing any thing in the room very slowly, are injurious, for exactly the same reasons. A firm, light, quick step, a steady, quick hand, are the desiderata; not the slow, lingering, shuffling foot, the timid, uncertain touch. Slowness is not gentleness, though it is often mistaken for such: quickness, lightness, and gentleness are quite compatible. Again, if friends and doctors did but watch, as nurses can and should watch, the features sharpening, the eyes growing almost wild, of fever patients who are listening for the entrance from the corridor of the persons whose voices they are hearing there, these would never run the risk again of creating such expectation, or irritation of mind. Such unnecessary noise has undoubtedly induced or aggravated delirium in many cases.

I need hardly say that the other common cause, namely, for a doctor or friend to leave the patient and communicate his opinion on the result of his visit to the friends just outside the patient's door, or in the adjoining room, after the visit, but within hearing or knowledge of the patient, is, if possible, worst of all.

It is, I think, alarming, peculiarly at this time, when the female ink-bottles are perpetually impressing upon us "woman's" "particular worth and general missionariness," to see that the dress of woman is daily more and more unfitting them for any "mission," or usefulness at all. It is equally unfitted for all poetic and all domestic purposes. A man is now a more handy and far less objectionable being in a sick room than a woman. Compelled by her dress, every woman now either shuffles or waddles—only a man can cross the floor of a sick-room without shaking it! What is become of woman's light step?—the firm, light, quick step we have been asked for?

The noiseless step of woman, the noiseless drapery of woman, are mere figures of speech in this day. Her skirts (and well if they do not throw down some piece of furniture) will at least brush against every article in the room as she moves.

Again, one nurse cannot open the door without making every thing rattle. Or she opens the door unnecessarily often, for want of remembering all the articles that might be brought in at once.

A good nurse will always make sure that no door or window in her patient's room shall rattle or creak; that no blind or curtain shall, by any change of wind through the open window, be made to flap—especially will she be careful of all this before she leaves her patients for the night. If you wait till your patients tell you, or remind you of these things, where is the use of their having a nurse? There are more shy than exacting patients, in all classes; and many a patient passes a bad night, time after time, rather than remind his nurse every night of all the things she has forgotten.

If there are blinds to your windows, always take care to have them well up, when they are not being used. A little piece slipping down, and flapping with every draught, will distract a patient.

All hurry or bustle is peculiarly painful to the sick. And when a patient has compulsory occupations to engage him, instead of having simply to amuse himself, it becomes doubly injurious. The friend who remains standing and fidgeting about while a patient is talking business to him, or the friend who sits and proses, the one from an idea of not letting the patient talk, the other from an idea of amusing him—each is equally inconsiderate. Always sit down when a sick person is talking business to you, show no signs of hurry, give complete attention and full consideration if your advice is wanted, and go away the moment the subject is ended.

Always sit within the patient's view, so that when you speak to him he has not painfully to turn his head round in order to look at you. Everybody involuntarily looks at the person speaking. If you make this act a wearisome one on the part of the patient, you are doing him harm. So also if by continuing to stand you make him continuously raise his eyes to see you. Be as motionless as possible, and never gesticulate in speaking to the sick.

Never make a patient repeat a message or request, especially if it be some time after. Occupied patients are often accused of doing too much of their own business. They are instinctively right. How often you hear the person, charged with the request of giving the message or writing the letter, say half an hour afterwards to the patient, "Did you appoint 12 o'clock?" or, "What did you say was the address?" or ask perhaps some much more agitating question—thus causing the patient the effort of memory, or worse still, of decision, all over again. It is

really less exertion to him to write his letters himself. This is the almost universal experience of occupied invalids.

This brings us to another caution. Never speak to an invalid from behind, nor from the door, nor from any distance from him, nor when he is doing any thing.

The official politeness of servants in these things is so grateful to invalids, that many prefer, without knowing why, having none but servants about them.

These things are not fancy. If we consider that, with sick as with well, every thought decomposes some nervous matter—that decomposition as well as re-composition of nervous matter is always going on, and more quickly with the sick than with the well—that, to obtrude abruptly another thought upon the brain while it is in the act of destroying nervous matter by thinking, is calling upon it to make a new exertion—if we consider these things, which are facts, not fancies, we shall remember that we are doing positive injury by interrupting, by "startling a fanciful" person, as it is called. Alas! it is no fancy.

If the invalid is forced, by his avocations, to continue occupations requiring much thinking, the injury is doubly great. In feeding a patient suffering under delirium or stupor you may suffocate him, by giving him his food suddenly, but if you rub his lips gently with a spoon and thus attract his attention, he will swallow the food unconsciously, but with perfect safety. Thus it is with the brain. If you offer it a thought, especially one requiring a decision, abruptly, you do it a real not fanciful injury. Never speak to a sick person suddenly; but, at the same time, do not keep his expectation on the tip-toe.

This rule, indeed, applies to the well quite as much as to the sick. I have never known persons who exposed themselves for years to constant interruption who did not muddle away their intellects by it at last. The process with them may be accomplished without pain. With the sick, pain gives warning of the injury.

Do not meet or overtake a patient who is moving about in order to speak to him, or to give him any message or letter. You might just as well give him a box on the ear. I have seen a patient fall flat on the ground who was standing when his nurse came into the room. This was an accident which might have happened to the most careful nurse. But the other is done with intention. A patient in such a state is not going to the East Indies. If you would wait ten seconds, or walk ten yards further, any promenade he could make would be over. You do not know the effort it is to a patient to remain standing for even a quarter of a minute to listen to you. If I had not seen the thing done by the kindest nurses and friends, I should have thought this caution quite superfluous.

It is absolutely essential that a nurse should lay this down as a positive rule to herself, never to speak to any patient who is standing or moving, as long as she exercises so little observation as not to know when a patient cannot bear it. I am satisfied that many of the accidents which happen from feeble patients tumbling down stairs, fainting after getting up, &c., happen solely from the nurse popping out of a door to speak to the patient just at that moment; or from his fearing that she will do so. And that if the patient were even left to himself, till he can sit down, such accidents would much seldomer occur. If the nurse accompanies the patient, let her not call upon him to speak. It is incredible that nurses cannot picture to themselves the strain upon the heart, the lungs, and the brain, which the act of moving is to any feeble patient.

Patients are often accused of being able to "do much more when nobody is by." It is quite true that they can. Unless nurses can be brought to attend to considerations of the kind of which we have given here but a few specimens, a very weak patient finds it really much less exertion to do things for himself than to ask for them. And he will, in order to do them, (very innocently and from instinct,) calculate the time his nurse is likely to be absent, from a fear of her "coming in upon" him or speaking to him, just at the moment when he finds it quite as much as he can do to crawl from his bed to his chair, or from one room to another, or down stairs, or out of doors for a few minutes.—*Miss Nightingale.*

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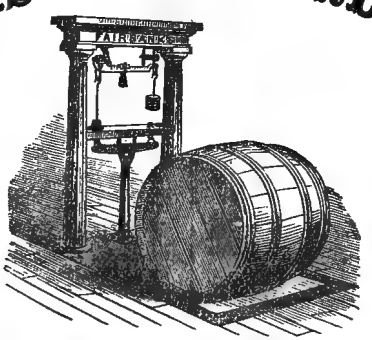
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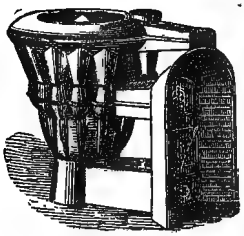
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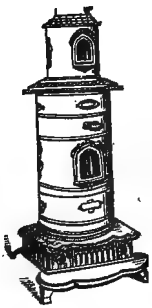
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Of great power and economy of fuel, for all places where great heat is wanted, as

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These Heaters are used by the Hudson River and other RAILROADS, most of the *Ferries, Fire Engine Houses, &c.* Beware of imitations that are inferior.

Extensiveiy used in Hospitals and Barracks.

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With Radiator, Ventilator, and Gas Burning Attachment.

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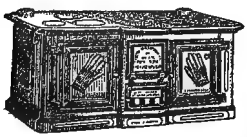


And all places where a SOFT, PLEASANT HEAT is desired. Fires kept all winter with an astonishingly small supply of coal.

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CHALLENGE AIR-TIGHT KITCHEN RANGES,

For Coal or Wood, set in fire-places without masonry, or out on feet; have the Largest Ovens of any in market; bake perfectly; never failing to brown at the bottom. Boil, Roast and Broil with great facility and dispatch, and ECONOMY OF FUEL. *A most desirable Range for Private Houses, Hotels, Hospitals, Barracks, &c.*

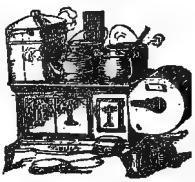


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☞ *A perfect apparatus for a few dollars, and well suited for families, restaurants, barracks, &c.*

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Being Sole Awards gained by anything of the kind. It also received Superlative Report of

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MAIZENA,

At the GREAT INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION at HAMBURG, July, 1863, received the highest Prize Medal for its great delicacy as an article of food.

MAIZENA,

At the FAIR of the NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, at Utica, N. Y., September, 1863, received both DIPLOMA and MEDAL.

MAIZENA,

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Pennsylvania State Fair at Norristown,

OCT. 3, 1863, TOOK GOLD MEDAL.

"MAIZENA" has also taken the first premium at the AMERICAN INSTITUTE, New York City; NEW JERSEY STATE FAIR at Trenton, and at other places—in every instance where it has been exhibited.

"MAIZENA" has never failed to receive the highest award when placed in competition with Corn Starch and all articles of like character, after a thorough Microscopical and Analytical Examination of disinterested judges. It therefore stands commended to the public as the best article of its kind in the world without any comments of the manufacturer.

MAIZENA,

For Puddings, Cakes, Custards, Blanc Mange, &c., without isinglass, with few or no eggs, at a cost astonishing the most economical. It is also excellent for thickening sweet sauces, gravies for fish and meat, soups, &c. For Ice Cream, nothing can compare with it. A little boiled in milk will produce rich cream for Coffee, Chocolate, Tea, &c.

Put up in one pound packages, under the trade mark "Maizena," with directions for use.

A most delicious article of food for children and invalids of all ages. For sale by Grocers and Druggists everywhere.

WHOLESALE DEPOT, 166 FULTON STREET.

WM. DURYEA, General Agent

RECENT MEDICAL WORKS,

PUBLISHED BY

BAILLIERE BROTHERS,

440 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY.

ON MILITARY AND CAMP HOSPITALS, AND THE HEALTH OF TROOPS IN THE FIELD. By L. BAUDENS, Medical Director of the French Army, &c., &c. Translated and Annotated by FRANKLIN B. HOUGH, M. D., late Sanitary Inspector in the Army of the Potomac. 12mo, 260 pages. Price $1 25.

*** The above work is the result of a commission sent by the French Government to the Crimea to report upon the condition of the Hospitals and troops of the French army, and incidentally of the English and Sardinian armies. It is written in the form of a narrative, and the great questions of the *prevention and control of disease in camps and hospitals* are thoroughly discussed. The hygienic conditions of the United States Army are similar to those of the armies of the Crimea; the rules and prescriptions given in the book will, therefore, be found perfectly applicable. This work recommends itself to commanders of regiments as well as army surgeons.

ON DIPHTHERIA. By EDWARD HEADLAM GREENHOW. 1861. Pp. 160. Price $1.25.

Our readers will find a very large amount of information in the twelve chapters of which the volume is made up. Perhaps, in the present state of our knowledge on the subject of this obscurely understood disease, little more can be said beyond what may here be found written down.—*London Medical Times and Gazette.*

We have only been able here to refer to certain of the more prominent facts concerning diphtheria; but we believe we have said enough to recommend this well-written treaties to the attention of the profession.—*British Medical Journal.*

ADVICE TO A MOTHER ON THE MANAGEMENT OF HER OFFSPRING IN INFANCY, CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH. By P. HENRY CHAVASSE, M. D. Price 50c.

Fifth Edition. HAND-BOOK OF SURGICAL OPERATIONS. By STEPHEN SMITH, M. D., Surgeon to Bellevue Hosp. 12mo, 280 pages, and 237 Woodcut Illustrations. Price $1 75.

Just received, a Fresh Stock of "BERNARD & HUETTE'S OPERATIVE SURGERY." Colored Plates. Price $20.

MESSRS. BAILLIERE BROTHERS beg to inform the MEDICAL PROFESSION and STUDENTS, that having purchased a Stock of the Publications of Messrs. BLANCHARD & LEA, LIPPINCOTT & CO., LINDSAY & BLAKISTON, &c., they are prepared to sell all the publications of these Houses at a VERY LIBERAL DISCOUNT FOR CASH. Prices will be given on application and orders are respectfully solicited.

Any of the above sent free by mail on receipt of the price.

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Imported Wines, Brandies, &c.,

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Sole Agent in New York and Washington for

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Insurance Company of New York,

OFFICE, No. 135 BROADWAY.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - - - - - $2,000,000 00
ASSETS, 1st January, 1864, - - - - - - 3,286,270 33
LIABILITIES, - - - - - - - - - - 75,803 32

ABSTRACT OF THE

Twenty-First Semi-Annual Statement,

SHOWING THE CONDITION OF THE COMPANY ON THE

FIRST DAY OF JANUARY, 1864.

ASSETS.

Cash, Balance in Bank,	$875,680 45
Bonds and Mortgages, being first lien on Real Estate	831,672 50
Loans on Stocks, payable on demand	376,012 50
United States Stocks (market value)	673,588 52
State and Municipal Stocks and Bonds, (market value)	190,159 00
Bank Stocks, (market value)	111,800 00
Real Estate	65,000 00
Interest due on 1st January, 1864	17,896 21
Balance in hands of Agents, and in course of transmission from Agents, on 1st January, 1864	72,348 96
Bills Receivable, (for premiums on Inland Risks)	24,773 90
Government Stamps on hand	96 62
Other Property, Miscellaneous Items	44,117 87
Premiums due and uncollected on Policies issued at Office	3,123 80
Total	$3,286,270 33

LIABILITIES.

Claims for Losses Outstanding on 1st January, 1864	$74,953 32
Due Stockholders on account 18th and 19th dividends	850 00

FIRE AND INLAND INSURANCE

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CHAS. J. MARTIN, President.
A. F. WILLMARTH, Vice-Pres't.

JOHN McGEE, Secretary.

NEW YORK, *January 18th*, 1864.

THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 15, 1864. No. 8.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

A FEW WORDS MORE ABOUT THE MONEY.

BROOKLYN, *February* 3, 1864.

MY DEAR DR. BELLOWS: I think great good would be done by a brief statement of the mode of using money by the Sanitary Commission.

There is great ignorance of its scope, details, and need of vast funds; and where there is ignorance, there will be more or less fear and doubt whether such volumes of money as, in the imagination of the people, are rolling into its treasury from these national fairs, can be needed or well spent. Can you give a brief view of the *per cent.* of *expenses* to your *receipts;* a synopsis of the things embraced in your several departments; some facts as to amounts required for particularized articles, such as clothes department, vegetables, &c., &c.? I want what can be read by a mechanic or laborer in two minutes, to give him an idea of the breadth not only of your sphere, but of the complexity of *things* required; and how much it requires, for instance, to care for a thousand wounded or sick men, and what number of thousands have been aided, and what proportion you have borne. Can you help me?

Yours, truly,

H. W. BEECHER.

NEW YORK, *February* 8, 1864.

REV. H. W. BEECHER:

DEAR SIR: At my first leisure I proceed to reply in full to your note, to which you have already received a condensed reply, such as a working man might read in two minutes. It is important that the public should understand the magnitude and extent of the sickness against which the Government is compelled to provide, in order to understand why so much, such constant, and such costly supplementary assistance is required from the Sanitary Commission.

Our hospital record shows that 500,000 men passed through the general hospitals this last year! We have no record of the previous year, but have reason to think from the less veteran character of the troops, that the number could not have been less, but rather more. The first year fewer troops were in the field, and perhaps there were not more than half as many ill in general hospital. But already you have a million and a quarter. Now recall the fact that only those too ill to be taken care of in the regimental hospitals go to the general hospitals, and you will realize that probably as many more have been in the regimental as in the general hospitals. Here, then, at a rough calculation, pretending to no precision, but near enough and undeniable enough to be a basis of practical judgment, you have two millions and a half of men sick at one time or another since the war began. I suppose it to be literally true, that as many men have been in the hospital as there have been in the field. Some have not been sick at all; others have been sick twice, thrice, a half dozen times. I do not believe it would be a misleading

reckoning to say that the actual count of our armies each year in the field, is the tally of the hospital. This is not strange, for is not that man fortunate who stays at home, who is not sick once in the twelvemonth? What, then, must the exposures of the military service add to this risk? Almost every man in our army has had to go through acclimation, as well as through the hardening process of an untried and exposed life. Recollect now that this sickness is not scattered among a sparse population, but thrown upon masses of condensed humanity; that the sick men are not members of families, with wives and mothers to take care of them; that their care is an encumbrance to military movements, weakens military strength, as much by the care-takers it detaches from ordinary duty, as by the absence of the sick themselves; that medical stores *follow* commissary and ammunition stores; that the medical department has no independent transportation, and cannot have; that there are only a surgeon and assistant surgeon in charge of a regiment, and you can judge of the vastness of the work and the difficulty of the circumstances under which the Government labors in its care of our sick.

There is no pretence that all these men are very sick, although those who go into general hospital usually are so; nor that their sicknesses are very long. They vary from three days to three weeks, to three months. What the average number of sick at all times is, (allowing for variation of seasons,) it is not perhaps, for military reasons, expedient to say just now. But it might be justly said, that not half the force on the rolls is ever in actual fighting condition; and that the population of the general and the regimental hospitals, with the sick in quarters, presents at all times an appalling amount of suffering and debility, of peril to life and of appeal to humanity.

No government on earth ever did or ever can take satisfactory care of such numbers of sick men. An epidemic (cholera or yellow fever) in a great city presents an analogous case. Suppose all the care of the sick was thrown at such time on the doctors and professional nurses! Everybody has to turn doctor and nurse at such crises, and everybody has to become everybody's else—brother or father, or sister or mother.

The amount of sickness in an army that has to be scattered over so many degrees of longitude and latitude as ours, where the men are always acclimating, must be great, and cannot be calculated. Nor can any human wisdom tell where a great battle may come off or when, or what its result will be, or how many wounded men may result from it, nor which side will have the care of the wounded—their own and their enemy's it may be.

Under these circumstances the U. S. Sanitary Commission says that if only ten per cent. of what ordinary humanity requires to be done for 500,000 cases of sickness in the year, are by the most rigid construction thrown upon *its* care, there are 50,000 cases of sickness to be considered and provided against. Now, if anybody will think what amount of agency, transportation, clothing, medicines, stimulants, delicate food, 50,000 sick men (supposing each case to need only a month's care) must require, they may see how two millions and a half a year may be expended on them. What is fifty dollars on each case! A sick man, sick for a month, is clothed, nursed, fed, saved, for fifty dollars. The country has been paying out of its local beneficence three and four hundred dollars *bounty*, to send a man to the war. Is it economical or not to pay fifty dollars, to save his life after he enters the service?

Now, because there are no given 50,000 cases, which we have under our entire charge, it does not change the case. All the 2,500,000 sick cases of this war in General or Regimental Hospitals (not to speak of sick in quarters) have come, to the extent, I don't doubt, of 20 per cent.; but let us for moderation say only 10 per cent. of their hospital wants, upon our care, and this care has been expended upon the whole army for three years, at a cost actually to the country through our treasury of $3.20 per case, (not per man.) Such is the *immense addition*, held so extravagant and so uncalled for by some, which the Sanitary Commission has made to the regular succor offered by the Government itself, through the Medical Department.

The business of the U. S. Sanitary Commission lies—

I. In collecting supplies. This is done through its Branches. During the first two years the homes of the country sent of their superfluity immense quantities of sheets, pillow-cases, comforters, blankets, shirts, drawers, socks, &c. This superfluity is long ago exhausted, while the want continues. Of course now they must buy the raw material, and make up newly what they originally could take out of their closets and trunks. Hence the necessity of the great fairs to raise the money to purchase the clothing and other supplies which they obtained formerly in another way. All the money raised by the fairs will (with small exceptions) be spent at home in creating supplies. It takes about fifteen-sixteenths of all the cost of the U. S. Sanitary Commission to furnish its supplies and transportation. The other one-sixteenth goes into the support of its homes, its lodges, its machinery of distribution, its hospital directory, and hospital and camp inspection. The *cash* which actually reaches the Central treasury of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, has in three years amounted to about *one million of dollars, of which the Pacific Coast has given nearly three-quarters!* It would be well for those who on the Atlantic coast sometimes question our economy, to consider this fact.

Of this money, more than half has been spent in the purchase of such supplies as the homes of the land do not and cannot furnish, and in the transportation of them. Such as

Condensed milk by the ton.

Beef-stock " "

Wines and spirits by the barrel.

Crackers and farinaceous food by the ton.

Tea, coffee and sugar, by the chest and hogshead.

Crutches, bed-rests, mattresses and bedsteads, by the 100.

Cargoes of ice, potatoes, onions, and curried cabbage, lemons, oranges, and antiscorbutics, and tonics. At times we have supplied not only the sick, but a whole army threatened with scurvy, with the means of averting it; and we have averted it at Vicksburg, at Murfreesboro', before Charleston. Thousands of barrels of onions, thousands of barrels of potatoes, hundreds of barrels of curried cabbage, have been forwarded to various corps, even as far as Texas, to appease the demon of scurvy, and save our troops.

The other half-million has been used in supporting two hundred experts, medical inspectors, relief agents, clerks, wagoners, and accompanying agents, in the field, or in our offices and depots, through whom our work is done. These two hundred men receive, on an average, $2.00 per day for labor, which is, say half of it, highly skilled, sometimes of professional eminence, and worth from five to ten times that amount. Few of these men could be had for the money, but they work for love and patriotism, and are content with a bare support. This costs $12,000 a month. The Board, (all included, twenty-one in number)—president, vice-president, treasurer, medical committee, standing committee—*give* their services and their time gratuitously. *They receive nothing. Their traveling expenses alone are partly refunded them, and these are trifling, excepting the case of one or two who go frequently on tours of observation.**

II. The next large expense is the support of twenty-five soldiers' homes, or lodges, scattered over the whole field of war, from New Orleans to Washington, including Vicksburg, Memphis, Cairo, Chattanooga, Nashville, Louisville, Washington, &c., &c. In these homes and lodges *twenty-three hundred* soldiers (different ones) *daily* receive shelter, food, medical aid, protection, and care. These soldiers are such as are crowded by the rigidity of the military system out of the regular channels; soldiers left behind, astray, who have lost their military status, convalescents, discharged men, not able to get their pay. Of these, the average length of time they are on our hands is about three days. The priceless value of this supplementary system no tongue can tell. The abandonment of it would create an amount of suffering which a multiplication of 2300 by 365 days in the year, will but serve to hint at.

* Up to the first of January, 1864, the amount drawn by individual members of the Board for traveling expenses, did not exceed one hundred dollars a year per member, (say $100,) and did not cover over one-half the actual expenditure made by each.

In connection with these homes, at the great military centres, New Orleans, Louisville, Washington, are bureaus in aid of the discharged soldier's great necessities, growing out of his loss of papers in battle, or during the bewilderment of sickness, or through the ignorance of his superiors, or his own:

1. A Claim Agency, to secure his bounty.
2. A Pension Agency.
3. A Back-pay Agency.

The mercy of these ministries, by which soldiers and their families, helpless without this aid—the prey of sharpers, runners, and grog-shops—are put in speedy possession of their rights, is inexpressible. We have often $20,000 a day of back pay in our office at Washington alone, which might have been lost forever, or delayed until it was no longer needed by the soldier's own family, without this system.

Sometimes a dozen letters must pass back and forth with various officials, to verify a single claim. By these agencies, wronged men, stricken in disgrace from the army rolls, are restored; and in several cases men condemned to be shot as deserters, have been saved from an undeserved death.

To these are to be added—

1. A special provision for wives, mothers, and sisters, who have expended all the little means of home in getting to Washington or Louisville, to see and protect their sick relatives.

2. A home for faithful nurses broken down in the service.

3. Arrangements for sending very sick soldiers home under escort.

III. A hospital directory, by which the whereabouts of all sick men is determined. There are 600,000 names in its books. It is corrected daily. It saves endless confusion, suspense, and misery; prevents needless journeys; answers the most urgent questions; relieves the Homes of the feeling that their boys are lost in the crowded hospitals; blesses and keeps heart-whole hundreds of wives, mothers, and sisters, every day. It costs $20,000 a year to maintain it, and it is worth a million, if human anxiety can be estimated in money.

IV. Hospital Inspection. Sixty of the most skillful surgeons and physicians in the nation were—eight or ten at a time—six months engaged, under the direction of the Commission, in a systematic and scientific survey of *all* the general hospitals. They inspected 70,000 beds; saw 200,000 patients, and reported in 4,000 written pages the critical results of these inquiries. Can any body estimate the scientific and humane value of such a survey, brought home to the surgeon, the medical authorities, and the Government? Can our hospital system dispense with such a review on the part of the homes, and by the civil medical profession?

This work we shall resume after a proper interval. Dr. Newberry reports that the *best* hospital he has seen was at Bridgeport, near Chattanooga—a field hospital! What a pride and satisfaction to know that science and humanity are in the very front of our armies!

V. The transportation of the sick, carried on by us for the Government in vessels from the Peninsula—from which we brought 8,000 men in a comfort wholly unattainable by Government transportation, aided by our generous medical students and our heroic, though delicate, women—we have since largely carried on in our patent hospital cars, in which the sick, without jar, can be conveyed hundreds of miles with little suffering or injury. We have these cars on the main lines, east and west, along which sick soldiers are carried.

VI. We supply the barren market of Washington with daily car-loads of fresh hospital supplies from Philadelphia. All the beef, mutton, poultry, butter, eggs, vegetables, used in *all* the hospitals at Washington, are selected, forwarded, distributed by the Sanitary Commission—the Medical Department refunding our outlay at the end of each month, saving the profit made by ordinary dealers, and securing wholesome food to the sick.

VII. The battle-field service of the Commission is perhaps too well known to require any elucidation. But let us take the case of Gettysburg. We had accumulated stores, and placed agents at Harrisburg, Pa., Frederick, Md., and Chambersburg, and at Baltimore, to watch the probable necessities of Meade's army. We had inspectors and wagon-trains marching with

it; one with each column. The dreadful battle came off. The best calculations of the Government had anticipated the wants of 10,000 wounded men. The result of that glorious, yet horrible contest, left about 25,000 wounded men (our own and the enemy's) on an area of four miles square. Every church, private house, barn, shed, was crammed with wounded men—additional to field hospitals (in tents) whitening the hill sides, and drenching the soil in the blood of amputated limbs. The railroads clogged with trains forwarding troops to re-enforce Meade in his pursuit of Lee; the bridges burnt by the enemy; neither cars nor locomotives enough to do half the required business; the surgeons and stewards compelled largely to accompany the troops, who expected another battle within a week—what would have become of those noble sufferers, if the *half*-preparation (*not* half) which the providence of the Government had made, had not been supplemented for the first week or two, *full one-half* by the Sanitary Commission, aided by the Christian Commission and other Relief Agencies? Look at the list of things* (appended) furnished them alone, and remember that this was one single battle-field, and cost the Sanitary Commission in stores, clothing, food, and transportation, $75,000. Was there one dollar more spent than was called for? Was one dollar misspent? Was not the moral and material economy in the saving of life, (I believe thousands of lives were literally saved by our succor on that occasion alone,) and in the saving of pain and needless misery, such as every benefactor of the Commission must forever rejoice in?

Let me only add, that one dollar in hand before a battle, and spent in providing against its wants, by posting agents, creating depots, and arranging for the relief of the expected sufferers, is worth five dollars thrown in after the battle, to meet its dreadful necessities. For economy's sake we need a full treasury.

It is this sort of Providence which the Commission is always practicing. Its whole machinery is adapted to prevent disease and sickness, by a department which I have not yet mentioned—that by which it circulates through the army by means of its Sanitary Inspectors, constant warnings, by an elaborate system of verbal counsel and

---

* Supplies Distributed during and immediately after the Battles at Gettysburg, July 1st, 2d, and 3d, 1863.

Of Articles of Clothing, etc., viz.:

Of Drawers, (woolen) 5,310 pairs	$9,292 50
" " (cotton) 1,833 pairs	1,833 00
" Shirts, (woolen) 7,158	14,316 00
" " (cotton) 3,266	3,266 00
" Pillows, 2,114	1,268 40
" Pillow Cases, 264	105 60
" Bed Sacks, 1,630	3,463 75
" Blankets, 1,007	3,021 00
" Sheets, 274	274 00
" Wrappers, 508	1,498 60
" Handkerchiefs, 2,659	319 08
" Stockings, (woolen) 3,560 pairs	1,780 00
" " (cotton) 2,258 pairs	451 60
" Bed Utensils, 728	182 00
" Towels and Napkins, 10,000	1,500 00
" Sponges, 2,300	230 00
" Combs, 1,500	60 00
" Buckets, 200	75 00
" Soap, (Castile) 250 pounds	50 00
" Oil Silk, 300 yards	225 00
" Tin Basins, Cups, etc., 7,000	700 00
" Old Linen, Bandages, etc., 110 barrels	1,100 00
" Water Tanks, 7	70 00
" Water Coolers, 46	230 00
" Bay Rum and Cologne Water, 225 bottles	112 50
" Fans, 3,500	145 00
" Chloride of Lime, 11 barrels	99 00
" Shoes and Slippers, 4,000 pairs	2,400 00
" Crutches, 1,200	480 00
" Lanterns, 180	90 00
" Candles, 350 pounds	70 00
" Canvas, 300 square yards	360 00
" Musquito Netting, 548 pieces	810 00
" Paper, 237 quires	23 70
" Pants, Coats, Hats, 189 pieces	96 75
" Plaster, 16 rolls	4 00

Of Articles of Sustenance, viz.:

Of Fresh Poultry and Mutton, 11,000 pounds	1,540 00
" " Butter, 6,430 pounds	1,286 00
" " Eggs, (chiefly collected for the occasion at farm-houses in Pennsylvania and New Jersey,) 8,500 dozens	1,700 00
" " Garden Vegetables, 675 bushels	337 50
" " Berries, 48 bushels	72 00
" " Bread, 12,900 loaves	645 00
" Ice, 20,000 pounds	100 00
" Concentrated Beef Soup, 3,800 pounds	3,800 00
" " Milk, 12,500 pounds	3,125 00
" Prepared Farinaceous Food, 7,000 pounds	700 00
" Dried Fruit, 3,500 pounds	350 00
" Jellies and Conserves, 2,000 jars	1,000 00
" Tamarinds, 750 gallons	600 00
" Lemons, 116 boxes	580 00
" Oranges, 46 boxes	230 00
" Coffee, 850 pounds	272 00
" Chocolate, 831 pounds	249 30
" Tea, 426 pounds	383 40
" White Sugar, 6,800 pounds	1,156 00
" Syrups, (Lemon, etc.) 785 bottles	596 25
" Brandy, 1,250 bottles	1,250 00
" Whiskey, 1,168 bottles	700 80
" Wine, 1,148 bottles	861 00
" Ale, 600 gallons	180 00
" Biscuit, Crackers, and Rusk, 134 barrels	670 00
" Preserved Meats, 500 pounds	125 00
" Preserved Fish, 3,600 pounds	720 00
" Pickles, 400 gallons	120 00
" Tobacco, 100 pounds	70 00
" Tobacco Pipes, 1,000	5 00
" Indian Meal, 1,621 pounds	40 50
" Starch, 1,074 pounds	75 18
" Codfish, 3,848 pounds	269 36
" Canned Fruit, 582 cans	436 50
" " Oysters, 72 cans	36 00
" Brandy Peaches, 303 jars	303 00
" Catsup, 43 jars	11 00
" Vinegar, 24 bottles	3 00
" Jamaica Ginger, 43 jars	37 25
Total	$74,838 52

advice, and by a series of hygienic and medical tracts, warnings as to the dangers from bad diet, needless exposure, poor ventilation, ill-selected or badly-drained camps, and the neighborhood of infectious swamps and bottoms. All the knowledge of the exposures, wants, sicknesses of the army which it thus obtains, it tabulates in its Statistical Bureau, both for its own information and guidance, and for future scientific use. It looks with the utmost confidence on an advancement of Sanitary science by this means—of priceless life-saving value to all future military movements.

The publication of appeals, information, reports, to maintain open and frank relations with the homes and the public, from which its pecuniary and moral support must be derived, completes the round of the Commission's duties, always excepting the special labors in behalf of disabled soldiers and medico-military interests daily thrown on its hands.

To recapitulate with sole reference to expense, in round numbers, and with only an approximation to exactness. I add the following facts :

1. The Board of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Medical Committee, and Standing Committee, give their time and services gratuitously. They are refunded (in part) their traveling expenses; nothing more.

2. Their Agents, two hundred in number, General and Associate Secretaries, Medical and Sanitary Inspectors, Relief Agents, Clerks, depot and store-house keepers, wagoners, &c., receiving some more and some less, average just $2.00 per day, or less than ordinary mechanics' wages. Total $12,000 per month for the vast *human* machinery of the Commission, stretching from Texas to the Potomac, from before Charleston to Kansas.

3. About fifteen-sixteenths of all the eight millions the Commission has received, goes on to the backs, or into the mouths of the soldiers.

4. The cost of collecting and distributing supplies is less than *three per cent.*

5. About twenty-three hundred men are now, and for a long time have been, in daily use and enjoyment of the Homes and Lodges of the Commission.

6. The battle-field service of the Commission requires a large accumulation of funds and of supplies. At Murfreesboro', Antietam, Gettysburg, Chattanooga, Vicksburg, Port Hudson, sudden and vast demands were made, and are always likely to be made. Fifty thousand dollars would not cover the cost of our whole service in the first two weeks after any one of our great battles; at Gettysburg it was $75,000.

7. We reckon that if we divided all the aid we have given to the sick in regimental, general, and other hospitals, to men in peril of sickness from scurvy and exposure, it would amount to $3.20 a case; many men having received this several times, as often as they were sick. The seriously wounded have been often—as at Gettysburg—the receivers of as much as $10 aid per man. We mention this to show not how much, but how little, this sometimes called *extravagant* Commission costs, considering the blessings it is the almoner of.

Finally, the only uncertain element in these calculations, is *the estimated value of our supplies.* The uncertainty here is not due to want of great pains to ascertain the facts. We shall very soon be able to lay before the public the exact estimates, how many shirts and their estimated value, how many drawers, stockings, sheets, comforters, &c., and the estimated value of each; and they can then judge for themselves. Meanwhile they must give our statement only such credit as they may think our opportunity to know, and our desire to state frankly the exact truth, entitle it to.

With great regard,
Yours, truly,
HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President.

THE PEOPLE AND THE ARMY IN EUROPE.

It is the custom on the continent of Europe to keep up the organization of the army in all its branches in time of peace as well as in time of war. The staff, and the quartermaster's and medical department, are maintained, and carry on their work when the troops are in garrison as well as when in the field; and it has always been the boast of continental military men, when

arguing against the English and American custom of breaking up the machine as soon as the war is over, that in their way much suffering and confusion and shortcoming are avoided whenever there is a sudden outbreak of hostilities. And there is no doubt that there is immense gain in having the whole of the elaborate apparatus required for the feeding, clothing, doctoring, and lodging of the troops, in constant readiness. There is great saving of time and great saving of money, whenever the emergency arises which calls for its use. The persons who are to work it are on the spot, trained to their duties, and their superiors are familiar with their character and capacities; and there is, consequently, much less chance of fraud or corruption in the purchase and distribution of stores. The privations under which the entire British army before Sebastopol came very near succumbing in the first winter of the siege, were due almost altogether to the fact, that the commissariat and quartermaster's and medical department had to be improvised when the war broke out. There was hardly a man in them who had had any experience in the performance of the duties which then devolved on him. The quartermaster-general had to rely on officers drawn from line regiments, and who had every thing to learn as regards supplies and transportation after they took the field; the commissariat was served by clerks taken suddenly from the foreign and other government offices in London; and very few of the surgeons had ever been in charge of a regular hospital, and had ever had to take care of sick, except those of a single battalion in barracks. The world knows what the result was.

It does not appear, however, when the test of a sudden call for active service comes to be applied, even to the best organized of European armies, that it is by any means an easy matter for the Government to provide by any precautions, however elaborate, which have to be taken on a great scale—against the thousand contingencies to which an army is exposed, once it quits its quarters at home. There is a limit to the efficiency of every system, however well-planned, which has to be worked by men with ordinary nerves and ordinary capacities. There is sure to be a weak point in it—a flaw of some kind, which reveals itself whenever the strain begins to be felt. The French lost a whole division from cholera or fever, in the Dobrudscha, in the summer of 1854, mainly through the want of shelter, transport and medical attendance; and in 1856 their army in the Crimea began to suffer severely from the lack of transportation by sea. And yet the French army is beyond all question the best organized in the world; the one for which thorough system in the smallest as well as greatest things, has done most. A very large portion of the talent of a nation, in which talent of the highest order abounds in a very unusual degree, has for over half a century been devoted without stint to the task of perfecting every arrangement that can in the smallest degree contribute to its efficiency as a fighting machine. And among these arrangements it is well known all that relates to the health of the soldier holds the highest place.

We have now, in the case of the Prussian army taking the field against Denmark, a fresh proof that when the military authorities have done their best under the completest of military organizations, there may still remain voids which private benevolence can alone fill up. In other words, even our army, composed entirely of volunteers, raised and equipped in haste, with an improvised administration, and without many trained officers, is not by any means the only army which stands in need of a Sanitary Commission. We find from the *Cologne Gazette* of January 11, that:

"It is very desirable that without delay voluntary associations should be made by the public to furnish the German troops, now in arms against Denmark, with clothing suited to the cold weather. Their supply is not enough to protect them against this enemy. The subjoined letter from the Prussian Minister of War is a confession, and a very significant one too, although not nearly broad enough in its statements. The association in Halle to supply the Prussian troops sent to Holstein with warm winter clothing, asked the Minister of War whether he thought their purpose commendable and useful. He answered: 'It is true that it is the duty of this department to give our troops clothing suited for winter; but it is equally true that owing to the suddenness with which we have been obliged to move our army, it will be difficult to give the men a full supply of proper clothing, unless we receive the patriotic help of all good citizens. For these rea-

sons I shall be very grateful to your association for a full and prompt supply of woolen socks, gloves, under-shirts and drawers, and for articles for hospital use; and those who have money to give, can direct it in no way better than through your society.'"

Nor is this movement entirely a spontaneous one. The Government is stimulating it by open appeals. The same journal of January 12th says:

"A collection 'by authority' for the help of Prussian soldiers excites everywhere, but especially in the States outside of Prussia, very great feeling. The official call is as follows: 'Our columns are now moving towards Lubeck, to be ready to enter Holstein. In consequence of excessive cold weather the men suffer terribly for want of warm clothing. Many of the soldiers have no woolen socks, and only a little straw or a few rags with which to fill their shoes, and are in great danger of having their toes frost-bitten. Very few of them have shirts of any kind, or nearly enough under-clothing to protect them from the cold. I propose collecting articles of this kind, and money to purchase and have made others as fast as possible, to be forwarded to the army. I therefore appeal to all who are friends of our soldiers.'

"BREITENBAUCH, ROYAL COMMISSIONER."

And in the same paper of the 15th, there is a long report of a debate in the House of Representatives at Berlin on the 13th. Mr. Becker moved:

"That it was the first duty of the Government to procure at once a full supply of stout underclothing suitable for the use of the soldiers in their winter campaign."

Mr. Rönne said:

"That after granting 300,000 thalers for an increase of pay in the army, we are now told that our troops suffer for necessary clothing, that the Government has been obliged to appeal to public charity for help. In the States with which we were in alliance these facts may well excite astonishment, for how can Prussia protect them with troops when our army is already in such a plight. It is the case too with the armies on the Polish border, as well as with that in Holstein; and in both places the patriotism of our women has been put to a practical test to overcome these sad necessities. The Minister of War tells us that our troops are supplied fully, and he tells the women who offer their help quite another story. I agree with him in giving them the heartiest thanks for their past labors and for all the good they mean to do in the future, but the Government must not be content with accepting their assistance; it must supply all that is wanted for a winter campaign promptly and plentifully."

The fact is, that it is not because armies now suffer more than they did in other wars, that we are witnessing both here and in Europe these voluntary efforts for their relief on the part of the people, but because the world has in the last fifty years made such advances in humanity that the public in Christian countries will not look on calmly while scenes of horror pass before their eyes, which in former times excited no comment whatever, and were deemed inevitable. During the great struggles which followed the French revolution—to go no further back—the sufferings and losses of all the great armies then in the field, from lack of supplies, medicines, attendance, and sanitary precautions, were prodigious. But not only was public benevolence at that period much less active than it is now, and human life less valued, but the means either of obtaining information or sending help so completely wanting, that voluntary organizations in aid of the sick and wounded would have been either impossible or useless. In the absence of newspapers, little was known of what was passing in the field; and that little came at irregular intervals by private letters, which were seldom received until weeks after the battle had been fought or the movement been made, which left its victims by the thousands on the field or the roadside. And it is hardly necessary to say, that without the electric telegraph, and the railroad, and the steamboat, it would have been absurd to have attempted to follow an army up either with sanitary counsels or with actual relief. A French army operating in Germany or Italy, an English army operating in Spain or the Crimea, or an American army in Tennessee or Louisiana, would have been, fifty years ago, as much out of the reach of their friends at home, as far removed from aid or advice, as they would be nowadays in China or Upper India. Sanitary Commissions, or, in other words, attempts on the part of people at home to lessen the misery of war by voluntary efforts, are new mainly because they are now for the first time feasible. The indifference of the public to the lot of the rank and file which shows itself in the history of all past wars, has now disappeared; but the change would have been of little value if science had not supplied the means of exhibiting it in action. The army would profit little by this pity, if it took three weeks to go from New York to Tennessee.

THE FAIRS.

The public mind appears seriously exercised at this moment upon the subject of "Raffling," in connection with "the Metropolitan" and other Fairs. The U. S. Sanitary Commission, representing the beneficence of all classes of the community towards our sick and wounded soldiers, and solicitous, on patriotic as well as humane grounds, to enlist the sympathies and cooperation of the largest number of American citizens in this common work of mercy, has felt it to be necessary to establish one rule in regard to the source of its support; *i.e.*, to accept, without question and from all quarters, such gifts as were brought to its treasury. Accordingly, neither political, theological, or moral questions have come before it. It has studiously avoided complication with the methods employed by those who have supplied its pecuniary necessities, declining to patronize or make itself responsible for either good or bad plans for raising money, and simply engaging, as trustees of the people's bounty, to spend the means placed in its hands in the most moral, the most patriotic, and most faithful manner. It holds itself strictly responsible for the safe custody, the wise and economical disbursment, and the most humane application of the funds committed to it; but not for the methods by which they are raised. Any other course would make the U. S. Sanitary Commission the moral censor of the public, and cut off the sympathies of large bodies of people—a loss even less important in a pecuniary than in a patriotic light.

It is not to be supposed, however, that the U. S. Sanitary Commission is indifferent to the morals of the community, or to the ways employed to aid and assist its own work. While it cannot prescribe those ways, or go behind the gifts it receives, to catechize the motives or the methods of its benefactors, it earnestly desires, as a body of thoughtful citizens engaged in so serious a business, to see a careful respect for the laws, a tender regard to the moral interests of society, a profound reverence for God and duty, animating all its supporters. Confessing that the moral interests of the community are far more important than the success of its own work, it could not desire to flourish at the expense of any permanent principle of truth, justice, and religion.

In regard to the "Raffling," if the question were one the Sanitary Commission had a right to settle, the Board could not hesitate to decide against it, as not being strictly legal; as being at the best of disputed moral complexion, and at the worst, decidedly evil in its tendencies if not wrong in its principle. The practical settlement of the question lies with the gentlemen and lady managers of the Fair. They have thus far endeavored in their plan to free raffling from its universally recognized evils, judging it to be an essential in some form to the success of the Fair. That they may, under the discussion which is now going on, see it to be as immediately expedient as it is desirable on several grounds to abandon it wholly, is the wish and hope of the Board. The Sanitary Commission is perfectly willing to sacrifice any pecuniary interest in the returns of the Fair, to the practical testing of the question, are "Raffles" necessary evils? They think not.

Knowing the conscientious character of the ladies who have the Fair in charge, and that their efforts are steadily directed by the most patriotic, humane, and elevated feelings, it is not necessary to add that we utterly repudiate any appearance of the least question of their own high motives in the course hitherto pursued by them in regard to this and all matters appertaining to the Metropolitan Fair.

THE CAMPAIGN AT NEWBERN, N. C.

I take advantage of the New York boat to-day to send a rapid report of the interesting events now transpiring here (Feb. 2d) deferring till the next mail the subjects of your communications of December 16th and 31st, which a protracted pneumonic attack has prevented me sooner responding to.

The enemy came down upon us in force yesterday, about 3 A. M. They attacked the outposts at Bachelor's Creek, nine miles up the railroad, held by the 132d New York, under Colonel Claassen, with a company also of the 1st North Carolina Union Volunteers, (whites.) The rebels attacked in overwhelming numbers. Eleven men held a large body of the enemy "at

bay," at a bridge about a mile and a half from camp, for more than an hour. The rebels, meanwhile felling trees and hauling rails, constructed a temporary bridge below, and crossed over cavalry, infantry, and artillery. Five companies of the 17th Massachusetts Volunteers, under Lieut.-Colonel Fellows, were already on the way from Newbern to re-enforce Colonel Claassen, but were not in season to interrupt the crossing. Col. Claassen fought desperately for his camp, the best-regulated camp I have seen in the service. At 9 A. M. he telegraphed that the rebels were across the creek, pressing him hard, and he was falling back. The rebels were reported at ten thousand to twelve thousand strong; prisoners say twelve thousand. Knowing that Col. Claassen had but a single assistant surgeon with his command, Dr. Gröninger, while Lieut.-Col. Fellows had his surgeon, Dr. Galloupe, I started with my brother at 10 A. M., horseback, in company with Dr. Cougill, medical inspector of hospitals of this department, and Dr. Morony, acting medical purveyor, with instruments and battle-field relief. Three miles out we encountered our infantry straggling in towards town, and reporting themselves pressed by numbers, and that the artillery had fallen back from Bachelor's Creek and taken position five miles out at the "Cross Roads;" that Dr. Galloupe was a mile and a half further on than we, at a house with a wounded officer. We pressed on. Soon the artillery and cavalry passed us in retreat, taking position at the railroad crossing, three miles from town, where the infantry had rallied in some numbers. We continued our course to the house where Dr. Galloupe had his hospital wagon and patient. Dr. Cougill, my brother, and myself rode up to the house and went in. We found him attending to Adjutant ——, of the 17th M. V., severely, and apparently fatally, wounded in the region of the stomach, and suffering extremely from the shock. We advised his immediate removal to the wagon and quick transmission to town. Dr. Galloupe was already making his preparations for it, his conveyance being excellently adapted for the purpose. We were now in advance of any supporting force, and the enemy rapidly following up our retreating soldiers. As we turned our horses into the road, after leaving Dr. Galloupe and his patient and attendants, we were saluted with four or five carbine shots from the enemy, who filled the road about three hundred yards behind us. We rode *rapidly* towards town until we got to the rear of our battery at the railroad crossing, and there halted until the rebels came in sight again, and had received fifteen or twenty rounds from our howitzers. Dr. Galloupe and the wounded adjutant were taken prisoners a minute after we left them. About 11 A. M. the last railroad train got in from Bachelor's Creek, with the sick, officers' families, &c. They were fired into, and much anxiety was subsequently felt for Col. Claassen and the rest of his staff and command. He, however, had taken to the swamp, and got in towards evening safely. At roll-call seventy of his command were missing; he knows that about thirty were killed outright by the enemy's sharp-shooters. There were *comparatively* few wounded. The 17th M. V. report about sixty missing. Only six or seven of the wounded are within our lines. Lieut.-Col. Fellows, of the 17th, is a prisoner. One man of the 132d had both legs taken off by a fence-rail, which was struck by a shell and swept against him. The same rail struck across the legs of Major Huston and disabled him, but not so as to prevent his attention to duty until this morning, when he gave himself up to rest and medical attention. The fate of small detachments of our outposts, occupying isolated positions, is still in doubt.

The enemy followed our troops to within sight of our defensive works, and yesterday afternoon were shelled from Forts Totten and Gaston. Our men have behaved with gallantry; and Gen. Palmer, now in command in the absence of Gen. Peck, on leave north, has the defences manned, and the whole force on the alert. On account of the superior force of the rebels we anticipated a night attack, which would bring most of the casualties within the intrenchments, and make most of the relief work at the general hospitals and in transitu from the intrenchments and posts to the wards. My brother prepared some dozens of small hampers, of a size convenient for

distribution along the lines of defence, and each containing the necessary appliances of a field hospital, and for individual relief on the field or on the road—such as stimulants, anæsthetics, lint, silk, adhesive plaster, bandages, linen, sponge, &c., &c. The agents of the Christian Commission, Rev. Messrs. Sage and Hammond, offered their services, and held themselves subject to call at any moment to assist in the relief. The night passed off, however, without any demonstration by the enemy on the land. They served us, however, a very clever and bold trick on the river—one from which we can derive not even a shadow of satisfaction, nor consider with any self-complacency. They boarded the gunboat Underwriter, lying in position in the Neuse River, and under the guns of Fort Stevenson on this bank and Fort Anderson on the opposite bank; took off all her officers, and all her crew, except some six or eight who escaped, and two or three killed on deck; set the gunboat on fire, and she burned up. Capt. Westervelt, who commanded the gunboat, is said to have been carried off, bound hand and foot. They had previously offered a reward for his capture, on account of his stringent blockade in the waters of the Albemarle. The Underwriter had a crew of some seventy to eighty men. The town were awakened about 4 A. M. to-day by the explosion of her guns, and about a quarter past five her magazine blew up with a terrific explosion. Several of the boats' crew jumped overboard and swam ashore; so also did some five or six of the rebels who had tarried too long on board. They say that the boarding party were marines, engineers, and other necessary hands for working a war steamer; that they were brought on from Savannah for this very purpose, and have been prowling on the banks of the river several weeks, awaiting their opportunity. Their object was to use her at once in a raid among the shipping in the harbor and about the wharves; but the proximity of the forts, which commenced firing on her as they were weighing anchor, baffled them. They numbered about a hundred and twenty. One of our marines, who swam ashore, is in the hospital, with a bullet wound in the knee; had the ball extracted this forenoon. The whole affair of the gunboat's capture was a well-managed surprise, awfully discreditable to our flotilla.

Yesterday afternoon, while the skirmishing was going on in the broad clearing between Fort Totten and the woods, and all in sight of the traverse parapet of the fort, Dr. Baker, who has been attending the small-pox hospitals, started out, with three ambulances and a flag of truce, to bring into town the inmates of the white small-pox hospital, about a mile in front of the breastworks. He was seen to parley with the enemy for some time, when they took him off prisoner, with his ambulances, drivers, and teams. They had previously taken away the negro attendants of the hospital, and *all the provisions*. Dr. Baker is assistant surgeon of the 12th New York Cavalry.

Last night I learn that our independent scouts, or one at least, ventured in a boat up the river, near to Bachelor's Creek, to try and discover the fate of some of our unaccounted-for detachments. He heard towards morning discharges of rifles, which leads us to suppose some of our soldiers missing still retain their organization; and the report this afternoon is, that Lieut.-Col. Fellows is holding them together, and endeavoring to fight his way in.

Our cavalry have been skirmishing all the forenoon in front of Fort Totten; and occasionally the fort has thrown a heavy shell over their heads into the woods, where the enemy are sheltered. My brother has just come in (3 P. M.) from Fort Totten, and says the enemy are reported to be throwing up breastworks at the railroad crossing, three miles out the Neuse Road.

The forts are now, (4½ P. M.,) at intervals, firing heavy guns.

We have had no communication with the enemy. The medical director thinks Drs. Galloupe and Baker (prisoners) will see that our wounded captured are well cared for; and the General is not inclined at this moment to parley with the rebels.—*Dr. Page's Report.*

Mr. Gordon Grant, Relief Agent of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, left Lakeport on the 16th ult. with vegetables for the troops at Fort Pitt and Ship Island. Mr. Grant afterwards went on a like mission to the Brashear City Military Hospitals.

THE COMMISSION AMONG THE CONVALESCENTS.

At the late quarterly meeting of the Commission, a very full and interesting report was presented by Miss A. M. Bradley, the agent of the Commission at the Convalescent Camp, Alexandria, Va. It covered the operations of Relief from January 17th to December 31st, 1863.

During this period of twelve months 111,825 soldiers entered the camp, in passing from the military hospitals to their respective regiments, or to their homes on certificates of permanent disability. To these soldiers, including the inmates of the Camp Hospital, Miss Bradley distributed the following "Sanitary Stores" among others: 64 blankets, 67 quilts, 355 pairs of slippers, 10,096 towels, 100 woolen vests, 850 woolen mittens, 1,263 woolen shirts, 200 woolen drawers, 500 cotton drawers, 24,200 envelopes, 1,272 cotton shirts, 803 coarse combs, 178 fine combs, besides corn starch, cocoa, beef stock, brandy, rice, sugar, tamarind vinegar, etc., etc., etc.

Miss Bradley's method of issuing the stores was eminently judicious, and may be given in her own words:

"I arrived on the 17th December. On the 21st, when the soldiers were all assembled in line for inspection, I passed around with the officers and supplied seventy-five men with woolen shirts; I worked on the principle of supplying only the very needy. The same day I visited the tents, and finding many sick men, induced the commanding officer to place at my disposal some hospital tents. I soon had a hospital, and commenced to nurse such poor fellows as I gathered from among the well men of the camp. I found others whose discharge papers had been lying in the office for some time; these men being too feeble to stand in the cold and wet and wait their turn. I carried them to my hospital and warmed and clothed them, applied for their papers, and then sent them into Washington on the way to their homes."

* * * * *

In order to guard against misapplication of the stores, Miss Bradley prepared cards to be used as requisitions upon her Storehouse, and placed them in the hands of a selected soldier in each division in the camp. This soldier or wardmaster examined the knapsacks of the men in his division, and thus acquired a knowledge of the real wants of all. Having ascertained the actual wants of the men, he sent them to the quartermaster to ascertain whether he would issue clothing on Government account. If not, they were then sent to Miss Bradley to obtain clothing or other necessaries from the Commission storehouse. By constant daily personal inspection, Miss Bradley rendered herself familiar with the wants of the soldiers, and supplied them quickly and fully. She says that from May 1st, 1863, to December 31st, 1863, with few exceptions, all the soldiers discharged from service in this camp were conveyed by her to the Commission Lodges at Washington. The number of such beneficiaries was over two thousand. When it is remembered that the vast majority of these men were suffering from incurable disease, prostrated in strength, and rendered excessively sensitive to all the trials and exposures of transportation, the value of Miss B.'s services may be in some sense appreciated. They were conveyed to Washington in ambulances, and transferred to the comfortable Lodges of the Commission to await, in comparative ease and comfort, the completion, through Commission agents, of their discharge papers. Many lives were thus saved and incalculable suffering prevented.

* * * * *

"I have never carried any point by storm; the commanding officer has always listened to my suggestions and examined my plans, and then accorded full approval and support," says Miss B.

* * * * *

"State agents and others have sometimes tried to cause me to leave the camp, but my methods and operations have always been justified by the countenance and orders of the military authorities."

* * * * *

Every one of the 111,825 inmates of the camp has passed under Miss Bradley's observation, and had his wants relieved, without any violence done to military discipline, or weakening of the sense of responsibility on the part of the officers charged to provide for the welfare of the camp. Her acts of kindness have been so numerous and complicated, that the limits of the *Bulletin* would not suffice to permit them to be recorded in detail. A.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION AND THE NAVY.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,
823 Broadway,
NEW YORK, *February 9th*, 1864.

MADAM: I have received from Mr. Strong your note of yesterday, drawing attention to a statement that alleged neglect by the U. S. Sanitary Commission of the claims of the navy on its regard, is alienating friends who are not informed as to the facts of the Commission's past and present relations to that arm of the public service.

Though you do not need to be again told what you know so well, that the Commission has from the first sought to exercise its functions impartially, as a "Commission of inquiry and advice in respect to the sanitary interests of the *United States forces*,"* whether afloat or ashore, you will perhaps allow me to present to you such facts pertinent to the matter as now occur to me, for the information of any of your correspondents who may be less familiar with our work than you are.

Soon after the organization of the Commission in 1861, its good offices were officially tendered to the Hon. the Secretary of the Navy, and its practice has ever since been to renew to the chief of the medical bureau of the navy and to commanders of squadrons, as occasion has arisen, its offers of service and assistance. At its last quarterly meeting in January, the Commission appointed a committee to confer with Dr. Whelan, the chief of the naval medical bureau, concerning the present sanitary condition and wants of the navy. That its opportunities have been vastly fewer to serve the navy than the sister service in the field, detract not from its disposition to minister equitably to all the national forces whenever it may be privileged to serve them. The Commission's view of equity, in assisting the two branches of the service, is to give aid in proportion to the *need* of each.

The navy, from its compact organization, its adequate system of supply vessels, which besides the ordinary stores of food, clothing, and medicine, regularly take to each of the blockading squadrons, ice, fresh meat, and vegetables, and bring home its sick men to its well-provided Marine Hospitals; and its small percentage of casualties in its peculiar blockade duty, has much less frequently than the army afforded to the Commission the opportunity of supplying any lack of governmental service. The fact, too, that every sailor is at home on ship board, receives regularly his food and clothing, and generally secures his sleep, insures for the navy an average sanitary condition far higher than the army often attains.

And yet the occasions are, though relatively, not really few, in which the Commission has been able to supplement for the navy the provision which the best-ordered bureaux cannot in time of extended operations secure against occasional deficiencies.

Without referring to our records I may mention some of the facts of which I am personally cognizant, which illustrate the above statement.

During the early summer of 1862, the gunboats in the Pamunkey River guarding the supply depot of the Army of the Potomac, at White House Va., received not unfrequently ice, and wine, and delicate food, for the comfort of their sick. So in the James River, for a month after the memorable "seven days," the naval flotilla shared to the extent of its needs the attention of the Commission, required fortunately far less by it than by the land forces.

In July the Commission communicated to Commodore Wilkes its willingness to send semi-weekly a steamboat from Hampton Roads to the uppermost station of the James River Flotilla, which should visit each gunboat and naval vessel, receive its sick, and care for them while in transit to the hospital at Portsmouth, or elsewhere, at the pleasure of the Commodore.

The Blockading Squadron before Charleston, and the commands of Admirals Farragut and Porter on the Mississippi, have, on many an occasion, had reason to bless the kind hearts at home who projected and sustain the U. S. Sanitary Commission, whose open hand is never withheld from the sufferers of either service, when once their wants are known.

You recollect the occasion when during

* *Authorization of the Commission*, by the Secretary of War and the President of the United States, June, 1861.

the bombardment of Forts Jackson and St. Philip, below New Orleans, the medical officers of the navy were enabled by the assistance of Dr. Blake, the Commission's Inspector, to establish at Pilot Town, in the Southwest Passage, an hospital for the fleet, and to furnish it liberally with sponges, chloroform, oiled silk, adhesive plasters, bandages, lint, sheets, &c., &c., at a time when the destitution of the fleet as regards these articles was most complete.*

I pick up the "Sanitary Reporter" of January 1st, and read that on a recent trip of the Sanitary steamer Clara Bell down the Mississippi, the Commission's agent made provision of fresh vegetables to supply the wants of the U. S. gunboats about Vicksburg; and between Natchez and New Orleans furnished similar supplies to five others, the Osage, Chilicothe, Choctaw, Lafayette, and Champion.

While I am writing this letter a report comes in from a Relief Agent of the Commission, who has recently visited the naval stations at and about Key West, Florida.

I make a brief extract: "We also found at Tortugas the gunboat ——, Capt. —— commander, no surgeon on board, number of men sixty-five. Capt. —— stated that there has been no vegetables on board during the past six weeks. Consequently I thought it proper to issue to the men a limited supply, which was very gratefully received."

I have frequent reason to know that the officers of the navy themselves do not share the opinions of those who think that the Commission neglects the navy. That some of them at least feel differently, is shown by the fact that on the last day of National Thanksgiving the officers of the sloop-of-war Saratoga made a generous offering in aid of the treasury of the Commission, of whose impartial beneficence they had been witnesses; and by the other fact that at the late fair in aid of the Cincinnati Branch of the Commission, both officers and crews of the Northern Mississippi flotilla, from the Admiral to the powder boys, cheerfully gave a day's pay to swell the funds, which were to return in part to them converted into the material of relief for their future necessities.

Desiring to enable you to set right your correspondents, I have not waited to seek evidence from our archives, but hope that I have been able to show that the U. S. Sanitary Commission has ever desired to lend its helping hand to any portion of the national forces, East, West, or South, afloat or ashore, that requires its ministry.

I am, madam, very truly yours,

J. Foster Jenkins,

General Sec'y of the U. S. Sanitary Com.

Miss Louisa Lee Schuyler, New York.

* See *The U. S. Sanitary Commission, A Sketch of its Purposes and Work, p.* 202. Little, Brown & Co., Boston. 16mo, pp. 300.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THE TROOPS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

In the month of February, 1863, the undersigned, by order of the Executive Committee of the Commission, established a depot for sanitary and hospital stores, at Beaufort, S. C., in this department.

The Commission previously had had agents here, but no permanent station. We were warmly welcomed by Major-General David Hunter, commanding the department, and by him sustained until he was relieved early in June following.

At this period ———— regiments were stationed at eleven different localities, and extending over the entire department, a distance of 250 miles. To carefully inspect these regiments was the first business of the undersigned. The results of this inspection have been communicated to the proper department of the Commission. I may here state a very noticeable difference in the morale of the two corps then constituting the command, believing that neglect of sanitary laws, quite as much as all other circumstances, had to do with the irregularities and dissatisfaction prevalent in certain camps.

The larger portion of this command, mostly from New England and New York, had been here from the occupancy of these islands in November, 1861. They were inured to toil, obedient to discipline, observant of sanitary laws, in person and quarters, and were an efficient, contented body of men. By the side of these, were regiments from the —— army corps, who were discontented, and occasionally accused of a tendency to insubordination, neglectful of conditions essential to health. Among these there was a much greater percentage of sickness than in other portions of the army similarly situated. The first business of the inspector was to advise officers and privates of the necessity of stricter compliance with sanitary laws, to secure an increased standard of health. And with this compliance came

not health, simply, but a marked improvement in efficiency and discipline. This fact was subsequently acknowledged by those in command. We are justified in ascribing the improved morale to attention to sanitary rules, hitherto neglected, by the fact that in this —— corps were regiments subjected to all the conditions of locality, &c., which produced in contiguous regiments a disorderly spirit, but which were efficient, contented, and happy; and that these were the regiments most remarkable for personal neatness, and for the cleanliness of their camps and quarters. Your inspector believes that not the least of the benefits in this war rendered to officers by the Sanitary Commission, has been its indirect influence in promoting discipline by increased attention to sanitary precautions, among the men of their respective commands.

Among the first efforts to mitigate suffering in this department, was the attempt to alleviate the condition of the soldier going North, discharged from the service in consequence of sickness. Up to this time, the man who had served his country faultlessly, and sickened in her service, was discharged; and without any provision for his enfeebled condition, in clothing or care, was shipped upon any Government transport, as a thing no longer useful. The consequences can be readily seen—much suffering and many deaths in transit. The inspector immediately supplied all that could contribute to the personal comfort of these unfortunate men; and, in some instances, sent attendants to minister to their wants upon the voyage. This, however, could not meet the exigency entirely. Upon these transports was no accommodations, nor proper medical care. After consultation by your inspector with members of the Commission, and subsequently with Gen. Hunter, the *Cosmopolitan*, a spacious steamer, with capacity for three hundred and twenty-five beds, was set apart by the General as a hospital ship, for the purpose of conveying the sick or wounded to their destination, and consigned to the medical director of the department.

The Commission immediately issued to this steamer two hundred and fifty beds, and other requisites; and has since continued to contribute supplies. This provision has been crowned with success; and under the able management of the surgeons assigned it by the medical director, many lives have been saved that must by ordinary modes of transportation been sacrificed.

The last two weeks in March, and first two in April, were devoted to preparation for the first Charleston expedition. Abundant preparations were made by us for any exigency; but happily no casualty occurred, nor was there any call upon our stores.

A schooner of ample dimensions had been assigned us by General Hunter, giving, as was his wont, timely notice for preparation. And here it is but simple justice to this officer to remark, that there has been no reticence in his communications to the Commission of whatever would contribute to an early preparation for any emergency. Immediately after this unsuccessful movement, preliminary steps were taken towards a repetition of the advance upon Charleston, by way of Morris Island, etc. General Gilmore has since secured Morris Island as the base for further advances.

The months of May and June were devoted by your inspector and his assistant to the wants of the troops conducting offensive operations against Morris Island, and of those stationed at Hilton Head, Beaufort, Fernandina, and other posts in the department.

Very early in July active operations commenced on Folly Island. A large brig (and a tow) had been assigned us by the general commanding, to transfer all necessary stores. On the 8th and 9th we took in cargo from the depot at Beaufort; on the 9th left Port Royal harbor; and early on the morning of the 10th, in the waters of Stono, threw out to the breeze, from the mast-head, the flag of the Sanitary Commission. The successful assault was made on that morning, with trifling loss on our part. The circumstances connected with it have been already communicated, and I will not repeat them. It is proper, however, to remark, in this connection, that the *Cosmopolitan*, which was returning from a trip north with disabled men, was at 8 A. M. passing off Stono, and noticing what was transpiring, ran to Hilton Head, fifty-two miles distant, reported, and returned to the scene of operations before 4 P. M.; thus making one hundred and four miles in less than eight hours. I mention this to show the zeal of the medical department in the discharge of its obligations. And if at any point in this article I speak of seeming deficiencies in that department, I wish it distinctly understood that these arose from circumstances beyond control, and not from any lack of sympathy, activity, or intelligence on the part of the medical staff.

If the history of this war is ever properly written, its brightest page will be that which recounts (imperfectly even) the untiring assiduity and self-denial of the medical staff in the discharge of its immense responsibilities.

Dr. Crane, medical director, and Dr. Dibble, chief medical officer of the island, with ambulances, immediately proceeded to the upper end of the island, where early in the day hospitals had been improvised for the wounded, principally Confederates, few of our men having suffered. These wounded were consigned to your inspector,

who transferred them to the *Cosmopolitan*, in charge of Dr. Bontacore, for which position there are few so well qualified by professional ability and energy.

The wounded, comfortably placed in berths, were the same night removed to Hilton Head; and the next morning, at eight o'clock, the *Cosmopolitan* entered the harbor. During the morning it was ascertained that the boat could ascend Folly River, on the opposite side of the island, within a half mile of the hospitals. At 11 A. M. the boat was anchored there. At 12 M. of the same day, (July 11,) an unsuccessful assault, in which we lost one hundred and thirty-one men, was made upon Fort Wagner, to which the enemy had retired the morning previous. These wounded were first cared for at the hospitals, and thence transferred to the boat. And here I ought to pay a tribute to the untiring energy and tact of Messrs. Hoadley and Day, of the Commission, who, with their assistants, met the necessities of every wounded man on the preceding, on this, and on subsequent days; administering to their wants in the temporary hospitals, supplying clothing, accompanying the ambulances to the boat, furnishing extra clothing and stores upon it, if needed, on its passage to the general hospitals at the Head and Beaufort; cheerful under exhausting labors, and inspiring the sufferer with hope. From the 11th to the 18th the willing strength of the whole command was taxed continuously in preparation for the coming assault. Every particle of transportation was necessarily devoted to the munitions of war, which accounts, in part, for any deficiencies that may have been experienced in the medical and commissariat departments. In this interim the Commission added in large quantities to the stores it already had on Morris Island; conveyed thither by a circuitous route, not less than seven miles, in rowboats, furnished, and in part manned, by the obliging quartermaster, Captain Dunton. The men detailed for this unusual and somewhat hazardous employment, (the enemy holding one bank of the stream,) worked night and day with a will; and many a poor fellow who subsequently received the benefit of the supplies of the Commission, may thank these soldiers for the sole and laborious method by which these abundant supplies were placed within available distance. On the evening of the 15th our tents were arranged and flag floating. After consulting Brig.-General Seymour, commanding the advanced force, it was resolved to supply every man in the front, and ultimately all who should participate in the assault, with tea, Boston crackers, and concentrated beef for soup. This provision was absolutely essential, from circumstances already given; and many a poor fellow, on the night of the 18th, fought with great bravery, aided by the encouragement and strength afforded by this food, continuously bestowed by the Commission for nearly seventy-two hours previous.

The manner of the attack, (on Saturday night, the 18th July,) incidents connected with it, disposition of the respective forces, numbers, &c., being purely military matters, I shall pass over. The participation of your employees in the scenes which transpired I will briefly describe.

On the afternoon of the 18th each individual attached to the Commission had his work assigned, and the means with which to accomplish it put within his reach; and greater praise cannot be given than the statement of the simple truth, that the next morning witnessed that each man (with one or two exceptions, and for a few moments only, and in circumstances of great peril) had faithfully discharged the duty appointed him.

The Sanitary corps were distributed as follows: A portion to act as auxiliary to the medical force in the front and in the hospitals; another to assist the wounded at the hospital, and conduct them thence to the boats, (two beside the *Cosmopolitan* had been secured,) which were to convey them to the general hospitals at Beaufort; and a third to render any additional assistance which might become necessary in their transit. This terrible repulse illustrated the benefits and defined the position of the Sanitary Commission. For on this fatal night, to the extent of my knowledge, not a blanket nor change of apparel, nor bed-sack nor pillow, to save torn limbs or fractured heads from the crowded decks, but was furnished by the Commission. As previous to the assault the Commission fed, so now it supplied whatever could mitigate the sufferings of the unfortunate soldier. Abundant changes of clothing were placed upon each boat, to use if necessary during the voyage. In anticipation of casualties the Commission, previous to the expedition, had supplied the five hospitals in Beaufort to the extent of their capacity. On the arrival of the wounded six more hospitals were opened, and fully furnished from our stores.

We will pass over the interim of ten days on the field. Nature, meanwhile, is not forgetful of her dues. For weeks previous to the assault, in the enthusiasm of toil and confidence of triumph she had given the soldier credit for her expenditures; but now in the despondency which ever follows defeat, the exhaustion of vital force, the scantily furnished and unsuitable diet, with depressing climate and continuous labor, she prosecutes her claim. Decisive evidence of a tendency to scurvy becomes quite general throughout the command. And although inspired by the unwavering

hope of ultimately reducing Charleston, the vital forces were compelled to succumb, and soon, in many instances, one half the regiment answered to the sick call. Here again the untrammeled capacity of the Commission for immediate action demonstrated its utility. Your inspector made at once immense requisitions on the Commission, which were honored with a liberality that will forever endear them to these suffering patriots. The abundance of fresh vegetables and acid fruits which they furnished, soon produced a decided and happy change. And here it may be remarked that the ordinary diarrhœas and even dysentery of this region are most successfully treated by the exhibition of acids. Pickles, onions, vinegar, lime juice, the mineral acids, particularly nitric and the "Liquor Ferri Nitratis," proved the most certain remedies. At this point was introduced a new feature by the agents of the Commission in this department, and ultimately sanctioned by their superiors. This was to supply with vegetables not only the sick and wounded, but all on duty; which seemed the only way to check the prevailing malady. The malady was thus not only checked, but eradicated; for at the present time not one well-marked case of scurvy—the scourge of crowded, ill-nourished troops—is reported in the entire command. The appreciation of this act of the Commission in furnishing these absolutely essential supplies, cannot be better illustrated than by the congratulatory order of the Maj.-Gen. Commanding, which was read at the head of every regiment throughout the department; unless, indeed, the voluntary honor paid the flag of the Commission by the passing salute of various regiments be so considered.

Another feature peculiar to this department has been a liberal supply of ice, furnished by the Commission to all privates in the command. The frozen streams of Maine have been made to cool, not only the burning lips of fever, but to assuage the thirst of exhausting toil in South Carolina. It is believed a far greater amount of labor and a higher standard of health have been secured by these daily issues of ice to every soldier.

There are two points in connection with this campaign that deserve special notice. One the constant and still continued aid rendered your employees by the military authorities. Not a wish could be suggested but it was complied with, and not unfrequently requests were anticipated. Fines and goods confiscated for infraction of laws of trade have been turned over to the Commission for distribution to the soldier. And especially has the nurturing care of the head of the department, Maj.-Gen. Q. A. Gillmore, been extended to the Commission.

The other point to which I would call attention is, the fraternal welcome and assistance in the discharge of duty extended by the entire medical corps in the department. Their systematic aid has rendered unnecessary the employment of numerous agents, lightened the personal labors of your inspector, and conferred upon him obligations that he will ever remember. And here it is proper to state that the devotion of many of these medical men to their regiments has awakened everlasting gratitude in the hearts of the recipients, and called forth the admiration of every beholder. Though not so directly exposed to the bullets of the enemy, yet to a danger even greater, by constant contact with disease, no class of men in the army deserves so well of their country as the regimental surgeons.

The enthusiasm that fired the soldier in the earlier period of the siege may have somewhat abated, but his determination to do remains unchanged. Many instances of chivalrous daring could be given, but these belong to military history. The health of the command is good; the total of sickness and casualties at present not exceeding 6¾ per cent.

The amount of expenditures during the first eight weeks of the siege was exceedingly liberal, and has secured for the Commission a character for acute discernment and active sympathy with the suffering soldier that will ever be remembered by the army in this department.

It may be remarked that the necessity for these large issues was, in part, occasioned by the accession of troops from the north, in a most destitute and enfeebled condition. All the receipts and issues for the current year are appended.

Within the past six weeks your inspector has visited each of the posts in the department, and has been exceedingly gratified to witness the improved condition of the men, their buoyancy of spirit, intention to keep the field while their country needs their services, and not least, the almost paternal confidence with which they regard the United States Sanitary Commission.

RECEIPTS AND ISSUES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

	Received.	*Issued.*	*In store.*
Cotton shirts	4,900	4,544	356
Woolen "	5,758	3,534	2,224
Cotton drawers	3,163	3,013	150
Cotton flannel drawers	568	406	162
Woolen "	2,676	1,552	1,124
Cotton socks	2,107	1,890	217
Woolen "	3,532	1,271	2,261
Slippers	2,736	2,499	237
Wrappers	1,089	789	300
Handkerchiefs	9,154	6,814	2,340
Outside clothing.....boxes.	6	5	1
Bed-sacks	1,472	1,350	122
Pillow ticks	1,888	1,517	371
Pillows	1,263	1,118	145
Pillow cases	3,206	2,396	610
Sheets	2,859	2,531	328
Blankets	701	435	266
Quilts	712	682	30

		Received.	*Issued.*	*In store.*
Towels		9,776	7,106	2,670
Cushions		2,213	2,023	190
Lint	bbls.	39	32	7
Bandages	"	34	31	3
Old cotton		112	91	21
Groceries, miscellaneous	lbs.	104	104	..
Beef-stock	"	3,629	2,885	744
Dried fruit	bbls.	70	63	7
" apples	"	87	82	5
Green "	"	209	209	..
Ale	"	5	5	..
Crackers	"	392	330½	61½
Sugar, white	"	34½	32½	2
Vinegar	"	36	30	6
Cabbage in currie	"	255	253	2
Onions	"	219	217	2
Pickles	"	119	107	2
Jellies and preserves	boxes.	65	63	2
Domestic wine	"	70	63	7
Foreign "	botts.	619	583	36
Brandy	"	612	542	70
Whisky	"	638	566	72
Berry, Cordial	"	582	526	56
" Shrub	"	324	300	24
Cherry Brandy	"	484	472	12
Blackberry "	"	184	184	..
Lemons	boxes.	40	40	..
Conct. Lemon	"	6	6	..
Cider	cases.	16	15	1
Syrups	boxes.	4	3	1
Ext. Ginger		15	13	2
" "	bbls.	2	2	..
Arrow Root	lbs.	225	182	43
Apple Butter	galls.	60	57	3
Beef-stock	lbs.	3,629	2,885	744
Butter	"	375	355	20
Broma	"	216	192	24
Candles	"	108	81	27
Cheese	"	135	115	20
Cocoa	"	400	359	41
Chocolate	"	1,400	920	480
Coffee	"	1,452	1,071	381
Conds. Milk	"	4,002	3,170	832
Corn Starch	"	2,150	1,366	784
Tapioca	"	100	100	..
Farina	"	2,300	1,436	864
Ext. Ginger	boxes.	15	13	2
" "	barrels.	2	2	..
Cider	cases.	16	15	1
Gelatine	boxes.	10	8	2
Nutmegs	lbs.	2	2	..
Oat Meal	"	150	150	..
Tea	"	560	510	50
Tomatoes	boxes.	107	101	6
" fresh	bushels.	50	50	..
Fish, preserved	lbs.	5,000	5,000	..
Mustard	"	25	22	3
Tamarinds	bbls.	10	10	..
Lemons	boxes.	40	40	..
" Concent.	"	6	6	..
Oranges	bbls.	70	70	..
Hospital utensils	doz.	12	12	..
Alcohol	galls.	10	7	3
Bay Rum and Cologne.	botts.	200	180	20
Fans		2,000	2,000	..
Combs	gross.	10	6	4
Lanterns		26	22	4
Sponges	lbs.	8	5	3
Tin Cups		1,705	1,693	12
" Pans or basins		804	792	12
" Plates		925	920	5
" Spoons		1,000	978	22
Flannel bandages		2,236	1,911	325
Lime and Disf. Agents	bbls.	8	4	4
Pipes	box.	1	1	..
Tobacco, papers	doz.	205	205	..
Reading matter	boxes.	6	6	..
Ice	tons.	390	300	90
Quinine	ozs.	62	29	33
Morphine	"	3	319	53
Chloroform	lbs.	25	22	3
Tannin	ozs.	6	6	..
Liq. Ferri Nitratis	lbs.	55	44	11
Mosquito Netting	pieces.	60	60	..
Eggs	doz.	79	79	..
" Nog	boxes.	2	2	..
Oil Silk		70	36	34
Rubber Cloth		63	35	28
Miscellaneous	boxes.	70	69	1
Hops	barrels.	2	1	1
Fresh garden vegetables		15	15	..
Potatoes		354	354	..

—Dr. Marsh's Report.

THE PENSION AGENCY AT WASHINGTON.

The following is a brief statement of the work of this agency for the part of the year 1863 in which it was in operation, to wit: from February 10 to December 31, both inclusive:

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR PENSIONS MADE OUT AND FILED IN THE GOVERNMENT PENSION OFFICE.

In February	116
" March	121
" April	199
" May	133
" June	87
" July	67
" August	112
" September	120
" October	64
" November	53
" December	69
Total number of claims	1,141

No exact record of the *number of claims* allowed or rejected was kept previous to the first of July. There were but few:

	Allowed.	*Rejected.*
Estimated number decided before July 1st	25	—
No. in July	56	15
" August	59	10
" September	58	19
" October	48	12
" November	98	13
" December	73	31
	417	100
Total number of claims decided	517	
Leaving yet in the Pension Office undecided claims	624	

No record was kept of the amount of correspondence of the office previous to the month of October. Since then it has been as follows:

Number of *circular* letters in which blanks had to be filled for the three months, October, November, and December:	
Inclosed with claims allowed	215
" " rejected	53
To officers asking certificates for claimants	387
Total of *circular* letters	655
Number of letters *written in full:*	
To office claimants	286
To persons having claims elsewhere	14
In reference to back-pay and bounty	25
To Commissioner of Pensions, 8; miscellaneous 50	58
Total letters *written in full*	383
Total number of letters for the three months	1,038

The correspondence was light for the first four or five months, and has gradually increased ever since.

Mr. Bascom, the director, adds in his report:

"During the period covered by this report I was assisted by two clerks; the first, Charles M.

Bliss, of Woodford, Vermont, who came into the office about the first of March, and left for home the last of July; the second, Albert P. Macomber, of Westfield, New York, who came the first of August. The latter, who was a young man of rare worth, continued in the prompt and faithful discharge of the duties devolved upon him until the 15th day of December.

"An attack of small-pox, which began on that day, and was severe from the first, terminated in death, after twelve days, on the 27th. His loss is much lamented by all who formed his acquaintance while in this office."

THE HOSPITALS AT WASHINGTON.

[Extracts from the quarterly report of G. C. Caldwell, Hospital Visitor of Sanitary Commission within defences of Washington.]

During the first two or three weeks after my return, (Nov. 13th,) the wants of the hospitals were large and pressing, owing to the great number of sick and wounded received from the army within a short time. The sick sent up when the army made its last advance, were deposited in Washington hospitals, while such of the wounded in the following battles as were brought from the front, were left at Alexandria.

* * * * * *

During the whole six weeks since my return, woolen under-clothing has been in most constant demand—in some hospitals to be used only in wards, and not to be taken away by men when leaving; in others, to be given to needy men going home or back to their regiments. I have been very emphatic in my stipulations with those to whom I entrust this clothing in the hospitals for distribution, that it shall be given only to NEEDY MEN, such as those having families whom they support, or who have *not* received any *pay* for several months and are destitute of means: and I think that this stipulation has in general been complied with.

* * * * * *

When the hospitals were filled with sick and wounded, four or five weeks ago, there were many pressing calls for head rests that could not be met because there were none in store. In other respects the kind of articles sought for has been about the same as usual. [Our Branches will understand this.]

Since the date of my last report, eight or ten regiments at hospitals have been added to my list; several of them belong to cavalry regiments encamped at Camp Stoneman. Very pressing wants were relieved by my first visits to some of these hospitals.

Since my return to my post I have made over one hundred and ninety visits to the various general, post, and regimental hospitals within my reach, and have left about as many orders to be sent in to the Central Office, for needed articles of food and clothing.

YONKERS SANITARY FAIR.

We regret to have been obliged to postpone until now all notice of the Fair in aid of the Sanitary Commission which is being held in the village of Yonkers, and is to continue through the week ending February 20th. It has been organized in the same way as the fairs which have been got up on a larger scale in the great cities, mainly, we need hardly say, through the exertions of the ladies; and it shows how much may be done, even in small places, by a few earnest and energetic men and women.

Contributions of all kinds have been solicited and accepted — contributions in money; contributions of every production of the farmers, manufacturers, machinists, mechanics, merchants, clothiers, jewelers, milliners, gardeners; contributions of music, decorations, fruits, flowers, and refreshments; contributions or loans for exhibition in the fine arts and sciences—relics, memorials, and curiosities of every sort; contributions of valentines; contributions of lectures, concerts, and dramatic entertainments.

The whole arrangements of the Fair were assigned to committees on finance, rooms and decorations, lectures, music and entertainments, refreshments, fancy work, valentines, &c., war memorials, curiosities, &c., farmers' products, groceries and provisions, paintings and fine arts, mechanics' and useful arts, flowers and fruits, dry goods, books and stationery, and printing —each having duties corresponding to their titles.

WHAT THE SURGEONS SAY OF THE COMMISSION.

[Extract from a letter from GEORGE E. HOLBROOK, Relief Agent Second Army Corps, (POTOMAC,) dated January 24th.]

"One of the medical officers told me that his hospital had been inspected by General —— and wife. The men were so comfortably situated that Mrs. —— inquired how the men could be so comfortable here in the field, where none of these things could be obtained by money, and were not furnished by the Government. She went to the head of one of the men's beds and there found the whole mystery solved:—These things had been furnished by the Sanitary Commission. 'You patronize the Sanitary Commission?' she said. 'Yes,' replied the surgeon, 'I don't know how we could get along without it, for it is always just where we want

it.' Soon after she had gone the surgeon received a number of pillow-cases for his hospital from her—many more, indeed, than he needed, for she herself had brought out quite a stock of goods to furnish the hospital.

"I find among the surgeons who have just returned from furloughs, an increase of praise of the Commission. They say, as a general thing, that while they were at home, the president of this or that society came to them, and asked if the goods sent to this Commission actually did as much good as was represented; and they had taken great pains to give the necessary explanations. One of them told me that while he was at home a president of a Soldier's Aid Society came to him and said that their society had a package and a large box to send to the soldiers, and wanted to know what his opinion was as to the best place to send it. She said, 'some of our members say they will leave the society if the goods are sent to the Sanitary Commission.'

"This surgeon labored nearly all day to set them right. He believed that the goods were sent to the Commission, and that the society still continues in its work of benevolence through the same channel."

OHIO AND THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

Mr. Keck, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported the following as a substitute for Mr. Reber's resolution of thanks to the ladies of Ohio for their patriotic services :

"*Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio.* That we recognize with great satisfaction and pride the unfaltering interest taken by the people of the State in the noble work of contributing to the relief of the sick and wounded soldiers of our army, and acknowledge with gratitude the munificent benevolence of those who have thus remembered the brave men who have consecrated themselves to the work of defending our imperilled country.

"We also gratefully recognize and commend the United States Sanitary Commission and its branches, through whose wide, efficient, and economical agency so large a proportion of the contributions of the State have been distributed to our soldiers; and also the Ladies' Soldiers' Aid Societies, and similar organizations, which have so generously co-operated in this great work."

Bill passed.

A TRIP TO CHATTANOOGA.

How I happened to go to Chattanooga was in this wise: One day there came into camp the Rev. Thomas B. Fox, whom Governor Andrew had sent as a special agent to see Massachusetts regiments and Massachusetts soldiers in hospital, in this division.

The agent kindly asked me to accompany him to Chattanooga, and addressed a request to that effect to our corps commander, which was agreed to.

Mr. Fox and myself tried to go on Tuesday, Dec. 29, but the train did not stop; but we succeeded on Wednesday. The train stops at Decherd for dinner. If anybody invites you to do so, don't you do it. Be warned in time. On the train, the civilian conductor examines your transportation paper, and the military one your military pass. The civil was not military, but the military man was civil. Nevertheless, he insisted on keeping my pass, because he argued that it was not good as far as Stevenson, on the ground that it covered ten miles beyond! I afterwards recovered it, however, by arguments effective and honest but potent. Mr. Fox had no trouble, for he was loaded with all manner of authority from Gen. Grant and a crowd of others.

It was after dark when Stevenson was reached, and it was raining. No passenger car runs further, and one hunts around until he guesses which baggage car (not of the train just arrived) is likely to go. We luckily discovered, at the last moment, the right car. Ten miles on is Bridgeport—a town without a house in it. Darkness, rain, and mud were uncomfortable to total strangers. But we found the Sanitary Commission, God bless it! It was in tents. But what a change! Out of the cold and driving storm, into warm quarters, with a cup of excellent tea speedily made for the writer's racking headache—excellent blankets to sleep in, on a hay-stuffed bed, and with good Dr. Coates as the presiding genius. And other travelers, and suffering soldiers—all taken care of—fed, clothed, wounds dressed, bed furnished at the Home. I tell you people at the North, pile up your supplies, give your money, strengthen the Commission every way. That Commission *saves life.*

From Bridgeport to Chattanooga as yet, we go by boat—the boat was not "in" the next morning, but it came late in the afternoon. It would leave in *three* hours. Transportation papers must be had; and at the office, far away from the boat, they said it would leave in *five* hours. We go, with others, to the boat; now it will leave in the night *some time.* The Sanitary has a Home there, (not the headquarters,) and we go in to wait. Before midnight we find the boat will go in the *morning.* In the various tents of the Commission are *two hundred and fifty* sheltered. The night becomes savagely cold. It is *impossible* to keep warm or sleep. In our tent are men, women, and children—white refugees from Southern tyranny included. For the fun of the thing, just fancy your correspondent chopping wood at half-past two A. M., with the thermometer down out of sight of freezing. But in the group was a pretty little

girl of two years, with parents escaping with only life, from their burning house, fired by Southern brutality.

In the morning, the boat will leave at *eleven*. So we walked back to Sanitary headquarters. It was a bitterly cold day. There is a crowd. Here, a soldier to go North, his arm is dressed, he is fed; thinly clothed—a warm woolen sack is buttoned on him, and the armless sleeve pinned over, and he goes off happy. Another is on crutches, his wound is cared for, he is supplied as the other, and is helped to the cars. Here, a lone woman, all the way from New Jersey, to find her sick husband—mild, patient, grateful, careless of fatigue, with miles yet to go, and she is sheltered, fed, and directed; a good woman, she says she has "found only Christian people all the way." A mother, who has come to see her wounded son, an officer; alas! his corpse has passed her on the road, and she is to return. And so with the multitude. But perhaps as near to the heart as anybody—a little girl of five years, who, with others, had sat in baggage cars all the cold night, (in which time three soldiers had *perished* of cold,) the managers had carelessly unfastened that car, and left it. The little girl, half frozen and crying, had come up with the others to the Sanitary. And now, warmed and fed, the child was happy, and I showed her the picture of another little girl, and we were friends, and when she left they wrapped warm things around her, and pulled socks over her shoes, and a strong helper carried her in his arms to the train. The Sanitary cared for the little girl; it was somebody's child; *mine* of the same age might have been there, and so for the love of a blue-eyed girl at home, I owe just as much debt as anybody, and say again, God bless the Sanitary!

On the boat. It is to leave at twelve. To leave at two. To leave at five. It *did* leave at *seven*. It was the Paint-Rock, a funny old two-story barn with a wheezy tea-kettle arrangement for running it. The weather was horribly cold. The "cabin" was a canvas box on the top of the aforesaid barn. A few inches of it was warmed by an ancient cooking-stove, one door of which had departed. It is sixty-two miles to Chattanooga by river, it is twenty-eight by rail.

On the boat were some delegates of the Christian Commission. They had some private stores of food; but they, in the dearth, shared with all. They made tea—they furnished bread. They did all the good possible. The passengers became their warm friends, from the conduct of these delegates, which was truly Christian. I was glad to meet Rev. Calvin Holman, of New Hampshire—an experienced, judicious, and able minister, and it was pleasant to pass much of the night together in common topics. The Commission opened its doors here to shelter to its utmost capacity; and there the soldier's wife found friends to help her to her husband.

Pulled up the rapids by ropes, or worked up by steam far higher than the Government allowance of pressure; sighting bold Lookout, the scene of gallant combat, around its base—and so, about 9 P. M., we reached Chattanooga. Hospitable doors are open, and friends are found.

Now all this has a purpose. It took four days to get this short distance. Just consider that this is the main way of getting supplies here, and be *patient.—Chaplain Quint, in the Congregationalist.*

A RELIEF AGENT AND HIS MULES "BRINGING UP THE REAR."

One Sunday morning in October, the assistant superintendent of the Sanitary Commission Field Relief Corps, accompanied by the Relief Agent of the 6th Army Corps, was pushing a wagon load of sanitary supplies from Alexandria to the front. His thoughts, bent on the pleasant business of carrying relief to the suffering, were all unmindful of dangers from guerrillas, or any such hostile folk. Suddenly a company of cavalry, drawn up in line of battle, met his eye when about five miles this side of Fairfax. Inquiring the reason, he was ordered to return, and was informed that a party of guerrillas had attacked the cavalry and killed the captain and one private. Obeying the order, he countermarched his mules and headed for Alexandria. Soon the cry of "they come" reached his ear. Vigorous were the blows which the fleet-footed mules received, as they practiced the double-quick towards the fortifications; but soon it was evident that the mules could not, with all their speed, keep up with their more noble brethren, the horses. Then there was a John Gilpin race; the cavalry lead the advance, the assistant superintendent kept the mules "well up" to proper speed, and "*ye galliant relief agent*" guarded the rear. Thus they reached Alexandria, and when next they run may we be there to tell the tale.

WHAT CAN WOMAN DO?

At a meeting of the Union League, of the women of Chester County, held on Thursday, the 23d of July, a member of the League, after making the following preliminary remarks, read, to the great satisfaction and pleasure of all present, the appeal to the women of America, which we give below.

My Friends:—I had intended this afternoon to try and answer the question now so frequently asked—What can woman do in these sad and trying times?—what can woman do to help to save the Nation? The mere fact of this question being asked is, I think, a most encouraging sign. It

shows that we are becoming awake to the great interests and duties of the hour.

The war in which we are engaged is, as you all know, not a war of arms only; it is a war of opinion also.

The force of arms may fail; "the battle is not always to the strong," but the power of right cannot fail. This power is ours. The power of principle, of virtue, of love, of religion. Who can measure its force? To increase this moral power is every woman's duty. Let us then unite to use it. Let it not lie dormant in our hearts. In this time of our country's need, let us not be found wanting. Cast aside all prejudices and selfish indulgences, and speak boldly, fearlessly out, God's holy truths. Be not deaf to the silent pleadings of the down-trodden and oppressed. "Do unto others as ye would that they should do unto you." Buckle on the armor of truth, and with all the strength that is in you, fight with the weapons of all-conquering love the great fight.

The material support which you have given the cause has been beautiful to behold.

We ask of you still more.

We ask for all the moral support and encouragement which every true, loyal, earnest woman has it in her power to give.

For God's sake, for the sake of humanity, for the sake of your country, arouse to the call, and prove yourselves worthy of the name of women, and of Christians.

WHAT CAN WOMAN DO?—Much, every way. Each woman has her appointed work in these days, and God helping her, can nobly fulfill it. For these are strong, earnest days, and woe to the woman or man who stands idly gazing by the highway, while the chariot wheels of destiny roll on to their grand fulfillment.

The roar, and rush, and smoke of battle is around us; our first morning thoughts are high hopes this day right may have might; our latest waking prayers are for those known and unknown, whose weary heads are pillowed only on mother earth's cold breast, whose unquiet slumbers Heaven's canopies and the stars watch. But you and I sit still at home, oh! women and girls of America, under the same home roofs, beside the same sheltered hearthstones as before this "cruel war" began. To pull lint and make pillow cases is not the noblest work for us; noble, I grant you, and necessary, but not the only work. Neither are prayers all the soldiers ask for. We must, we do pray for them in an exceeding agony of supplication, asking the all-present God to care for those gone so far from our care, to shield those so fearfully exposed, to save our best and dearest.

And from our knees we must rise with new strength, and though through tears our eyes may be dim, and the lips that smile may be cold and white, we must look and speak noble words of encouragement, saying—Go, though shells fall and cannons roar. Go for God and the right. He will shelter and save though the salvation may be in another world than this, though the shelter may be a nameless grave, beside an unknown tree. We must let them go—our *fathers, husbands, brothers, lovers, sons* Does it seem too hard? Are we only weak and loving, and so leave heavier burdens to be borne by our brave defenders? Our weakness needs their strength; strengthen we then their hands by our words, and acts, and prayers.

Make a true man to feel that he is most worthy a true woman's regard when he most unselfishly forgets all but the great cause of this day and hour.

It is one man's duty to stay at home as clearly as it is another's to go forth. BOTH can do duty and march onward, conquering and to conquer. Fighting with moral as well as material weapons for God's great cause—Freedom! Does this word mean freedom for you and for me, and not for women with darker skins, but as tender hearts? Oh! women, with mothers and sisters, and children, let us not see dimly, and so lose our slain in this noble strife.

Behold the auroral lights of victory breaking over the eastern hill. Hearken, from the far Judean plains comes the voice of Him who spake as never man spake. Through and over the strife and weariness of long centuries, comes to me with its just force and strength, the ever new and all-comforting utterance—"I come to preach deliverance to the captive, to set at liberty them that are bruised."

Shall you and I fail to do our part in this holy work? We will not. Sacred to us shall be our country. Sacred each soldier fighting for her. Sacred the truths for which they fight. No word, treasonable or traitorous, shall be breathed in our ears, or uttered under our roof. Let no sneers at men or measures make us forget WHY this strife rages. Destroy a seditious pamphlet. Burn a rebellious paper. Scorch with fire of eye and glance all malcontents, who cannot look beyond the narrow, paltry range of party and of self. Have no fellowship with those who are content to sit still and question the ultimate success of our arms. These are exceptional days, exceptional vices seem to rage. Let each woman show her love of loyalty, her devotion to country, her readiness to do and give all for the cause.

Are honor and honesty, purity and patriotism all to die? and we only of all nations lift no promise to the future? "To be judged by the event is the inexorable law of history."

We are living and producing events each day. Shall not each day see us with words

of mingled pathos and strength, holding up to view the noble end for which the fight is fought. *True freedom—real liberty.* For these let us live—for these be willing to die.

Then shall treason and traitors cease, and men learn to remember the meaning of their prayers, when they ask—"From all sedition, privy conspiracy, and rebellion, good Lord, deliver us." Too many hearts never utter this petition; too many throb coldly for their country, beleagured, sore beset; too many are more ready to cavil and carp, than to do and die. Put before all such, before all you can influence, the great ends, God's designs, to work out by this purifying trial.

Our iniquities, as a nation, have been heaped up abominations; see to it that we receive not amiss the scourge our sins deserve. Dismayed, ashamed, afraid, I listen to too many who cry "peace, on good terms it may be, but in any case peace." I hear of *falling stocks* and *conscription*, and habeas corpus, till I wonder at the Divine patience. It is as if people gazed at the glimmer of a night lamp, and clamored of darkness, while all about the glad, great sunshine lay without. I hear women, otherwise good and earnest, say, "Perish all things, but my heart's treasures cannot go." Do we need, you and I, born to the fair heritage of this fairest land, be told the grand utterance of old, which even heathens acted on, "Blessed and glorious is it to die for one's country." Our country needs us—let us not fail it. From farm house and school room, from city home and village streets, let us rise mightily. We do not know our influence. Had Eve not been dearer than God, would Adam have broken the primal law? Use nobly the God-given power. Give moral aid, and material help and prayers, and cries to Heaven, and soon our banners shall wave in victorious breezes. Send forth, if need be, each woman of us all our best and dearest, though our heart's blood go with them. They may come back to us triumphant, jubilant, laurel-crowned. Or from fever ward, and weary hospital bed, they, returning, totter into our outstretched arms. Or never more may they come again. Hope may fail, expectation die, and suspense end. The familiar foot-fall, the warm hand-clasp, the loving eyes, the gentle speech are gone. And to us left behind no flower is ever fragrant again, no sunset ever glorious, no moonlight soft. But

"Death's consummation crowns completed life."

The sun shines, and the rain falls on the nameless grave. God's help is for all our deeds. The outstretched arms from the cross embrace us all. Very near are the surging waves of the dark river. On the other side is only light. I hear the divine melody of the voice that calls—"Come unto me all ye that are weary, and I will give you rest." Rest. Only to be won after strife for God's great purposes. Put a living action into this million-fold movement, this tossing sea of starry flags. "The day is darkest before the dawn." That morning dawns when wars and battles over, the perfect Light of Peace shall flood the world immortal.

"We women wait, and watch, and pray,
With thrilling pulse from day to day,
Then fold our useless hands and say;
One way is left—to aid, to speak
The word that flushes all the cheek.

Our God is here; his finger shines
Along our land in fiery lines;
Arise! obey the stern command,
Come forth! 'tis Freedom bids you stand,
Go, strike for God and Fatherland."

When this League was organized in April, 1863, a paper was read by Mrs. Heister explanatory of its objects, the foremost amongst which was, of course, the use of such influence as women possess for the diffusion and encouragement amongst all classes of the community of a sound and healthy feeling of attachment to the Government and the laws. And she added:

"And lastly, we propose to give our unceasing efforts for the support, encouragement, and comfort of our soldiers in the field and in the hospital. As the President of the Sanitary Commission said in one of his addresses, 'So long as the men fight, the women must knit and sew.'

"Your sympathy has ever been, and still is I am sure, with our sick and wounded soldiers; for who are these soldiers but our nearest and dearest kindred and friends? The tokens of affection which we send to them not only evince our sympathy in their sufferings and privations, but give to them great moral support and encouragements, and their claims to our continued efforts in their behalf will not, cannot, must not cease, until this fearful rebellion be crushed, and peace proclaimed.

RELIEF WORK UNDER A FLAG OF TRUCE.

Mr. John Stevens, Jr., one of our Relief Agents in the Southwest, writes from New Iberia:

I have given out the larger portion of my stock, and am now packed up ready to leave for Franklin to-morrow, if possible. I have determined to make this move after consultation with those who know best here. There will be no need of me for a few days at least, and I can easily return if necessary. Nearly all the sick have already been sent from the general hospital. When the vegetables and pickles arrive I wish you would advise me, for they are needed here, although there is plenty of fresh meat.

On Christmas, at the invitation of Dr. Sanger

and Col. Molyneux, I went out with a flag of truce for the exchange of prisoners, taking supplies for the sick. An ambulance for chests, and a horse was placed at my disposal. There was quite a large party of officers, making it very agreeable. We took out some two hundred and fifty rebels, and received seven hundred of our own men. They were a most forlorn-looking set of men. Covered with rags and dirt, many of them foot-sore and worn out by the long march, hardly one with a whole pair of shoes, they had not even their nakedness covered. I had punch, coffee, and beef stock made for the sick, who took it greedily and seemed refreshed. The rebel officers thought the Sanitary Commission was "quite an institution;" said they had heard of it before.

NOTES ON NURSING.

NOISE.

Every thing you do in a patient's room, after he is "put up" for the night, increases tenfold the risk of his having a bad night. But, if you rouse him up after he has fallen asleep, you do not risk, you secure him a bad night.

One hint I would give to all who attend or visit the sick, to all who have to pronounce an opinion on sickness or its progress. Come back and look at your patient *after* he has had an hour's animated conversation with you. It is the best test of his real state we know. But never pronounce upon him from merely seeing what he does, or how he looks, during such a conversation. Learn also carefully and exactly, if you can, how he passed the night after it.

People rarely, if ever, faint while making an exertion. It is after it is over. Indeed, almost every effect of over-exertion appears after, not during such exertion. It is the highest folly to judge of the sick, as is so often done, when you see them merely during a period of excitement. People have very often died of that which, it has been proclaimed at the time, has "done them no harm."

As an old experienced nurse, I do most earnestly deprecate all such careless words. I have known patients delirious all night, after seeing a visitor who called them "better," thought they "only wanted a little amusement," and who came again, saying, "I hope you were not the worse for my visit," neither waiting for an answer nor even looking at the case. No real patient will ever say, "Yes, but I was a great deal the worse."

It is not, however, either death or delirium of which, in these cases, there is most danger to the patient. Unperceived consequences are far more likely to ensue. *You* will have impunity—the poor patient will *not*. That is, the patient will suffer, although neither he nor the inflicter of the injury will attribute it to its real cause. It will not be directly traceable, except by a careful observant nurse. The patient will often not even mention what has done him most harm.

Remember never to lean against, sit upon, or unnecessarily shake, or even touch the bed in which a patient lies. This is invariably a painful annoyance. If you shake the chair on which he sits, he has a point by which to steady himself, in his feet. But on a bed or sofa, he is entirely at your mercy, and he feels every jar you give him all through him.

In all that we have said, both here and elsewhere, let it be distinctly understood that we are not speaking of hypochondriacs. To distinguish between real and fancied disease forms an important branch of the education of a nurse. To manage fancy patients forms an important branch of her duties. But the nursing which real and that which fancied patients require is of different, or rather of opposite, character. And the latter will not be spoken of here. Indeed, many of the symptoms which are here mentioned are those which distinguish real from fancied disease.

It is true that hypochondriacs very often do that behind a nurse's back which they would not do before her face. Many such I have had as patients who scarcely ate any thing at their regular meals; but if you concealed food for them in a drawer, they would take it at night or in secret. But this is from quite a different motive. They do it from the wish to conceal. Whereas the real patient will often boast to his nurse or doctor, if these do not shake their heads at him, of how much he has done, or eaten, or walked.—*Miss Nightingale.*

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1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

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F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
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C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clarke, Providence, R. I.
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Henry W. Bellows, D.D.
George T. Strong.
William H. Van Buren, M.D.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D.
C. R. Agnew, M.D.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 22 Summer Street, Boston, Mass.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, New York.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 4th Street, Pittsburg, Penn.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, Ohio.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

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General Superintendent, Rev. F. N. Knapp, Washington, D. C. Chief Assistant, J. B. Abbott.

Soldiers' Home, near Baltimore Railroad Depot, Washington, D. C.

Lodge No. 4, H Street, between 13th and 14th Streets.

Lodge No. 5, Maryland Avenue, near Railroad Station.

Nurses' Home, Washington, D. C.

Soldiers' Home, Third Street, east of Broadway, Cincinnati, Ohio—Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Sup't.

Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill.—C. N. Shipman, Sup't and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky.—James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn.—L. Crane, Sup't and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio———, Sup't.

Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio—Clark Warren, Sup't and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn.—C.W. Christy, Sup't and Relief Agent.

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Total Amount of Premiums	3,252,256 76
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Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies	441,206 49
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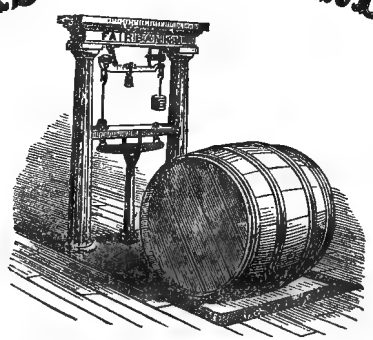
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CONTENTS OF JANUARY NUMBER.

ART. I. Life of William H. Prescott.
II. The Bible and Slavery.
III. The Ambulance System.
IV. The Bibliotheca Sacra.
V. Immorality in Politics.
VI. The Early Life of Gov. Winthrop.
VII. The Sanitary Commission.
VIII. Renan's Life of Jesus.
IX. The President's Policy.
X. Critical Notices.

EXTRACTS FROM NOTICES.

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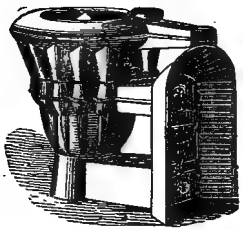
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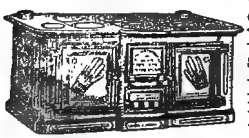


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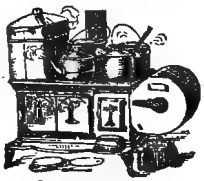


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SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. NEW YORK, MARCH 1, 1864. No. 9.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

N. B.—Attention is requested to the extract from the minutes of the Standing Committee, inserted on page 280.

THE USE OF THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

CLEVELAND, *February 3d*, 1864.

COL. CHAS. WHITTLESEY:

DEAR SIR—In your recent visit to Chattanooga, you had an opportunity of seeing something of the workings of the Sanitary Commission in the army of Gen. Grant and, from your extensive military experience, are specially qualified to judge of the value of that work to the soldier. May I ask you, therefore, and especially to answer, as far as you can conveniently do so, the following questions upon which the public desire and deserve the most ample and accurate information.

1st. Does the benevolence of the people, as expressed in the contributions of Hospital Stores, made through the Sanitary Commission, supply a real and important want in the Army?

2d. In the work done by the other Agencies of the Commission, its SOLDIERS' HOMES, its HOSPITAL CARS, its HOSPITAL DIRECTORY, &c., are they of such necessity, or mercy, as to render them worthy of approbation and support?

3d. Are the methods pursued in the business of the Commission in the Western Department, in your judgment, judicious and economical?

Yours, respectfully,

J. S. NEWBERRY.

CLEVELAND, *February 4th*, 1864.

DOCTOR J. S. NEWBERRY, *Assistant Secretary Sanitary Commission:*

DEAR SIR—When your note of yesterday was handed me, I was engaged in writing a communication to the Executive of the State, embracing, by his request, nearly the same topics which you mention. As the whole subject directly concerns the public, I do not think there will be any objections to my giving you a transcript of a part of my remarks already written, as a reply, in part, to your inquiries. In reference to the value of what are called Sanitary Supplies, I cannot do better than to quote the words of several Surgeons, in charge of hospitals. Without having had any previous intercourse with the Medical Staff on the line from Louisville to the front, I expected to find a want of cordiality between them and the agents of States and benevolent societies, and, therefore, questioned the Surgeons and other officers of the army on the subject of these extra official efforts. Dr. McClure, in charge of Hospital No. 17, Nashville, replied as follows: "The Sanitary is indispensable to us. At Stone River we could not have done at all without the vegetables, meats, bandages, and clothing pushed forward by them."

Dr. Warriner, in charge of the Field Hospital, Bridgeport, said: "Most of the fruit sent forward is poorly put up, and so much is lost that it would be better to use it in the rear, and not burden the transportation with it while it is so difficult, or

at least, the fruit should be re-canned before it is sent to the front. Dried fruit is far preferable. Pickles and butter are greatly needed. The Sanitary supplies are indispensable to us."

Dr. N. H. Townsend, of Lorain County, Ohio, one of the Medical Inspectors of the Army, told me that, "In Gen. Banks' Department, Sanitary supplies were always ahead of the regular hospital supplies, on the field of battle. They are indispensable. Onions, pickles and butter are needed, more particularly onions. Grated horse-radish, put up in small cans, with vinegar, is a most excellent thing, and so is cheese. Clean clothing, especially underclothing, is of the highest importance, after a battle. It cannot be supplied through the regular channels. Men are brought from the field, dirty and wet; their clothes saturated with blood, which should at once be stripped, or cut off them, and thrown away. For both sick and convalescents, extra food—something more than regular hospital supplies are necessary to save life. Small wounds, gangrene, scorbutic sores appear, and the stomach becomes torpid, all for want of a proper variety of food. It is rather medicine than nutriment, and is of more consequence than either attendance or medicine."

Dr. H. S. Hewitt, Medical Director at Chattanooga, said: "Cranberries in cans, cider, dried apples and peaches, also brandy peaches, are the best kind of extra hospital supplies. Blackberry cordial is of the utmost consequence in diarrhœa. Dried blackberries are not as good. [Dr. Hoven recommends that blackberry cordial be put up in small, strong bottles of six or eight ounces, so that the soldier may carry it in his pocket.] Without the Sanitary Commission we should not be able to get stimulants sufficient for our hospital patients."

Capt. Johnson, Quartermaster of the 41st Ohio Volunteers, remarked that, "The lives of men could be saved here every day if they could have the food they crave when they are sick. It is the want of variety that causes scorbutic sores. The few Sanitary supplies we are able to get are of the utmost value to us."

Other Surgeons and officers gave similar statements, but these are the only ones whose expressions were noted in my memoranda at the time.

Dr. Harlow, Surgeon of the Officers' Hospital at Chattanooga, and Dr. Barnum, of the Hospital Train, expressed themselves in a similar manner.

Gen. Grant, Gen. Rosecrans, Gen. R. W. Johnson, and Gen. Turchin, were quite free and emphatic in expressing the same sentiments.

An officer of the 141st New York Regiment is reported to have said that they had not drawn a full vegetable ration for a year, and that scurvy was becoming common among his men.

Gen. Hooker begged of the Sanitary Agent an order for some potatoes which were at Bridgeport, as a vital necessity to check the progress of scurvy in his command. He received an order for eight barrels, and sent teams for them at once.

Gen. Turchin was still more importunate, having fifteen cases of scurvy in his brigade, and fifty more showing signs of it, as will appear by a copy of his letter, herewith.

"I saw men who were far gone with this disease begging for a raw potato, or an onion, as though they were the most precious gifts in the World. I met no officer of the Army or Surgeon who expressed themselves otherwise than in favor of the plan of extra relief for our men. Among the soldiers in camp I was frequently met with the reply, "WE GET NONE OF THESE THINGS," which is, no doubt, true. Around Chattanooga, since the battle of Chicamauga, in September, until the 15th of January, 1864, the Army, sick and well, has been short of the most necessary supplies. The sick could not be safely removed, nor could their most absolute wants be fully met for want of transportation; while those IN hospital were dying for want of extra Sanitary supplies, those who are OUT of hospital could scarcely expect luxuries to be delivered to them."

The above extract does not entirely cover the ground of your inquiries, but I will reply more fully to them in the course of a few days.

Yours, respectfully and truly,

CHAS. WHITTLESEY.

LIFE IN A HOSPITAL TRAIN.

Owing to the very great distance which the Army of the Cumberland has penetrated the country of the enemy during the present year, leaving at times its hospital, as well as commissary depots, far in the rear, the work of removing the sick and wounded has assumed proportions before unknown. Each mile of advance, while it has increased the number of patients, has also in an almost equal degree, heightened the difficulty of their removal. The distance being too great for wagon transportation, the railroads being either destroyed by the enemy on their retreat, or in so worn out a condition as to render the work of destruction unnecessary, attacks being frequent by guerrilla bands, from these and other causes, the mere feeding of the army of well men became a gigantic problem, the solution of which seemed next to impossible. The care of the sick was hardly to be added to its already overwhelming intricacies.

Still, they have not been sacrificed to the necessities of the well and the demands of military strategy and activity. Something of the same self-sacrifice and charity that have labored and lavished money for them at home, has kept company with them in their suffering and weakness. Not all has been done for them that could have been wished, but much more than might have been expected under such trying circumstances. No fame follows the exertions of the surgeon; no promotion heralds his worth to the world. But the true history of the progress of the army would crown many a surgeon, young and old, with honors equal to those of much more prominent officers.

To meet the wants of the service, in the transportation of the sick and wounded, various plans have been tried, both by the Government and the Commission. Hospital boats have been used on the Cumberland with indifferent success. Statistics show in all cases unfavorable results, and in some the mortality has been fearful, reaching ten per cent. of the total shipment in a three days' trip.

Probably most of this can be attributed to the crowded condition of the boats, the slender protection against change of temperature, and the invariable dampness of the cabin. But even under the best of circumstances, "grave cases do not do well," said a distinguished Surgeon of New York. Perhaps the constant jarring, gentle though it be, of the machinery for the length of time required by a journey on our crooked western rivers, may have much to do with it.

Then, too, the seeds of malarious disease are sown profusely, to develop in due time, and infectious diseases have a most favorable opportunity to deposit their poison. The report of Surgeon Brinton to the Surgeon General on hospital gangrene at Louisville, gives some interesting remarks on this point. He says:

"The development of this disease on the route seems to have been owing to the fact that the transportation of the wounded was effected by means of crowded and ill-ventilated boats, and that the trips by the Cumberland and Ohio Rivers frequently occupy several days. During this time these patients who had already undergone much suffering, were exposed to all the influences most apt to engender this disease. In contrast with this fact, it was found that as soon as the Louisville and Nashville Railroad was opened so that the wounded could be conveyed from city to city in one day, all importation of gangrenous sores into Louisville ceased. The development of hospital gangrene during the boat transportation is a noticeable fact, and is strikingly analagous with the same phenomena observed among our paroled wounded prisoners from Richmond, received into the Annapolis General Hospital some months since.

A Hospital Train was fitted up in this department by the Commission, in October, 1862, and although rude in its accommodations, such satisfactory results were attained, that a second and third were added, and the cooking arrangements somewhat improved. These cars, by one casualty and another, have all been rendered unsuitable, and given place to more perfect and substantial ones. At present, there are in use nine hospital cars—seven on the Chattanooga road, under the charge of Dr. Myers, Surgeon U. S. V., and two under my own immediate supervision on the Louisville Road,

The train on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, consists of one passenger, one mail, three box, and three hospital cars. The passenger coach is kept scrupulously neat, for the accommodation of patients alone, and by a special arrangement of seats, can be changed in a few moments to a bed-car, if necessary, which, however, cannot often occur, as every load of sick will contain some who would prefer to sit.

The mail car is fitted up for store room, office, and kitchen. The store room is provided with drawers for all the smaller supplies, locker for bread, refrigerator for meat, ice box, water casks, &c. Indeed, there is room for one thousand rations, beside some Sanitary stores, with space to spare.

The office is neatly fitted up. The kitchen occupies the place of the baggage-room, where may be found several disciples of the culinary

art, always busy, and although laboring under difficulty, preparing articles of diet which would do honor to many of the best arranged hospitals. This car is one of the trophies won by the immortal Mitchell in his successful dash on Huntsville, in 1862.

The two box cars, each containing twenty-four beds, arranged during a pressing necessity, last fall, are entirely unfit for the purpose, being destitute of ventilators, means of heating, and without proper springs. Any man who could ride in one of these beds safely, is able to sit up in a passenger-coach, and the removal of sick men in them would be simply murderous. I am happy to say that these cars are for the future to be used for the transportation of Sanitary and hospital supplies, in connection with the Hospital Train.

The three new hospital cars seem to meet the demand exactly, combining all possible freedom of motion, the least jar, good ventilation, a comfortable degree of warmth, and expedition in loading and unloading.

Each car contains twenty-four stretchers hung on uprights by heavy rubber bands. The stretchers can be removed from the car without disturbing the occupant, There are also seats for those who wish to sit up, and a sofa for the Surgeon or attendant, beneath which is a wardrobe and drawers for books, newspapers, &c. Opposite the sofa, is a kitchen only six feet by three, yet it contains water-tank, wash-basin, sink for washing dishes, cupboards for stores and dishes, and two large lamps heating copper-boilers, by which soup, coffee, tea, &c., may be quickly and nicely prepared.

The "bumper" is surrounded by a stiff spring, which prevents the communication of the jar when the motion is suddenly stopped or applied. The whole interior is fitted up in a style superior to any cars in use in the Northwest.

Articles of clothing are kept constantly on the train to be given to those needing them, and sanitary stores of every character are liberally supplied.

Patients speak in the highest terms, and with the deepest feeling, of the kindest and efficiency of Dr. Myers.

Trips are made tri-weekly from Bridgeport for hospital patients. Large numbers of discharged and furloughed soldiers are carried, but many more of the latter come by passenger and box cars.

On the Louisville Road the accommodations are much the same as those just mentioned. The arrangements for cooking are excellent, and much improved during the last month, a fine range having been substituted for the stove before used. The food prepared is of good quality; and besides Government rations, many delicacies—such as are comprised in the stores of the Commission—are issued in any amount required.

Since my connection with the Hospital Train, I have removed 20,472 patients, with the loss of only one man, who was removed contrary to the wish of his Surgeon, and my own judgment, at his earnest desire to "die at home."

—

It now remains to give the reader some idea of the work which has been done in these trains.

On the 17th of October, 1862, the Sanitary Agent of Illinois fitted up two cars for use on the Lebanon Branch of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, to assist in the removal of the sufferers in the battle of Perrysville. After being used a little more than one month, they were transferred to the United States Sanitary Commission, which has since that time had the superintendence of the removal of sick and wounded in this department. One of them was an old smoking and baggage car, the baggage room being fitted up with eighteen bunks, while the seats in the other part remained as before. The other was an old baggage car stolen by the rebels from the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, and recaptured by the lamented General Mitchell at Huntsville. This contained the same number of bunks, the remainder of the room being taken up with stores, baggage and a box-stove. As these cars were intended for short trips only, no provision was made for cooking food beyond the boiling of a gallon or two of coffee in case of an emergency. Another baggage car was added in March.

Until the breaking of the railroad by Morgan, which occurred during the battle of Stone River, these cars were used occasionally on the Lebanon Branch, and then on the main stem to Bowling Green. The interruption of the railroad to Louisville, and the rapid accumulation of patients at Nashville, rendered transportation by the Cumberland necessary, but on the re-opening of the railroad on February 3d, 1863, river transportation was given up, and it has not been resorted to again.

My observation begins early in March. I have prepared some statistics, but many of my notes of cases and other interesting memoranda were lost in the confusion following the battle of Chicamauga. For some time after the battle, you will remember, I was on general duty in Chattanooga.

The following table will give some idea of the magnitude of the work in which I have been engaged, and in which the Sani-

tary Commission has been so much interested:

NUMBER OF SICK AND WOUNDED PASSENGERS ON THE HOSPITAL TRAIN, LOUISVILLE AND NASHVILLE RAILROAD.

	Hospital cases.	Furloughed and discharged.
Up to May 1st, 1863	5,254	1,000
May	919	unknown.
June	1,983	661
July	698	unknown.
August	256	35
September	400	43
October	1,230	593
November	1,075	630
December	65	2,015
	11,880	4,977
	4,977	
Total	16,857	

NUMBER OF SICK AND WOUNDED PASSENGERS ON THE HOSPITAL TRAIN, NASHVILLE AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD.

Up to May 1st, 1863	547
During May	307
June	668
August	350
September	783
October	960
Total	3,615
On Louisville and Nashville Railroad	16,857
On Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad	3,615
Total	20,472

Since October, my duties have been confined to the transportation of the sick and wounded on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. The distance between the cities is 185 miles, a long and often very tedious journey for many of my patients. During the year, however, but two have died on the Hospital Train, both being cases of extreme exhaustion from chronic diarrhœa and, indeed, the friends of one man assumed the responsibility of his removal and subsequent medical treatment.

In the transportation of the sick we have not been without some extraordinary adventures. Beside sickness and wounds, we have had to contend with rebels. On April 10th, while bringing up sick from Murfreesboro' to Nashville in a hospital car attached to the passenger train, we were attacked at Antioch Station, eleven miles out, by the rebels, who had drawn the spikes from the track, and thus thrown the train off. The rebels, who were in a wood above us, began at once to fire upon the train. The bullets mostly struck the roofs of the cars and rebounded, reminding us, who were still within, of an attic room in a severe hailstorm. The small guard of forty were soon overpowered and fled, leaving sixteen of their number on the ground, either dead or severely wounded. The rebels now made a rush for the cars, and began robbing the passengers of money, watches and clothing. Several Tennesseeans made a dash at our car, shouting, "Get out of there, you d——d Yankees," and flourishing their pistols and knives in our faces, but were immediately driven off by the Eighth Texas, who formed a portion of the attacking party. These men showed the greatest consideration, handling our sick and wounded as tenderly as brothers could. They not only left me and my attendants undisturbed, but did not insist on paroling any of our patients who were with us. But several sick men, who left the cars at the first onset, were carried off with the other passengers. If our car had been separated from the others, I think that we should not have been disturbed, but it was impossible to burn the train without destroying it. None of my patients were injured. The passengers were marched away, the cars fired, the booty collected, and the plunderers off again, as if by magic, leaving myself and my attendants in possession of the field.

We immediately set to work, giving the wounded a preliminary dressing, collecting the scattered, and opening McCann's house as a hospital. We were relieved about 3 A. M., by a special train sent from Nashville for us, and brought in all of our patients not comfortably provided for, who could be moved, several bushels of mail matter, and the locomotive. At 7 A. M., I left Nashville for Louisville with a train of three hundred patients.

Early in May the remaining two old hospital cars were destroyed by accident at Brooks' Station, on the Louisville Railroad, and as but three new ones had been added, we were seriously troubled to remove men during this and the following month.

I make several extracts from my report of August 1st.

An advance of the Army of the Cumberland had been determined on, May 19th, and a general removal of the sick to the rear commenced. First, the hospitals at Murfreesboro' except the general field hospital, which was commanded by the guns of the fortification, and, in fact, almost within them, were discontinued, and the patients removed to the latter, which was filled to its utmost capacity. Then, too, the hospitals at Lavergne, Brentwood, and Franklin were broken up, the patients being removed to Nashville. The regimental hospitals of our right wing soon followed on the massing of that part of our Army at Triune.

The last of the patients were received while the attack on Franklin, by Van Dorn, was going on, resulting in the capture of the town by him, and its re-capture by our forces. We had but one hour's start of the attacking party, but were able to remove every sick and wounded man.

To add to our embarrassments, the regimental hospitals of our main body were

beginning to be broken up, commencing with those of the cavalry. The field hospital, at Murfreesboro', already overcrowded, was the only depot for the constantly accumulating mass of suffering humanity.

As our kitchen car, and most of the train had been either destroyed, or so badly injured as to be unsafe, by request of the Medical Director, Dr. Thurston, I made application to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad for additional means of transportation. Mr. Marshall, the Superintendent, was only able to give me a train of box cars. These, Dr. Thurston, with his accustomed care for the sick, declined to use, saying that, "Cars which would be uncomfortable for a well man, must be injurious to a sick one." But, after exhausting every other means, on June 6th, when a general engagement was possible any day, and probably would happen soon, a train of new freight cars were selected, beds placed in them, the patients carefully chosen by the Surgeons of the hospitals, whence they were transferred, and none sent unless they seemed able to endure the journey. Of these, the worst cases were placed in the ambulance car, with a few discharged men, who had long been awaiting transportation.

A short time previous to this, Adams' Express Company had put on a new train, for the transportation of Army freight. The cars were new and clean, had stiff India-rubber springs, rode easily, and except as to ventilation, were as comfortable as the first-class passenger coaches. Through the assistance of Col. Anderson, Military Superintendent of Railroads, we obtained the use of them. We placed straw beds in them, on which we directed the men to spread their blankets, and furnished comforts to those who had none. We added the articles of prime necessity, for an ordinary hospital ward, which, with the beds, &c., were returned in the ambulance car. We were able to move one hundred men daily.

In addition to the cooked rations, which the men brought, the store rooms of the Commission were laid under contribution, and any proper articles of diet taken which could be prepared, without fire. On our arrival at Bowling Green, hot coffee in large quantities, and toast for those who needed it, having been ordered on the previous trip, were furnished immediately, and the "twenty minutes for breakfast" spent in attending on those who needed extra care.

Unless we had cases of unusual severity I came up only to Mumfordsville. By this time the men had dined, their wounds had been dressed, and but little remained to be done beyond the common services of a nurse. If a medical officer was with us, the men were left in his charge; if not, with some attendants in whom confidence could be placed, and I returned with the down train to Nashville. Here, the necessary arrangements for the next days' trip were made by 9 P. M., between which time and midnight the men were all received, and all comfortably cared for by 3 A. M., our time for setting out.

On the first of August four additional cars were fitted up for temporary use, and on October 1st, the new hospital cars were furnished. These are built on the same plans as those used between Washington and New York, with such modifications as the tunnel and the difference in the width of track rendered necessary. The draw-bar which connects the cars together, is surrounded by a stiff, spiral spring, which prevents any sudden jerk. Double springs are under the trucks, and in addition the elliptic spring bar on the side to guard against lateral motion. Each car contains twenty-four stretchers, hung by stout rubber bands between two uprights. The stretchers are supplied with hair pillows and comforts, which can be easily renovated. They can be removed from the car, receive the patients, be re-placed, and again bear them to the hospitals when the journey is completed. The rubber bands prevent all shock and jolting, and communicate a gentle motion, which usually lulls the patient to sleep.

Perhaps I can give our friends at home the best idea of our work by describing that of a single day:

Yesterday, for instance, I arrived at Nashville on the return trip about midnight, being delayed by an accident. After "making up my train," receiving my clerk's report, and my orders for the morrow from the Medical Director, I rolled up in my blanket for a nap. But 5 A. M., soon came, and with it the yell of a regiment of veteran volunteers going home on furlough. Such a yell! Enough to raise the dead, and it did raise my "seven sleepers," who were soon at work, building fires, preparing the cars, and making breakfast for themselves and the men. In another hour the platform of the depot is covered with soldiers from the front, officers on leave of absence, citizens and camp-followers. The veterans are assigned to cars by themselves, and are jolly and noisy. The train is so long that it is divided into various parts, standing on different tracks. Ambulances loaded with the sick from the hospitals and Soldiers' Home pour in, and are stopped and examined by my steward, and if the occupants are found to be "all right," are furnished with checks, which admit them to the cars. If any doubtful cases arise, they are told to report to me at the cars, where we are busy putting in beds, assisting the feeble and disabled to seats, and looking after their baggage.

All may have gone well thus far, but at 6 o'clock the ambulance master brings us his list, which calls for 200 men, while my steward has given out but 180 checks. Some Jehu of a driver, partaking of the nature of the beast he lashes, has managed to deposit his load of men at the wrong platform. Two of us at once push through the crowd, inquiring of every soldier, "Where did you come from?" "Where are you going?" "Let me see your papers." The soldiers think it none of our business, and, very naturally, answer with emphatic curses. We secure, however, perhaps, a dozen of the twenty missing men.

The ticket office is now opened, and there is a great rush for tickets. About 200 furloughed men are marched down from the "Home" and hospitals, the guard clearing the way for them, and they are soon comfortably seated. As the passenger coaches will accommodate but 400 of the 600 waiting for a chance, the pressure for admission is tremendous. The papers of military men are examined, and they pass in. A sutler, who will take no refusal from the agent to sell a citizen a ticket, makes an attempt to dodge in, but is met with cold steel; while an old man, who is carrying home the remains of his son who has died in hospital, is told, "You can't get on the train, *if I see you.*" And yet the good old man is found at night safe at Louisville. The sharpest eyes will wink.

Only three minutes to seven. Nearly all the blue coats are aboard. My missing eight stragglers are found, helpless as lost children, in some out-of-the-way corner, and put on just as we leave.

Most of the men have had breakfast. The rest are provided with coffee, toast, crackers and cheese. Then, there are patients to examine and to prescribe for, wounds to dress, questions to answer, transportation to manage, &c., &c. This takes up the first three hours, till we arrive at Bowling Green. Here we are met by inevitable boys, with their white oak pies and unsavory chicken, with which they attempt to supply the men. My diarrhœa patients seem to have an unnatural craving for the wretched stuff. The boys are ordered off, but *will* return. I tell the veterans in cars ahead to confiscate any thing that attempts to pass. The pie-boys do not take the hint, are too venturesome, and so lose all in the handsome charge of the ready veterans. On one occasion they actually bagged a darkey, with his pies, who was last heard of somewhere in Ohio, stoutly asserting that he was "'fisticated by the sojers."

Each man is looked to hourly. As dinner-time approaches, bread is cut and buttered, meat sliced, pickles and apples got out, and, from the large tank of boiling water, tea and soup are prepared by the barrel. Each man is furnished with plate, cup, and spoon, the solid food is distributed, and the moment the train stops the tea and soup are served out, followed, perhaps, by ale and fruit. Those who need special diet are carefully attended to.

The furloughed men in the passenger train are next looked after and fed. Their destination is ascertained, and ambulances telegraphed for to carry those who wish to go on without stopping, to the several railroad depots in the city, New Albany, and Jeffersonville. Those too ill to travel further will be sent to hospital, while the others will be directed to the Soldiers' Home.

When we arrive at Louisville, about 5 o'clock, those of my patients able to walk proceed at once to the ambulances. The sickest and disabled are placed on handcarts and rolled to the front of the depot, and we see them all safely delivered at their several points of destination.

When the cars are washed, stores obtained for to-morrow's trip, and report made to the Medical Director's Office, we may consider our day's work done.—*Letters from Dr. J. P. Barnum, Surgeon in Charge.*

THE COMMISSION IN TENNESSEE.

OFFICE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,
NASHVILLE, *January* 30, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Secretary Western Department,
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Louisville:

DEAR SIR—The opening of the railroad to Chattanooga has enabled us to forward an increased supply of stores. Not less than ten car loads have been sent to Chattanooga since the 15th of this month.

After receiving here those most urgently needed, and securing for them transportation, I obtained from the authorities a promise that two car loads should be promptly forwarded to Huntsville, Ala., or to such other point on the line of the road as they were found to be most needed at. Having made this arrangement, leaving the cars to be loaded, and forwarded in charge of Mr. Tone. I preceded them, Jan. 18th, that I might learn, by inspection so far as possible of the 15th Army Corps, where they were most needed, and secure store room and quarters.

I reached Scottsboro' the next day; called at Headquarters and saw Surgeon Chas. McMillen, Medical Director of the corps. He informed me that there were but few sick in the command; that at that post there was no general hospital; that he had a few goods from the Agent of the Western Sanitary Commission, and he advised me that I should find ours most needed at

Huntsville. These facts I learned in a few moments conversation, and went on in the same train some fifty miles to Flint River or Brownsboro' the then termination of the railroad, the bridge over the river not being completed. Brownsville is twelve miles by wagon road from Huntsville, which place I reached that evening.

The next day I called at the office of Dr. John Moore, Medical Director of the Department of the Tennessee, who was absent, but in his place found Asst.-Surgeon D. L. Huntington, U. S. A. After mutual consultation, and learning that a general or post hospital was established, and that Huntsville would be for the present a central point, and that the opening of a store room by the Commission was desirable, I addressed him the following letter:

U. S. Sanitary Commission Branch Office,
Huntsville, *January* 20, 1864.

D. L. Huntington, *Surgeon U. S. A.*,
Assistant Medical Director, Depart. of the Tennessee:

Dear Sir—I respectfully ask that a suitable store room and a room for quarters for two Agents, be assigned to the U. S. Sanitary Commission; and that transportation be furnished for two car loads of stores from Brownsboro' to Nashville.

Very respectfully,
Your obd't servant,
A. N. Read.

The letter was endorsed as follows:

Headquarters Department of Tennessee,
Medical Director's Office,
Huntsville, *January* 20, 1864.

Approved, and respectfully forwarded to Maj. R. W. Sawyer, A. A. G. Dept. Tennessee, recommending that the within request be granted, as being subservient in the highest degree to the interest of the troops.

By order Medical Director, Dept. Tennessee.
D. L. Huntington,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A.

This request was promptly granted by Major Sawyer, who gave me promise of all needed assistance, and remarked that if it was necessary, the Headquarters' train should be sent for the goods.

I obtained the next day a very eligible store room, and connected with it were ample quarters, and then telegraphed Sanitary Commission, Nashville:

"Have obtained store room, quarters, and transportation from Brownsboro' to Huntsville. Send on the two car loads."

Also, to Mr. Tone, care of Surgeon McMillen, Scottsboro':

"Bring your goods to Huntsville. Telegraph Col. Bingham, Chief Q. M., when they will arrive at Brownsboro', and ask him that teams be sent to take them forward to Huntsville."

These arrangements being completed, Surgeon Huntington very kindly gave me access to the weekly reports of the Surgeons in the command, and from them I obtained the following statement, which shows that the command is in good condition, and that, after making all due allowance for the fact that previous to their march to the relief of the Army of the Cumberland all the sick had been left, an unusual degree of health prevails at this time.

* * * * *

[The ratio of sickness yielded by the figures furnished at this point in the report is a little over *four* per cent. of the entire command.]

On January 2d there were sick in hospital at Memphis, 1,657. During the week previous, 11 deaths.

Gen. Crook's cavalry command, 2d Division, was also stationed here, and I visited each regiment in company with the most excellent Medical Director of the Division, M. C. Cuykendoll.

The 92d Illinois Mounted Infantry, —— strong, had sent only seven to general hospital during the last six months, and had but two sick with the regiment, and no deaths from sickness. This is unprecedented good health. This regiment has been moving most of the time, and has been engaged in frequent skirmishes with the enemy.

The Surgeon of the 80th Ohio, E. P. Bird, reports present strength ——; have no hospital tent, and six men in quarters who ought to be in hospital.

In the 15th Iowa we saw some engaged in policing and beautifying their camp—others playing ball. Of the first party, a company were grubbing a large green oak stump of formidable dimensions, as it marred the beauty of their camp street. The regiment have had no issue of vegetables since July, and have obtained very little by foraging.

They obtained a few, and a few socks from the Sanitary Commission. They have no marked cases of scurvy, are well clothed, lost about seventy in the battle of Chattanooga and Missionary Ridge.

I would make no further report of regiments, only stating that I visited all in the command stationed near Huntsville, and instead, submit the following report of the Medical Director, kindly furnished for my use:

Headquarters Second Division Cavalry,
Medical Director's Office,
Huntsville, Ala., *January* 21.

Dr. Read, *Sanitary Inspector,*
Army of the Cumberland:

Sir—As you requested, I herewith transmit you a statement of the sanitary condition of the 2d Division Cavalry, commanded by Brig.-General Geo. Crook, and consisting of the following regiments of cavalry, to wit: 4th United States, 4th

Michigan, 5th Iowa, 7th Pennsylvania, 3d Indiana, 1st, 3d, 4th and 10th Ohio, and 2d Kentucky; and the following regiments of mounted infantry, to wit: 17th and 72d Indiana, 92d, 98th and 123d Illinois, and the Chicago Board of Trade.

The average strength of the command from the 1st of August, until the 31st of December, 1863, inclusive, in the field, was about —— men, and the average number of sick report daily was ——, many of whom remained off duty but one or two days. (Omitted figures yield less than 2 per cent. sickness.)

There have been ninety-three sent to general hospital, and thirteen deaths.

At the present time the command is separated, part in East and part in West Tennessee, and another portion near this place, hence I am unable to give report in full. I have the date from about one-half of the command, and it shows a sick list of less than twenty at the present time.

This statement does not include the casualties occurring in battle, or by accident, but from disease alone.

Very respectfully,

M. C. CUYKENDOLL,

Medical Director, 2d Division Cavalry, Army of the Cumberland.

Much of this good condition is undoubtedly due to the faithful and judicious labors of the Medical Director and the other medical officers in the command.

All seemed to be working in harmony, and with a single eye to the good of the whole.

My next visit was to the post hospital, which is a very large three-story brick building, in the city, known as the Calhoun House, (had been formerly used by the rebels,) Surgeon Dudley Rodgers of the 59th Indiana in charge.

The house is a magnificent structure, rooms large and airy. It contained about twenty-five patients; these had comfortable beds, but their diet was bad. I saw their supper, which consisted *only* of bread made of corn meal and water, fried salt pork, and coffee without milk. Some of these patients were very sick. I remarked to one of the patients, "you have good quarters," "yes," he replied, "but that is all." I saw in the store room half a sheep, and at times they have fresh beef. I may add here, that on the arrival of our stores, we gave them a liberal supply, which must have been essential to the recovery of some of them.

The next day I called on Surgeon J. S. Prout, Medical Director of the 3d Division, 15th Army Corps, and with him visited the regiments of that command, first obtaining from him the following statement. Strength of command ——. On the 5th of January —— remained unfit for duty; —— were reported unfit for duty the following week, and 181 were returned to duty. Remaining unfit for duty, January 16, ——. (Three and a half per cent. from sickness.) During this week there were issued, 7,398 pounds of fresh beef, about one and a half rations, and 3,428 pounds of potatoes, being about three-fourths ration.

1ST BRIGADE.

Regiment.	Beef, lbs.	Potatoes.
59th Indiana	1,000	....
48th "	550	441
4th Minnesota	715	....
18th Wisconsin	598	1,200
63d Illinois	....	....

The 18th Wisconsin was doing provost duty, and probably was the first to apply.

2D BRIGADE.

The 19th Iowa and 80th Ohio, 1,950 rations of beef, no potatoes, and no potatoes or beef reported by other regiments.

3D BRIGADE.

Regiment.	Beef.	Potatoes.
5th Iowa	993	750
10th "	600	800
25th Missouri	692	237
93d Illinois	500	....

From the Batteries and Pioneer Corps no reports. I found very few sick, with the regiments, and notified each Surgeon in charge that we had opened a store room, and that they could have any goods we had, by sending for them. All said they wanted them, and would send promptly.

Mr. Tone coming with the goods, I returned to Brownsboro' on the 25th, and found there the 10th Missouri and 56th Illinois; these were in good condition, as the others, and had received during the week, one ration of potatoes and two of beef. All were well clothed, huts good, camps well policed, the only thing that seemed to be deficient, was the ditching, but as the weather was dry the camps were not muddy.

I think the order of Surgeon Moore that all in the department should report weekly the issues of fresh beef and potatoes, must result in good; as it can be seen at once who are not supplied; and by bringing it weekly before each officer, will prompt them to make every effort to obtain them. On my return to Stevenson, I found the Alabama House had been taken possession of by the Government, and was to be used for a Soldiers' Home, under charge of Government officers. I have since requested Mr. Sutliffe to remove four tents from Bridgeport there, I notified him that we will send him stores, so that he can aid the officers as they may desire.

At Stevenson there have been many instances of suffering both by soldiers and by refugees. The trains make irregular connections, those coming in from Huntsville (to which place they now run,) not con-

necting for many hours, with the Nashville and Chattanooga trains, and these trains are often so full, that further delay is unavoidable.

The night of the 25th was clear but cold. As most of our company could not find beds and food, one of them, Samuel McClellan, was making his way to a little fire he saw by the road-side, that he might make a cup of coffee; on his way, he found by the side of the railroad track, the body of a child, about eleven years old. By the fire sat an old lady, her head as white as cotton, with two children of her niece's in charge. The dead child had been one of their number; the old lady and children had been fed by the soldiers, and she was doing the best she could to live through the night, with her children around her little fire. She was put under shelter, and a better fire made for her, but no bed could be obtained. She was from Chattanooga, endeavoring to reach her brother in Columbus, Kentucky. She was not a soldier, and I only refer to the incident to show the want of bettter accommodations, for those who are compelled to stop there. Many a soldier has been compelled to walk all night, without food or fire. I trust the Alabama House will soon be open where they can find both.

I expect to make a personal inspection of the hospitals and their wants, at Murfreesboro', Tullahoma, Stevenson, and Bridgeport the first of next month.

You will see that the condition of this corps is much better than those in Chattanooga. On their return from Knoxville, they were poorly clad, but on reaching Bridgeport clothing was soon furnished, and they are now well supplied.

I feel it to be my imperative duty to ask more urgently than ever before, for all the vegetables that can be furnished, knowing that they are now necessary not only for the *strength* of our soldiers, but are *life* to them.

A command just sent back to Bridgeport, have sent over one hundred sick to the general hospital in charge of Dr. Varian, every one of whom had marked indications of the scurvy. I have persuaded several Surgeons to direct their patients to eat the potatoes raw, sliced thin, with vinegar. They inform me that they are relished in that form. Can they not be pickled in vinegar, and thus transportation economized, while their utility is increased tenfold, and also preserved to such time as they cannot be furnished fresh? So important has the subject appeared to me, that I have addressed the following letter, to several of the medical officers of this army, whom I chanced to meet in Nashville. I was particularly fortunate in meeting with Surgeon R. H. Coolidge, Medical Inspector U. S. A., just returning from an inspection of the troops in Knoxville and vicinity.

I would ask special attention to the statements of Drs. Phelps and Perkins, Both have been long in the field and have been Medical Directors of the 20th and 4th Army Corps.

I have sent the same note of inquiry to Dr. Vollum, Medical Inspector of the Army of the Cumberland, and to Dr. G. Perin, Medical Director. I will forward to you their answers as soon as received. But there can be but one opinion in regard to the danger to our Army from scurvy, and of the necessity of prompt action by all, to furnish means for its prevention and cure. This induced me to write the following letter of inquiry:

NASHVILLE, *January* 31, 1864.

DEAR SIR—For want of sufficient variety of food, and of fresh vegetables, scurvy is beginning to appear in this army.

I have reason to believe, both from the testimony of sea captains and my own observation, that potatoes pickled in vinegar, or put up in molasses, as for sea voyages, to be eaten raw, are much better for the cure or prevention of scurvy then when cooked.

Please inform me if in your opinion the Commission should furnish the potatoes in these forms, and if there is a necessity of an increased supply of vegetables.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

A. N. READ.

To this letter I have received the following replies:

NASHVILLE, *January* 31, 1864.

DOCTOR—I am on my return to Washington from an inspection of the hospitals and troops at and near Knoxville, and would represent to you that, in my opinion, the Sanitary Commission can do a great deal of good, by sending to that point *anti-scorbutics* and *garden seeds.*

The troops are comparatively healthy, but they have been deprived of vegetables so long, that there is danger of scurvy; indeed, some of the premonitory signs of that disease are now apparent.

In reply to your note of inquiry, I have to state, that raw potatoes, sliced and pickled, or preserved in molasses, are an excellent anti-scorbutic. Indeed, when I have the fresh potato and can have it cooked, I prefer using it raw, sliced and dressed as salad, for my scorbutic patients.

I have advised the Medical Director at Knoxville to have one garden made for the hospitals in that city, which now accommodates 2,500 patients. I have also advised that gardens be made for the troops, now in winter quarters in the vicinity of Knoxville, even though there be no possibility of the troops remaining long enough to

reap the fruit of their labor further than relates to early greens, such as lettuce, turnip-tops, spinach, radishes, mustard, &c.

The seeds most needed are lettuce, beets, turnips, tomatoes, radishes, spinach, mustard, pea, early cabbage, onion sets, corn, potatoes, and a general supply are wanted.

While the Tennessee River continues low, Sanitary stores and especially anti-scorbutics should be sent at intervals of two or three days, in say not to exceed thirty medium sized packages, so that the boats may take them without detriment to other demands of the service.

I think much good would result if an arrangement were made between the Sanitary Commission and Medical Director Hewitt, at Knoxville, for the services of Mr. Culbertson as Superintendent of the Hospital Garden. He is now at Knoxville in the employment of the Commission, is willing to do the work, and is represented to me as having the requisite experience and knowledge.

Very respect., your obed't servant,

R. H. COOLIDGE,
Medical Inspector U. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF CUMBERLAND,
ASSISTANT MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,
January 22, 1864.

DR. READ—DEAR SIR—At your request I would respectfully report, that I have not had any personal opportunity to learn the effect of the use of the potato prepared as you suggest, in cases of scurvy and where a marked tendency to this disease exists. The chemical constituents of the potato, combined with vinegar, furnish, in my opinion, one of the very best dietetics I know of, both for the arrest and cure of scorbutus. In the French Army, and during the insurrections in Sicily, I had frequent opportunity to witness the good effect of the potato peeled and sliced thin, then dressed with vinegar, salt, pepper, &c., as the green cucumber is usually prepared for table use. In both of these campaigns, there was no other treatment rendered which was certain to prevent, and as prompt to cure scurvy.

I am sir, very respectfully, yours,

M. CLENDENNIN,
Surgeon U. S. V.,
Asst. Med. Director, Dept. of Cumberland.

The troops above referred to have been so long deprived of an adequate supply of fresh vegetables, that, unless the deficiency be speedily supplied, scurvy to such an extent as to materially impair their efficiency during the spring campaign is inevitable. As it is impossible to supply them in sufficient quantities in the ordinary form, I would earnestly recommend the plan above referred to by Dr. Read.

J. PERKINS, U. S. V.,
Medical Director, 20th Army Corps.

From what I know of the condition of the troops referred to above, I do not hesitate to recommend that potatoes, prepared as specified, be furnished the Army, as necessary to place it in condition for the coming campaign. *Fresh vegetables cannot be supplied in sufficient quantities, and the necessity of such diet is very urgent.

A. J. PHELPS,
Medical Director, 4th Army Corps.

In addition to this, I would also suggest that the Commission furnish, say one hundred barrels of the meal of parched corn.

Take common corn, brown it in the large cylinders used for browning coffee, until it is brittle, then grind it. I believe from my own observation of the Confederate soldiers, and of the negroes, who use corn meal instead of flour, that compared with flour it is anti-scorbutic.

At all events, this would make a nutritious and palatable diet, which would be sought after eagerly. I am informed by those who have tried it, that mixed with cold water it soaks soft, and is very palatable, and that with sugar, it makes a very good pudding.

Yours, very truly,

A. N. READ.

A VISIT TO THE HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Central Office of the United States Sanitary Commission is located at the old residence of John Quincy Adams, No. 244 F Street, a short distance from Willard's Hotel. One of the upper rooms of this building is occupied by that department of the Commission, known as the "Hospital Directory."

At this office four or five clerks are employed, three of whom are regularly engaged in entering the names of soldiers in large books. These names are copied from the daily reports of the hospitals in the District of Columbia, Baltimore, Chesapeake, Beaufort, Hilton Head, Fernandina, St. Augustine, and several in New Orleans, numbering in all about fifty. Each one of these books numbers about three hundred pages, New York and Pennsylvania each requiring two volumes. As there have been sick and wounded from every regiment in the Eastern Department, so each State has a record in

*The potato pickled or preserved in molasses is only intended to be used when it cannot be furnished fresh. But so difficult will it be to furnish a supply, our soldiers should be induced to eat them raw.

one or more of these books. The 69th New York Volunteers, for instance, we find by referring to the index, is on the —th page. Like every other page, it has the following printed headings, each having its proper space, and being appropriately ruled off: "Date of Admission," "Hospital," "Name," "Rank," "Company," "Died," "Discharged," "Returned to Duty," "Furloughed," "Deserted," "Transferred." For instance: Patrick Smith is received at Lincoln Hospital, November 10. The report indicates his admission at that date; so under "date of admission," is written "November 10;" under "hospital" is written "Lincoln;" under "name" is written "Smith, Patrick;" under "rank" is written "P" (for "private") and under "company" is written "F," or whatever it may be. Perhaps, in a short time a morning report from Lincoln Hospital informs the clerks that Patrick has returned to duty. His name is found, and under that heading the date is written—say December 15; or, Patrick may have received a furlough to visit his friends. Then, under "furloughed" is written "December 15." Thus it will be seen that the soldier who gets in the hospital, however rarely he may have written home, or however widely his letters may have miscarried, is almost certain to be easily traced out by any anxious friend, or relative, writing or applying to the Sanitary Commission, and answers are given free of all charge. There are, however, exceptions to this easy method of finding the soldier. It sometimes happens that, from some peculiar whim or other, the soldier does not furnish his proper name at the hospital. Others may be deliriously ill when received, and unable to give a reliable name. Some of the Germans, and, indeed Americans, have such peculiar sounding names, that they get sadly misspelled after two or three copyings, but they may be easily identified by the rank and company they were in, and by their "given" name.

We think that many in the country would be greatly astonished at the peculiarity of the names of some of our brave boys. The most remarkable one we ever saw was that of a Western soldier, who was bravely defending the old flag under the appellation of "January Blackbird." The number of names now registered upon the books at Washington alone, is about 200,000! The greater portion of these have been returned to duty or honorably discharged.

The correspondence of the Directory is one of its most interesting features. When inquiries are received asking information of soldiers whose names are not on the books of the office, a letter is addressed, in nearly every instance, to the Surgeon of the soldier's regiment, or to one of the branch offices at Louisville or Philadelphia. The method and detail with which this is done challenge our admiration, as indicating the care taken to secure the most certain information. For instance: a letter is received from Mrs. Jones, a lady in New York City, who has not heard from her son Samuel, a private in the 200th New York Volunteers, Company B, in five months. She feels an intense anxiety. She has heard of the Sanitary Commission, and writes, despondently, for information. The soldier's name does not appear on the books. The Chief Clerk writes to the Surgeon of the regiment. In a book entitled "Applications," he makes the following entry: First, the date of application; next, the name of the soldier inquired for, thus—Jones, Samuel, 200th New York Volunteers, Company B; next, the number of the application, say 2,400; next, the applicant, Mrs. Jane Jones, 274 —— Street, New York; next, thus—Wrote Surgeon of regiment, such a date; then, Mrs. Jones' letter of application is endorsed "2,400," and carefully filed away. Then, the clerk takes a blank form, the printed and written matter of which will read substantially as follows: "Information is earnestly desired regarding Samuel Jones, of the 200th New York Volunteers, Company B. When last heard from, he was with his regiment at New Orleans, La., which was five months since. His mother has great anxiety about him. Please reply upon this sheet at your earliest convenience." The sheet is registered at the top "2,400," and addressed to the Surgeon of the 200th New York Volunteers. A stamped envelope, addressed to the Hospital Directory, is enclosed. In the course of a few weeks there arrives one day, among a number of letters, a sheet headed "2,400." It is the same the clerk sent to the Surgeon of the 200th. The Surgeon has written, "Samuel Jones, of Company E, 200th New York Volunteers, of which regiment I am Surgeon in charge, was taken sick about four months since and sent to Barracks' Hospital, New Orleans, and only last week returned to duty, and is now with his regiment. Not getting letters from home, he has neglected to write, but agrees to do so right away." The clerk seeks out Application No. 2,400, that was so carefully laid away, and puts with it its duplicate number, the answer, and writes the welcome news to Mrs. Jane Jones. He then endorses the application as answered at such a date, turns to No. 2,400 in the "Application Book," and in a blank space, left for the purpose, writes the date and abstract of his reply to Mrs. Jones. When we say, in addition to this, that

the letter to Mrs. Jones is written in copying ink, and afterwards copied into a book, the reader will see the vast amount of care and labor bestowed upon this important branch of the Hospital Directory.

We have merely supposed a case, but it is intended as an easily understood illustration of the manner in which every letter of that class is attended to. It is true that sad news is received sometimes, which it is not pleasant to communicate directly to the anxious relatives; but we feel convinced, from the manifest interest in this department, that sorrowful things would be as gently imparted as possible, and with a sympathetic heart for the mourning mother, or brother, or sister, to whom the letter might be written.

When the Surgeon writes with startling brevity: "John, of whom you inquire, was killed at Chickamauga, September 20, and afterwards buried on the field;" or, "George, of whom you desire information, was severely wounded on the 2d July at Gettysburg, and died on the 8th of that month in regimental hospital," it is very sad to re-write these facts to the widowed mother, or the only brother and sister, whose hope has been alive at all times, though only upheld by uncertainty.

But there are other letters than these that are painful to write; for example, "Private Jacob ——, of the —th Maine Volunteers, Company K, deserted from this regiment on the 10th of November, and has not since been heard from." The clerk tells us that he had rather write to such a man's friends that he had died of the most lingering and painful disease than to send them *such* a record. Another sad case is such as this, and not unfrequently, we understand: "Henry ——, of the —th Iowa Volunteers, was last seen in the engagement of ————, and, as his body was not found, is supposed to have been taken prisoner by the rebels."

But we were glad to learn that whatever satisfaction there may be in allaying the anxieties and fears of friends with even the worst tidings —giving them gloomy certainties such as we have noted—it is much oftener the pleasing task of the clerk to write such a letter as this: "Your son is well and on duty with his regiment, as late as two weeks since. A letter addressed ————, will be quite certain to reach him;" or this: "It affords me pleasure to inform you that your brother, though severely wounded, as you had heard, at the battle of Chickamauga, is slowly recovering at 11th Corps Hospital." We saw some of the letters received, and were permitted to take a few notes. A letter from Yorkshire, England, commences its address with "My Lord," desiring news of John C——, who had not been heard of for fifteen months. He was answered that John C—— had been in an hospital in Arkansas, but was well and again with his regiment.

A lady in Connecticut, after making an inquiry, writes: "A few days ago a poor woman told me these things about her son, saying she never expected to hear from him again—supposing he was dead. She was told about the Sanitary Commission—how they so often gave the information desired—and I offered to write for her, and see if any thing reliable could be obtained from such limited knowledge of facts." The son was found in a Southern hospital, where he had been for some time, but expected to be discharged soon. Upon communicating the facts to the lady who wrote for the information, another letter was received from her, which is *so good* and so cheering to every worker in the Commission that we gladly avail ourselves of the permission to make the following extract: "I have not yet seen ———'s mother, but will venture to make immediate return of *thanks* in her behalf for the large benefit she has received through your instrumentality, Had I a friend in such a case I should consider a full expression of my gratitude impossible; or, that my best efforts in behalf of such an organization, that could afford such relief, could never compensate for value received. I confess that, with all my faith in the Commission, I am surprised and no less gratified at the success of your investigation, because of the meagerness of the facts I sent you. As long as there is need for noble effort to relieve the sorrows of our Nation's mighty heart may the Sanitary Commission be sustained and blessed."

A Minister writes: "There is a lady in my church who has several sons in the Army, one of whom has been missing since last ——. He was captured by Mosby, I think, in one of his raids. Mrs. —— is an earnest worker for the good of the soldiers, and any expense you may incur in ascertaining his whereabouts will be cheerfully met."

A letter from a lady in Liverpool, England, says: "Pardon the liberty of writing to you if you will inform me if you have any connection with the American War, as I am desirous to hear from my husband, ————, from whom I have not heard since June, 1862." A very few facts were given as a basis upon which to find him, but in a few weeks she was answered with the very gratifying information that her husband was on duty with his regiment in December last.

And so might we give many more extracts

from many other letters, all showing one natural and uniform feeling—that of anxiety. If it cost something to pay for the services of those who are discharging the duties pertaining to this great philanthropic work; if it cost something to pay for the postage stamps and stationery used, who, with only a general knowledge of the magnitude of the work, even in this department of it, who shall the money come from? Who shall put a price upon the relief to a mother's aching heart, every throb of which is an echo to her constant thought of her son, who went from her to fight his country's battles? If the Sanitary Commission relieves the pain, with certainty of his present health and honorable conduct, or with the sad, but authenticated message that he has found a soldier's grave; is there a price to be put upon it? And as to one is brought certainty, so it is brought to thousands. If, in giving to this noble cause, the people impoverish themselves, or could be said even to "feel" the amounts which, according to their various pecuniary conditions, they may contribute, there would be a plausible excuse for censuring what may be termed a mistaken philanthropy. But, thank Heaven, the National outpouring of practical philanthropy which is commanding the admiration of the whole World is not burdensome; it is the frank, outspoken, and earnest expression of the loyal people—a token of the love they bear to their country and its brave defenders. Let us hope that the United States Sanitary Commission may retain its justly earned popularity by a continuance in its present sphere of usefulness, as long as the war shall cause the necessity of its existence.—*Washington Chronicle, Feb.* 16.

LETTERS IN OUR DRAWER.

We have in our hands a number of letters and reports from various quarters, for which we cannot find space in this number, and which are, nevertheless, too interesting to be passed over without notice. Dr. Newberry writes from Louisville, (Feb. 11,) that Dr. Warriner, one of his Aids, had gone to Cincinnati to stimulate the exertions of the Branch Commission in that city, in forwarding supplies to the force which General Sherman was then collecting at Vicksburg for the expedition whose fate we are at this moment all watching with so much anxiety. The result was the preparation of one thousand packages, which were sent down the Mississippi by a steamer chartered for the purpose, and which took in additional supplies at Cairo and Louisville. Dr. Warriner went down in her, for the purpose of making a tour of inspection amongst our agencies in Mississippi. The demand for anti-scorbutics in the Western Armies was more urgent than ever, and continued, in spite of the dispatch of very large quantities by the Commission, to be far greater than the supply. But Dr. Newberry was in hopes that as soon as the weather would permit the transport of vegetables from the North, to pour in such a supply into General Grant's Army as would give scurvy its quietus. Beyond some changes in the position of our agencies in Tennessee and Kentucky, and the establishment of a new "Soldiers' Home" at Camp Nelson, Kentucky, nothing had occurred to disturb the ordinary routine of our work in that quarter. Our relations with the Christian Commission and the military authorities were perfectly harmonious.

Dr. Seymour furnishes some interesting particulars of his inspection of the troops at Knoxville. He reached that place on the 24th January, after the usual toils and perils on the road, with one hundred and eighty packages of stores, and, as usual, found them sorely needed. The Surgeons reported their patients as in "a destitute condition," and Dr. Seymour made such distributions amongst them as the emergency seemed to require or his means would permit. He has succeeded in making arrangements for transport from Chattanooga, which will keep him supplied with sixty or ninety packages a week. Of the hospitals at Knoxville, he says:

> I have made a thorough inspection of all the hospitals. My first visit was made immediately after my arrival here. I found the hospitals and men in a sad condition, with the exception of Hospital No. 1 and its branch, which was comparatively very comfortable. In the others more than half of the men were lying on the floor with nothing but blankets. The wards filthy, cooking and washing arrangements bad, and in many instances no accommodations at all for washing. Police of grounds bad. Sinks abominable, and the town generally the most filthy of any I ever had the misfortune to be in.
>
> In justice, I should say that the Surgeons in charge are not to be held accountable for the condition of their hospitals, not having been provided with the means to remedy the evil.
>
> I am happy to say a great change has taken place within a few days.
>
> Government has been able to furnish them

with many necessary articles, much needed, which, with the aid we have been able to give them in stores, the efficient efforts of the Medical Director of the department, Dr. Hewitt, and of the Post Director, Dr. Shippan, together with the united efforts of the Surgeons in charge, the hospitals are now in a very fair condition, and daily improving in every respect.

Of articles wanted, I may say every thing. Those most needed are eatables of all kinds. Vegetables, pickles, krout, fruit, crackers, delicacies, stimulants, ale, cordials, wines, (blackberry wine is much inquired for,) bandages, rollers, shirts, drawers, and socks.

The general health of the men in this department is fast improving. The last ten days has given them rest, which is what they very much needed.

The matter of hospital gardens has been engaging the attention of our laborers both East and West. With a perennial cry for vegetables coming from every camp, post and hospital at the seat of war, it has seemed to them absurd, with a teeming soil under their feet, and in one of the finest climates in the world, to be entirely dependent on the scanty contributions, which at most seasons are all that our frosty North can send. Dr. Newberry says in the letter mentioned above:

> We have taken up the matter of hospital gardens with considerable energy; have sent out seeds and tools for large gardens at Murfreesboro', Tullaboma, Chattanooga and Knoxville, and shall do what is necessary to make each a success. We have been urged to this action by all the medical and military authorities, and everything indicates that our prompt intervention in the matter is called for by both our humanity and self-interest.

Dr. Page, one of our Inspectors, writes from Washington on the same subject:

> I wrote you yesterday a hasty line in reference to our projected hospital garden, and enclosed a list of seed wanted to carry out the plan. By the interest of Gen. Peck, we have secured the disposal of fifty acres of good land, of proper exposure; some of the coarser implements, such as ploughs, hoes, &c., have been obtained from the service. Any amount of manure is at hand, and the transportation furnished; and the labor is secured partly by volunteers from the soldiery, and partly from detailed contrabands. An intelligent Lieutenant of the 19th Wisconsin has charge of the practical working of the farm, and there is much of emulation and intelligent zeal among the volunteer yeomen-soldiers engaged. It will teach them a lesson of the yield of this soil, and of its capabilities under our warm sun and long season, which will surprise and delight them.
>
> I am encouraging, in every way, the disposition of our hospital surgeons, stewards, and others to establish gardens, large and small. My own little *patch* of last year and this winter seems to act as a strong stimulant. The movement will be a God-send, literally, to our troops.
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> * * * * * *
>
> I hope you will express the agricultural matters by first opportunity. Perhaps, it would not be unwise to suggest to seedsmen, if they are desirous to have any untried varieties of seeds given a fair and intelligent trial in this climate, that they forward them, with the proper directions.
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> * * * * * *

There is more on this same subject in the report on the operations of the Commission in Tennessee, to be found elsewhere.

The want of a Soldiers' Home in Brashear City has been long felt, for the comfort and relief of soldiers passing to and fro between the Téche country and New Orleans, many of them, of course, sick, or convalescent. Mr. Abbott accordingly organized one about the middle of last December. Chaplain Barker, who is acting as our Special Relief Agent in that quarter, sends us some information as touching its condition and results. A suitable building was procured, cleaned, and fitted up with conveniences for sleeping, cooking, and subsisting the men as they came. A colored man does the cooking, a colored woman every thing else. A private of the 91st N. Y. V. acts as a guard and works as a carpenter. A Sergeant of the same regiment is the Superintendent; and the Chaplain himself is, as we have said, Special Relief Agent; or, as he calls himself, "servant of all work." In the first fortnight of January, 231 men were admitted, 671 meals and 250 lodgings furnished. The Commission had done some good work at Brashear City before this, however, as appears from the following letter to Dr. Blake, our Agent at New Orleans, written so long ago as November 23d:

> BRASHEAR CITY, LA.,
> *November 23d*, 1863.
>
> DEAR SIR—Your prompt response to my appeal in behalf of the sick of the 91st New York Vounteers, commands my respect and gratitude. The sheets, pillow and bed ticks, and the shirts, napkins and drawers, could not, in my opinion, have been more judiciously bestowed. For example: prior to the arrival of your supply there was not a sheet, nor even a part of one in the hospital, and at the same time we had some seven cases of typhoid fever. The hospital stores were no less welcome, and all of them proved to be of the very best quality. The Sanitary Commision, through its private agents, has done, and is still doing much for the care and comfort of the sick in the loyal United States Army. It cannot be otherwise than grati-

fying to you to be the almoner of such a benevolent Commission. I feel under many obligations to you for your kindness to my patients, and shall always remember you with emotions of gratitude.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
ROBERT MORRIS,
Surgeon 91st New York Volunteers.

"An Engineer Officer" on Folly Island, S.C., sends us ten dollars for the following reason:

My observation of the practical working of the Sanitary Commission has convinced me that it is in every way deserving of the aid and support of Christian men and patriots.

Inspectors of the Sanitary Commission report much to its Central Office that is "contraband," but would be most inspiriting to the people, could it be made public. For instance, a regiment of Union recruits from a camp of rebel prisoners—no matter where—has been duly visited and examined on the course of the Commission's work of Sanitary Inspection—and is reported to be among the best regiments in the national service. Its men think secession used up, and are so happy with the clean clothes and the sufficient food they get from the nation, that they are prepared to fight for the country to the death, against Secession and Rebellion.

It is interesting to note that among the first questions suggested for the consideration of the recent Sanitary Conference of Representatives of old Christian civilized powers, was this:—"If a wounded soldier seem past hope of recovery, is it, or is it not, desirable that he be killed by some humane process, so as to save him from suffering, and to economize the labors of attendants on the sick and wounded?"

Let us try to imagine a like proposition introduced at a session of the Sanitary Commission, or of some Congressional Committee!

Perhaps we Americans are not utter barbarians after all?

A FOREIGN OPINION OF THE COMMISSION.

We Americans are not yet quite rid of the habit of looking anxiously across the Atlantic for a word of approval of whatever we do, as a child watches the eye of its mother. The treatment we have received from that quarter during the last three years has been so far from sympathetic or maternal, that this feeling is fast dying out, and with it is disappearing much that has made us practically provincial and too sensitively uneasy about foreign opinion. But we still like to know that any American work is commended in England, which has found so little to commend in our sacrifices to sustain our national existence, and to oppose the lawless aggressions of a Slavery system which she forced upon us when we were her colonies, and educated us by example, argument, and invective to dislike and discourage after we had become an independent nation. It is gratifying, therefore, to find in the November number of *Good Words*, (a religious magazine of very great circulation, published in London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow,) at page 814, a most eulogistic notice of the work of the Sanitary Commission.

It speaks of the Commission as "the most perfect and thorough organization which has been called forth by the needs of the times;" and proceeds to say that—

"Under its auspices the sanitary regulations of the Army are cared for, large stores and supplies kept ready and sent forward, whenever a battle is looked for, so that, in the hurry and confusion which ensues, all that the Surgeons need, and which Government cannot always supply, is at hand. Æther for amputations, bandages, lint, stimulants, and nourishment of every sort, are supplied.

"After the terrible battle of Gettysburg, when the fearful storm of shot and shell had left thousands in the field, and the Surgeons were endeavoring to do what medical skill might, to save life, one who was on the spot says he can never forget the gratitude with which they saw store-wagons of the Sanitary Commission coming up.

"'Thank God,' said the Surgeon, 'here come the Sanitary supplies; now we shall do well.'

"The Commission has its Central Office in Washington, and from thence radiate, as from a great center, streams of help and comfort, reaching the Army wherever it is doing its work, and like a good angel, watching and waiting to offer blessings. Under its direction railway ambulances have been fitted up with comfortable beds, arranged for the transportation of the sick and wounded, who are to be sent farther north; beds hung so that the motion of the carriage does not jar them. A surgeon and nurses have charge of these ambulances, and with them is connected a newly-invented cooking apparatus, in compact form, where food can be prepared, water boiled, tea or gruel made ready, or any other nourishment required. On one occasion fifty men were brought from Washington to New York, a distance of at least 300 miles. Their food being prepared entirely in this little *ex tempore* kitchen connected with the railway carriage, exhaustion was avoided, and in some cases life actually saved.*

* It is, perhaps, well to add that the "United States Sanitary Commission" is purely voluntary, organized as an aid to the Government in its immense labor. No service done by its members is other than a willing offering to the good cause, and this gives a double value to its far-reaching work. One tribute to its worth has come from a source rather unlooked for, and may be mentioned here. A letter has been sent to General Lee, (rebel commander-in-chief,) signed by twelve rebel Surgeons, now prisoners at Gettysburg, requesting the release of several Sanitary Agents taken in battle, and now in prison at Richmond. They say that the wounded of their army have received such help and comfort from the Sanitary Commission, that it seems only justice to release those who were taken while engaged in a work of mercy, and to recognize them as non-combatants.

"Another good arrangement is a Lodge, established in Washington, where the discharged soldier, waiting, perhaps, for his pay, may go and find a bed, good lodging, and meat, free of charge, before he is sent on his way. Some thousands have had help and comfort from the Sanitary Commission in this way, and been saved from temptation—perhaps, from ruin.

"In connection with the Central Office of the Commission, at Washington, a branch is established in each of our large cities, as a depot where boxes are received which come in from the country. Each little town or village has an Aid Society, as an auxiliary to the great center, where clothing is made up, and articles of various kinds contributed. Thus, as it were, a great net-work is formed over our land; or, to express it better, each little rill pours in its stream to the main ocean, the treasury, whence it flows out again, to refresh and sustain the Army.

"The boxes which arrive are opened, the contents assorted, marked with the stamp of the Commission, and re-packed, each kind of article together. Thus, a box containing five or seven hundred shirts can be sent to the field hospital, and obviate all trouble to Surgeons or Sanitary Agents on the spot. Jellies, wines, brandies, and preserved fruits, condensed milk, and many similar stores, are also sent in this way.

"In times of great emergency, the Sanitary Commission has sent out supplies to the amount of $1,000 (or £200,) a day, and it may be well to mention that California, from the shores of the Pacific, thousands of miles distant, has sent her offering of $500,000 (£100,000,) to aid in this good work; adding, that when the Commission needs further help, the same amount will be sent again. The proof thus given of the confidence felt in the work, and of the value of a plan working on so large a scale, is very encouraging.

"The Branch Office sometimes furnishes a sort of center, where soldiers in distress, on their way home, discharged, or in any need, may find a helping hand. One little incident which happened this summer will prove the truth of this statement. One sultry afternoon, just before the hour of closing the rooms, a soldier, worn with travel, and evidently troubled and in distress, came into the office. He told his story. He had, he said, a furlough; named his regiment; but on the way his transportation papers and furlough had been lost. He was a stranger, with no one to prove the truth of his story, was without money, and his home in Maine was at least 500 miles distant. What was to be done? Would the Sanitary Commission help him? Fortunately, one of the gentlemen connected with the office was present; and, although he was struck by the manner and bearing of the man, and inclined to trust him, it would not do to act without a telegram to the Medical Director, to confirm the truth of the story. In due time the wires sent back the reply, the man's statement was confirmed, his name, regiment, furlough, were all correct—he was sent on from Washington to his home, just as he said. The Sanitary Agent then offered him money for his expenses home; and added, that he must receive it as a free gift from the United States Sanitary Commission. He had been unfortunate, and had applied to those whose duty and pleasure it was to help the soldier in his time of need. He hesitated, seemed much touched with the kindness, and then with an effort—

"'God bless you, sir,' he said. 'I see now *who* sent this help to me, and if you'll allow me, sir, I'll tell you all.'

"He then said that he was in great distress, after losing his papers; he was a stranger in Philadelphia, had no money, and did not know what to do, or where to go. As he walked through the railway station he saw a roll of papers lying on the ground; on picking it up, he found it contained the furlough and transportation papers of another man, dropped, probably, just as his own had been. At first, he thought nothing of it, until the quick suggestion of the Tempter flashed upon him, 'Why not use them? I am a stranger on this railway; these papers will enable me to get home; no one knows my name, why not use them, &c.?' and some companions with him told him not to be a fool, and throw away his good luck. He hesitated, and then he said the thought of his wife came to him, and how she had told him, when he went to the War two years ago, that she gave him to his country without grudging, and that all she asked of him was not to lose his love of truth and of his duty to his God, and 'How could I go back and look into her eyes, if I had *acted* this untruth?'

"So *the good* prevailed, and what wonder that the God whose law he struggled to keep, raised up friends for him, and sent him on his way with that best of blessings—a good conscience!

"Another department of labor which should not be omitted, is the removal of the sick and wounded in hospital transports, on the Eastern and Western rivers. These transports, furnished and fitted up by the Commission with every necessary, supply important aid to the Government in its arduous work. Eight thousand wounded men were thus brought home after the terrible battles of Fair Oaks and the Peninsular battles in the summer of 1862; the details of this work may be found in a little book of much interest, made up of extracts from the letters written by nurses and surgeons engaged in it, and just given to the public.

"The Sanitary Commission does not want its martyrs, who have laid down their lives for their country as nobly and as truly as if the cannon ball or the bayonet had sent them to their last account, instead of the slower process resulting from exposure or malaria."

WESTERN SCENES.—No. 1.

A DAY AT THE ROOMS OF THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

It is early morning—not nine o'clock—for the children are flocking in happy droves to school, making the sweet summer air resonant with their joyous treble and musical laugh, as with clustering, golden heads and interlacing white arms, they recount their varied experiences since the parting of the night before, and rapturously expatiate on the delights of a coming excursion, or promised picnic. With a

good-by kiss, we launch our own little folks, bonneted and sacqued, and ballasted with books like the rest, into the stream of childhood, that is setting in, strong and full, towards the school room, and then catch the street car, that leaves us at the rooms of the "Chicago Sanitary Commission."

But early as is our arrival, a dray is already ahead of us, unloading its big boxes, and little boxes, barrels and firkins, baskets and bundles, at the door of the Commission. The sidewalk is barricaded with the multiform packages, which John, the porter, with his inseparable truck, is endeavoring to stow away in the "Receiving Room." Here hammers, hatchets, wedges and chisels are in requisition, compelling the crammed boxes to disgorge their heterogeneous contents, which are rapidly assorted, stamped, re-packed, re-boxed and re-shipped, their stay in the room rarely exceeding a few hours.

We enter the office. Ladies are in waiting who desire information. The Aid Society in another State, of which they are officers, has raised, at a Fourth of July Festival, some six hundred dollars, and they wish to know how it shall be disposed of, so as to afford the greatest amount of relief to the sick and wounded of our Army. They are also instructed to investigate the means and method of the Commission, so as to carry conviction to a few obstinate skeptics, who persist in doubting if the Sanitary Commission, after all, be the best means of communication with the hospitals. Patiently and courteously, the history, method, means, aims and success of the Commission are lucidly explained for the hundredth time in a month, and all needed advice and instruction imparted—and the enlightened women leave.

An express messenger enters. He brings a package of money, obtains his fee, gets receipted for the package, and, without a word, departs. Next comes a budget of letters—the morning's mail. One announces the shipment of boxes of hospital stores which will arrive to-day—another scolds roundly, because a letter sent a week ago has not been answered—which *has* been answered, as the copying-book indisputably attests, but has been miscarried—a third has a bug-a-boo, mythical story to relate of surgeons and nurses in a distant hospital, with a large development of alimentiveness, who care little for their patients, being mainly occupied in "seeking what they can devour" of the hospital delicacies—a fourth pleads earnestly and eloquently that the writer may be sent as a nurse to the sad, cheerless, far away hospitals—a fifth is the agonized letter of a mother and widow, blistered with tears, begging piteously that the Commission will search out and send to her tidings of her only son,

"Scarce more than a boy with unshaven face,
Who marched away with a star on his breast,"

and has not been heard from since the battle of Grand Gulf—a sixth seeks information concerning the organization of an Aid Society in a remote town, which has just awakened to its duty—a seventh is a letter from nine-year-old little girls who have earned five dollars and wish it spent for the "poor, sick soldiers"—God bless the dear children!—an eighth begs that one of the ladies of the Commission will visit the Society in her town, and re-kindle the flagging zeal of the tired workers, who forget that our brave men stop not in their marches, and postpone not their battles and their victories, because of the heat or of weariness—a ninth announces the death of one of our heroic nurses, who was sent by the Commission a few months ago to Tennessee, a blue-eyed, broad-browed, serious-faced, comely girl, with heart loyal as steel, and soul on fire with patriotic yearning to do something for her country, and who has now given her life—and so on through a package of twenty, thirty and sometimes forty letters. Now commences the task of replying to these multitudinous epistles—a work which is interrupted every five minutes by some new comer.

A venerable, white-haired man enters. He has been here before, and we immediately recognize him. "Have you heard from my son, in Van Buren's Hospital, at Milliken's Bend?" "Not yet, sir; you know it is only nine days since I wrote to inquire for him. I will telegraph if you are not able to wait for a letter." "No matter," and the old man's lip quivers, his figure trembles visibly, his eyes fill with tears, he chokes, and can say no more. We understand it all—our heart warms towards him, for *our* father, a thousand miles away, is like him, white-haired and feeble—we raise, and offer our hand. The old man's hand closes convulsively upon it; he leans his head against the iron pillar near our desk, and his tears drip—drip—steadily on the hand he holds.

"He has only gone a little before you," we venture to say; "it is but a short distance from you to him now."

"Yes," adds the heart-broken father, "and he gave his life for a good cause—a cause worthy of it, if he had been a thousand times dearer to me than he was."

"And your boy's mother—how does she bear this grief?"

He shakes his head, and again the tears drip—drip—drip—on the hand he has still retained.

"She'll see him before I do; this will kill her."

What shall assuage the sorrow of these aged parents, bereft of the son of their old age by the cruel war which Slavery has invoked? Sympathy, tears, comfort is prof-

fered the aching heart, and after a little, the sorrowing father turns again to his desolate home.

A childish figure drags itself into the room, shuffles heavily along, sinks into a chair, and offers a letter. What ails the little fellow, whose face is so bright and beautiful, and yet so tinged with sadness? We open the letter and read. He is a message-boy from Admiral Porter's gun-boat, who is sent home with the Admiral's written request that the child be properly taken care of. Not yet thirteen years old, and yet he has been in battles, and has run the gauntlet of the Vicksburg battles, which, for ten miles, belched forth red-hot and steel-pointed shot and shell, which yet failed to sink the dauntless and invulnerable iron-clads. Fever, too much medicine, neglect and exposure, have done their worst for the little fellow, who has come North, homeless and friendless, with the left side paralyzed. He is taken to the exquisite care and tenderness of the "Soldiers' Home," for the present.

Who next? A bevy of nurses enter, bearing carpet-bags, shawls and bundles. We have telegraphed them that the hospitals at Memphis need them, and straightway they have girded themselves to the work. One is a widow, whose husband fell at Shiloh—another is the wife of a Lieutenant, at Vicksburg—a third lost her brother at Chancellorville, and almost hopes through the work of the hospital, to find the portal of the "happy land," whither he has vanished. They receive their instructions, commissions and transportation, and hasten onward. God guide you, brave, noble, little women!

Ah! that white, anxious mother's face, whiter and more anxious than ever, is again framed in the door-way. Is there, this time, no escape from it? One, two, three, four days, she has haunted these rooms, waiting the answer to a telegram dispatched to Gettysburg, where her darling only boy was wounded, ten days ago. The answer to the telegram is in our pocket—but how shall we repeat its stern speech to the white-faced and sorrow-stricken mother? We leave our desk, and involuntarily bustle about, as if in search of something, for we *cannot* tell her. There is no need—the morning papers have revealed her desolation to her, and she has only come to secure the help of the Commission in obtaining possession of the remains of her dead. There are no tears, no words of grief, only a still agony, a repressed anguish, which it is painful to witness. All that can be done is freely accorded her, and bowed and staggering under her heavy affliction, she goes forth on her sacred pilgrimage to recover her dead. Alas! how many thousand mothers are, at this hour, refusing to be comforted because their children are not!

Soldiers from the city hospitals next visit us, to beg a shirt, a pair of slippers, a comb, or a pin-cushion—and to talk of their sufferings and privations, and their anxiety to get well and rejoin their regiments. They are praised heartily, petted in the most approved motherly fashion, and sent back altogether lighter hearted than they came.

And so the day wears away. More loaded drays drive up to the door, and disburse barrels of crackers, ale, pickles, sour krout and potatoes; and boxes of shirts, drawers, tea, condensed milk and beef, &c., which are speedily set *en route* for the hospitals. Men and women come and go, to visit, to make inquiries, to ask favors, to offer services, to utter complaints, to bring news from Vicksburg, Memphis, Murfreesboro' or Nashville hospitals, to make donations of money, to retail their sorrows, and sometimes to idle away an hour in the midst of the writing, packing, wheeling, nailing and hurrying of this busy place.

The sun declines westward—its fervid heat is abating—the hands of the clock point to five or six and sometimes seven—and wearied in body, and saturated, mentally, with the passing streams of others' sorrows, we again hail the street car, which takes us back once more to our pleasant home, with its cheerful companionship, and the prattle and merriment and thoughtless gaiety of children. Five days of the seven, when not visiting some of the numerous auxiliaries of the Commission, scattered all over the Northwest, we spend in these rooms, amid scenes like those we have described, which must serve as our excuse for continued neglect of friends and correspondents.—*Mrs. Mary A. Livermore.*

THE PRISONERS AT RICHMOND.

The following correspondence explains itself:

U. S. Sanitary Commission,
Adams' House, 244 F Street,
Washington, D. C., *February* 20, 1864.

Dr. Jenkins,
General Secretary, U. S. Sanitary Commission, N. Y.

My Dear Sir—The letter referred to me by you makes complaint that money was demanded of the officers in Libby Prison, for clothing furnished them by the Agents of the Sanitary Commission.

Through some mistake, Gen. Neal Dow, (when clothing was first distributed in Libby from the Commission,) informed the officers that they would be expected, when convenient, to return to the Commission an equivalent for the clothing. (He supposing, I presume, that these supplies were entrusted to the Commission by the people for the benefit of privates only.) As soon as this was known at this office,

notice was sent to Gen. Neal Dow and others, that under no circumstances would money be received by Agents of the Sanitary Commission for clothing or supplies distributed by them, and that the officers, alike with privates, had a claim upon whatever we had in store.

The accompanying copies of letters will explain this.

An officer (Colonel,) this afternoon in this office, one of those recently escaped out of Libby, says that, "Some two or three months since Gen. Neal Dow announced in the Prison, and in his hearing, the message from the Commission—that *no pay was* to be taken for Sanitary supplies.

Respectfully, yours truly,

(Signed,) F. N. KNAPP,
Associate Secretary.

December 15, 1863.

JAMES GALL, JR.,
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.:

DEAR SIR—The previous letter (one received to-day,) from Gen. Neal Dow to you, forwarded to this office, referred to the money due to the Commission by officers in Richmond Prison, for clothes, &c., furnished by the Commission.

The Commission *cannot receive any pay* for articles thus furnished; they are *a gift*, alike to officers and men, as I presume you have yourself informed Gen. Dow, and others in Richmond Prison, receiving supplies from the Sanitary Commission.

Will you send me a copy of your communication to him, or others, upon this point, with the date of its probable delivery to him. We wish to assure the people who place these supplies in our hands that we don't allow even officers, when in need, to make any money-return to the Commission.

Already, an officer, who had returned to his home from Richmond, sent in money for clothing received there. The money was returned to him.

Yours truly,

(Signed,) F. N. KNAPP,
Associate Secretary.

SANITARY COMMISSION,
NORFOLK, VA., *December* 21, 1863.

MR. F. N. KNAPP,
Associate Secretary, Sanitary Commission:

DEAR SIR—Yours of the 15th inst. is just received. I have written two letters to Gen. Dow, one on the 1st and the other on the 8th inst., informing him that in no case could the Sanitary Commission receive pay for articles dispensed by it for the relief of suffering soldiers, be they officers or privates. I stated that if the officers should see fit to contribute in a general way to the funds of the Commission, with a view to aid in carrying out the work of relief with which the Commission is charged, well and good, but *that no specific payment* could be received for any articles furnished in this way. I also took pains to inform the ninety-six released Surgeons whom I accompanied from City Point to Washington, that no recompense whatever was expected, or would be received, by the Sanitary Commission for the articles with which we had furnished them in Prison.

I believe that our position in this respect is pretty well understood by Gen. Dow and his fellow prisoners.

Truly yours,

(Signed,) JAMES GALL, JR.

OUR SUPPLIES IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Dr. M. M. Marsh, Chief Inspector of the Department of the South, writing under date of February 4th, 1864, in addition to giving a full report of his operations for January, 1864, says:

"A critical re-inspection of most of the troops (in the vicinity of Charleston,) has been made within the last four (4) weeks, their wants ascertained and supplied, and their sanitary condition closely scrutinized. *The per centage of sickness in the force is very low.* It would not be proper to state here how low. Almost the only malady is chronic diarrhœa."

Dr. Marsh has endeavored, by a free issue of vegetables, to supplement the Government rations, and thus diminish the tendency to diseases arising from a want of variety in the food of the men. [See list of issues accompanying this.]

He says: "The Government rations are good; vegetables, however, are necessarily restricted in quantity, from distant transportation. The weather is delightful and salubrious. Small-pox exists among the contrabands, but very few soldiers have taken the disease, thus showing the preventive power of vaccination." [Additional vaccine virus will be sent to Dr. Marsh.] "White refugees from Florida and elsewhere are amongst us, in a state of great destitution. Very naturally, they call upon the Commission for aid." Dr. Marsh inquires whether such aid shall be continuously given. The answer to this question must depend upon the extent to which the people pour their offerings into the storehouses and the treasury of the Commission. Of course, our first duty is to the Federal soldier; but shall we not also be the almoner of the people for such way-worn and hungry fugitives from within the enemy's lines as would otherwise perish, until a better method of relief is devised? Indeed, in

every direction the calls upon the Relief Agents of the Commission are becoming more and more varied and imperative, and nothing but a perennial stream of stores and money can sustain it in the performance of its legitimate and growing functions; nor do we extend relief to any who do not, in some way, present claims that cannot be disregarded. The following list will show the issues made to hospitals and regiments for January:

ISSUES FOR JANUARY, 1864.

Dried fruit	24	bbls.
Crackers	28	"
Apples, fresh	118	"
Potatoes	130	"
Other vegetables	70	"
Pickles	14	"
Apple butter	1¾	"
Tamarinds	2¾	"
Hops	1	"
Ginger, extract	1	gross.
Jellies	92	cans.
Dom. Wine	70	bottles.
F. Wine	2	"
Lig. Ferri Nit	2	"
Stimulants	13	"
Cocoa	1	lbs.
Coffee	48	"
Chocolate	1	"
Condensed milk	102	"
Arrow root	6	"
Corn starch	12	"
Farina	12	"
Quinine	3	ozs.
Slippers, calf	60	pairs.
Drawers, woolen	100	"
Pantaloons	6	"
Shirts, woolen	392	"
Socks, "	112	"
Bandages, woolen	446	
Quilts	44	
Blankets	180	
Pillow cases	76	
Pillows	17	
Towels	132	
Handkerchiefs	120	
Wrappers	34	
Coats	2	
Vests	7	
Bed ticks	12	
Pillow ticks	12	
Sheets	250	
Combs	192	

DR. BLAKE, Inspector United States Sanitary Commission, in the Department of the Gulf, writing under recent date, in speaking of the wants of his department, says: Farinaceous food, condensed milk, dried fruit, woolen socks, shirts and drawers, are always in demand. Pickles, particularly onions and cabbage, are wanted, in large quantities. He says there is a great demand for hospital clothing.

SANITARY AFFAIRS IN NORFOLK.

[Extract of Report of JAMES GAIL, JR., Relief Agent, Norfolk, Va., dated January 26th, 1864.]

"In a department of the Army where the troops are chiefly stationary, as in my department, and where the Sanitary Commission has become an old-established and well known institution, dispensing its supplies regularly and systematically, in quarters where they are most needed, and where they are depended upon, and looked for, as much as the regular Government supplies; there is but little of a novel or stirring character, to record in the weekly report of the Relief Agent. But, though there is not much for the agent to report, unless, perhaps, in a general way, there is nothing monotonous in the work he has to perform. However frequent his visits to regiments may be, he takes the same interest in a thoroughly policed and well drained camp; in neat, comfortable, regimental quarters; in well-conditioned hospitals, and the care and comfort of their inmates. And his interest makes him quick to detect, and ready to suggest an improvement. During the past week I have visited many of the camps and hospitals in different parts of the department, and am glad to be able to report a generally improved condition of both. The officers and men are aware of the fact that cleanliness of person, and a proper regard to the sanitary condition of the camp, are absolutely necessary to the preservation of health, and, as a consequence, the suggestions of the Surgeon, or of the Sanitary Commission Agent are, as a general thing, readily accepted and availed of.

"The supplies furnished by us during the week to the different hospitals have been particularly acceptable and beneficial, for the reason that the regular quarterly supplies of stores, due on the 1st inst., have not, in many cases, been delivered to the Surgeons yet, and for certain much needed articles they had to depend wholly on us. Thus, the Sanitary Commission has come to be considered an indispensable part of the Medical Department of the Army.

"Said an enthusiastic Surgeon to me the other day, whilst on my way from Yorktown to Fortress Monroe. 'The world has never seen as sublime a sight as that presented by the U. S. Sanitary Commission, with its immense and harmonious machinery, its trained agents, its accomplished and skillful medical inspectors and writers, and behind all, and *above* all, the generous, warm-hearted, patriotic *people*, who contribute so generously the immense quantities of supplies which the Sanitary Commission

dispenses to our sick soldiers. Yes, sir, when I think of the Sanitary Commission, I am proud of my country.'

"The Surgeon just quoted has been two years in the Army; is a man of large sympathies and high professional reputation; has seldom drawn any thing from the Commission, but has watched its workings closely, and appreciates it fully."

THE FIELD RELIEF ON THE POTOMAC.

Mr. Johnson, our Superintendent of Field Relief, with the Army of the Potomac, reports:

The demand for supplies of the Sanitary Commission during the present winter has been constant in the Army of the Potomac.

The agents who have been withdrawn from their location in the various corps to the depot at this place, have been busily employed visiting the hospitals, regiments, examining into the condition and wants of the sick, and giving such personal attention to the distribution of our supplies as seemed best calculated to insure their proper application. Although instances will occasionally occur in which our benefits have been diverted from the proper objects, it is a satisfaction to believe that they are daily becoming less frequent, and of less importance in their extent, and that almost the entire supplies distributed by this corps, are enjoyed by that class for whom they are designed.

* * * * *

Early in the morning of the 6th inst., rumors reached us that a portion of the army was on the move, and it was soon made known that the —— Corps was advancing in the direction of Raccoon Ford, and the —— Corps towards Morton's Ford, both on the Rapidan, south of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad.

Heavy artillery firing, about noon, showed that the enemy had been found. During the afternoon the —— Corps went forward, as supports.

Next day, in company with Dr. Fairchild, one of the Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. Holbrook and Mr. Clampitt, I rode to the front, to learn the particulars of the movement and provide what was required for the wounded. It appears that the —— Division of the —— Corps forded the Rapidan at Morton's Ford, about noon, and advanced nearly a mile, to the crest of the hills beyond, without finding the rebels in force. Shortly before dark they were attacked by a portion of Ewell's Corps, when a severe engagement ensued, lasting until after dark, and resulting in the withdrawal of the rebels to their earthworks. The —— Division of the —— Corps, now crossed the river to cover the return of the —— Division, which was accomplished without further loss, about midnight. Our dead, some fifteen in number, were buried, and our wounded, nearly two hundred in all, were carried on stretchers across the river, and placed in the ambulances, when they were taken to the hospitals of one of the brigades of the —— Division, near ——— ——. At the time of our visit the wounded were being taken to the Corps Hospital. We all went there, found that some of the sufferers had preceded, and that others were following us. On visiting the hospitals, and upon conversation with the Surgeons in charge, I FOUND THAT WARM UNDER-CLOTHING WAS WANTED BY NEARLY ALL THE NEW ARRIVALS.

The fight occurred about dark on Saturday. The men had forded the river, nearly waist-deep, and without any means of drying their clothes, had gone into battle, and many of them had fallen.

Their suffering, in this state of discomfort, from wet, cold and wounds, continued with slight alleviation until they reached the Corps Hospital, during Sunday afternoon, and were made tolerably comfortable. During the same afternoon our supplies of woolen shirts, drawers and socks, reached them, and were immediately used in exchange for the garments stained and saturated with blood. Every one of the many wounded men required a change, more or less complete, and, of course, as Government furnishes none but cotton under-clothing, our supply was almost indispensable to the comfort and welfare of the patients. Seeing that there was a great deficiency in surgical help, Dr. Fairchild very kindly assisted Dr. Dudley in dressing the wounded men, and spent several hours in this humane duty, until they had all been attended to. I believe that none of the troops of the First and Third Corps were under fire during this advance, and that the cavalry under Gens. Merritt and Kilpatrick escaped serious loss.

BACK PAY.

Mr. Brown reports, February 2d:

The amount of work done in my department, in Lodge No. 4, during the month of January, has been as follows:

Whole number of cases for back pay taken	93
Whole number completed by securing pay	60.
Otherwise completed	23
Total number of completed cases	83
Amount represented by the sixty cases completed by securing pay	$2,744.90
Number of letters written	122

You will perceive that the amount secured the past month is less than half what was collected in December. There are various reasons for this. January is not a muster month, and I

have found that it is better not to press through new cases at the commencement of a non-muster month, for it frequently happens that before the muster-day of the alternate month comes round, that the man is transferred to some other department, and there is a difficulty in finding out his whereabouts. This would not occur, if men were transferred directly to their regiments. I find, however, that I can employ this time profitably in looking up tough cases, which require the collection of a large amount of evidence in order to establish their claim to back pay.

The first nineteen days of the past month were entirely spent on these old cases, only one new case being taken during that time.

One other reason for the diminished amount received has been that Mr. Pryme has been away seven or eight days on account of sickness, and I had the misfortune to contract a severe cold in the early part of the month, which has necessitated the suspension of evening work for a large share of the time since.

Many of the cases recently taken are from the Invalid Corps, although patients in the various hospitals here.

The accounts of these men are in a very complicated condition, some of them having been transferred from regiment to regiment several times. Many have been the rounds of a large number of hospitals and camps besides, and their condition is frequently such that they can give no intelligent account of themselves.

These men, having been away from their original regiments a long time, are frequently borne on the rolls as "deserters," "absent without leave," &c., &c., or more often dropped entirely.

In either case, it must be shown, by the certificates of commissioned officers, where the man has been for *every day* of the missing time.

I have succeeded in getting these charges removed in a number of cases where they had no foundation in fact. The accumulating evidence in some of the other cases, however, has shown that the charges were well founded. These I have relinquished on becoming satisfied on this point.

The correspondence necessary to carry on this branch of the work has been constantly increasing.

SCURVY.

Certain portions of our Army in the Southwest begin to exhibit a taint of what Doctors call a "scorbutic taint," and plain people, "a tendency to scurvy."

Perhaps some one of our readers does not understand the terrible meaning of these words, and thinks them about equal in significance to a "tendency to sore throat," or "diarrhœa." If so, let him ask the first educated physician, or old experienced sailor, what SCURVY is, when it finds its way into a camp or a whaling ship. He will be told that when either of these isolated little communities is visited by this fearful taint, every one of its members, soldier or sailor, loses a certain portion of that unknown force by which he is enabled to live, and in fact begins to die. He becomes listless, languid, and weary. Every wound, even a cut finger, refuses to heal. Every trifling ailment, every cold or indigestion, becomes malignant, and obstinately resists medicine. Old wounds and bruises that were forgotten twenty years ago, prove themselves to have been somehow mysteriously latent in his body all the time, for they re-appear and re-open. Then, as this subtle taint gains further grasp of the patient, it displays its own independent symptoms, in the form of ulcerations, and swellings, and lacerating pains under which he perishes, inevitably by slow torture—gradually decomposing into death—unless a certain infallible remedy reach him in season.

And what is this remedy? It is no prescription that can be ordered at the apothecary's—no combination of drugs about which the doctors can differ, but simply (hear it, ye Farmers of New England and New York, and the great fruitful West,) a supply of potatoes, or onions, or cabbages, or fresh vegetables, or fresh or dried fruits of any sort. Physicians call these "anti-scorbutics," and a man dying of scurvy is restored to life if he be supplied with them.

The Commission has long been sending "anti-scorbutics" to the Army by the ton. Just at this time it is difficult to send them to certain points where they are most urgently wanted, because transportation can hardly be obtained for "Sanitary stores" of any class, and, also, because these life-saving vegetables freeze on the road, and then decay and become worthless. But as the season grows milder this latter obstacle will cease to exist—and the Sanitary Commission will somehow or other vanquish the former, and find or make means of carrying help to our soldiers. Let every loyal and humane farmer throughout the country remember that a month hence a string of onions or a peck of potatoes, sent to the Sanitary Commission, will enable it to save some one National soldier from death, and let him set aside what he can spare from his stock, accordingly.

The Commission is taking steps to secure a supply of vegetables for the Army, in addition to what it feels certain of receiving from the people. It is establishing "vegetable gardens" for the Army in Kentucky and Tennessee, at Newbern and at Hilton Head and elsewhere. It has received from the military authorities tracts of farm-land, abandoned by Secessionist proprietors. It has sent on from New York seeds and agricultural implements. Its Inspectors and Relief Agents have secured the labor of "contrabands," and of volunteers from our Northern regiments—"boys" recruited on the hill-side farms of Vermont and the great prairie "lots" of Indiana. But the fruit of these undertakings at the front is necessarily more or less uncertain. What the Commission has sown may be reaped by rebels in temporary re-occupation of the field. The Army must rely mainly on the contributions of our Northern farmers, for its defence against the insidious attacks of scurvy.

G. G. EDGERLEY, ESQ., Agent Sanitary Commission, writing from Port Hudson, says, that the supplies of vegetables, crackers, farina and woolen shirts sent by the Commission to the hospitals of that post, were most opportune. He says *that pickles, farinaceous food, and woolen shirts* are still in demand.

[Extract from the Minutes of the Standing Committee, February 23d, 1864.]

☞ As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 Wall Street, or No. 823 Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.

☞ The statement has of late, been pretty frequently made, and that, too, by persons whose official position is calculated to give weight to their opinions and assertions, that the Army is no longer in want of supplies from the people at home, that the Government is able to provide and does provide for the wants of all, both sick and well, and that the work of the Sanitary Commission is now a work of supererogation. This is a grave mistake. Every body connected with the Army knows that the troops were never in greater need of all that their friends at home can furnish. Constant and urgent appeals are made for stores, and the contributions of all things that tend to the health and comfort of the soldier, both in the field and hospital, were never more precious to the eyes of the medical and military officers. We call attention to several articles in this number as part of the accumulated proof of what we would most emphatically impress upon our readers. General Grant's great and increasing Army, in order to be up to its proper efficiency, needs to-day ALL that can be furnished by the plow and hoe of the farmer, the needle of his wife, the loom of the factory, and the purse of the rich.

DISBURSEMENTS AT NASHVILLE.

The following list comprises the disbursements at Nashville, during the month of January:

Blankets	174	Cans of Fruit	1,831
Comforts	196	Concent'd Beef...lbs.	1,467
Bed Ticks	180	Concent'd Milk..lbs.	3,176
Pillows	2,009	Crackers...lbs.	9,817
Pillow Cases	2,093	Dried Beef...lbs.	100
Sheets	719	Tea...lbs.	1,531
Shirts	6,546	Sugar...lbs.	3,900
Drawers...prs.	3,061	Dried Fruit...lbs.	13,762
Dressing Gowns	440	Fresh Fruit...bush.	162
Coats and Vests	253	Light Groceries..lbs.	2,212
Towels and Handk'fs.	3,009	Codfish...lbs.	4,149
Socks...prs.	2,354	Cheese...lbs.	25
Slippers...prs.	137	Butter...lbs.	2,743
Mittens...prs.	383	Eggs...doz.	75
Arm Slings	157	Wine & Spirits..bots.	1,230
Bandages and Pads	5,292	Apple Butter...galls.	274
Compresses...lbs.	1,907	Pickles...galls.	1,969
Pin Cushions	300	Sour Krout...galls.	8,742
Crutches...prs.	26	Potatoes...bush.	3,423
Books, &c	725	Onions...bush.	1,570
Sundries	391	Ale and Cider..galls.	765

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OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

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MARINE and Inland Transportation risks on Vessels. Freight and Merchandise insured on the most favorable terms.

Policies are issued, loss, if any, payable in Gold, or at the office of RATHBONE, BROTHERS & CO., Liverpool, if desired.

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The risk of war covered at the lowest current rates.

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THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
A. E. Shiras, U. S. A.
R. C. Wood, Assistant Surg.-Gen'l U. S. A.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., New York.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clarke, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, Jr., Philadelphia, Penn.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Prof. Fairman Rogers, Philadelphia, Penn.
C. J. Stillé, " "

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George T. Strong, Treasurer.
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J. S. Newberry, M.D., Associate Secretary.
J. H. Douglas, M.D., Associate Secretary.
F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary.

STANDING COMMITTEE.

Henry W. Bellows, D.D.
George T. Strong.
William H. Van Buren, M.D.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D.
C. R. Agnew, M.D.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 22 Summer Street, Boston, Mass.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 4th Street, Pittsburg, Penn.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, Ohio.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

General Superintendent, Rev. F. N. Knapp, Washington, D. C. Chief Assistant, J. B. Abbott.
Soldiers' Home, near Baltimore Railroad Depot, Washington, D. C.
Soldier's Lodge, 76 Kingston Street, Boston.
Lodge No. 4, H Street, between 13th and 14th Streets.
Lodge No. 5, Maryland Avenue, near Railroad Station.
Nurses' Home, Washington, D. C.
Soldiers' Home, Third Street, east of Broadway, Cincinnati, Ohio—Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill.—C. N. Shipman, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky.—James Malona, Sup't, James Morton, Special Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn.—L. Crane, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio———, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio—Clark Warren, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn.—C. W. Christy, Sup't and Relief Agent.
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Between Louisville and Murfreesboro'—Dr. J. P. Barnum, Surgeon in charge.

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Marine and Fire Insurance.

METROPOLITAN
INSURANCE COMPANY,

108 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - - - - - - $300,000.00.
ASSETS, - - - - - - - - - - $542,541.85.

This Company insures, at customary rates of premium, against all MARINE and INLAND NAVIGATION RISKS on CARGO or FREIGHT; also, against loss or damage by FIRE.

The Assured receive 75 per cent. of the net profits, without incurring any liability, or in lieu thereof, at their option, a liberal discount upon the premium.

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THIRTY-FIVE PER CENT.

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OFFICE OF THE

Columbian (Marine) Insurance COMPANY,

CORNER OF WALL AND NASSAU STREETS.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - $1,000,000.

From Statement for the Sixth Fiscal Year, ending December 31, 1863.

Total Amount of Assets, January 1, 1864	$3,140,930 80
Total Amount of Premiums	3,252,256 76
Excess of Earned Premiums over Losses, &c.	1,137,063 33
Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies	441,206 49
Guaranteed Cash Dividend to Dealers, (holding certificates of same) on Paid Premiums Earned during the Year, whether Loss has Accrued or not	269,614 80
Scrip Dividend to Dealers, on Earned Premiums	15 per cent.
Dividend for the Year to Stockholders	26 per cent.

LOSSES PAID IN GOLD upon Risks on which the Premium is paid in like Currency.

DEALERS WITH THIS COMPANY will be allowed the option (to be signified at the time of application for insurance) of receiving in lieu of scrip, at the end of each year, RETURNS IN CASH, (guaranteed by certificate) of premiums paid and earned during the year, whether loss accrues or not, upon all new risks under the NEW YORK FORM OF POLICY, as follows:

1st. Upon all VOYAGE Risks upon CARGO, a return of TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT.

2d. Upon VOYAGE Risks upon FREIGHT, a return of TWENTY PER CENT.

3d. Upon TIME Risks upon FREIGHT, and upon VOYAGE and TIME Risks upon HULLS, a return of TEN PER CENT.

Such privilege, however, being confined to persons and firms, the aggregate of whose premiums upon such policies earned and paid during the year, shall amount to the sum of one hundred dollars.

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WM. M. WHITNEY, 2d Vice-President and Secretary.

Thirteenth Annual Report

OF THE

Manhattan Life Insurance COMPANY,

Of NEW YORK.

Office, No. 31 NASSAU STREET, opposite the Post Office.

New York, January 1, 1864.

Net Assets, January 1, 1863		$1,287,597 35

RECEIPTS DURING YEAR:

For Premiums, Extra Premiums, &c.	$644,856 92	
" Interest and Rents	93,195 90	
" Interest and Rents accrued	14,348 56	
		752,401 38
		$2,039,998 73

DISBURSEMENTS:

Paid Claims by Death on Policies and Bonus, and payment of Annuities	$153,654 27	
Paid Expenses, Salaries, Taxes, Medical Examiners' Fees, Commissions, &c.	88,828 87	
Paid Dividends, Re-Insurance, Purchased Policies and Bonus and Interest on Dividends	248,666 37	
		491,149 51
		1,548,849 22

ASSETS:

Cash in Bank	$ 27,962 13	
Bonds and Mortgages	261,974 00	
Real Estate	146,678 74	
Premium Notes on Policies in Force	595,945 34	
(The Actuarial estimate of the value of the Policies which secure these Notes is about $700,000)		
Quarterly and Semi-Annual Premiums Deferred	55,532 07	
United States and New York State Stocks	270,416 25	
Premiums and Interest in the hands of Agents in course of collection and transmission, secured by Bonds	119,442 13	
Temporary Loans on Stocks and Bonds	56,550 00	
Interest accrued to 1st January, and all other property	14,348 56	
		$1,548,849 22

J. L. HALSEY, Ass't Sec'y. HENRY STOKES, Pres't.

S. N. STEBBINS, Actuary. **C. Y. WEMPLE, Secretary.**

A. DU BOIS, Medical Examiner.

REYNOLDS & VAN SCHAICK, Counsel.

PARTICIPATION

FIRE INSURANCE.

NORTH AMERICAN

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

Of the City of New York,

OFFICE, No. 114 BROADWAY.

INCORPORATED 1823.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - - - - $500,000 00
ASSETS, - - - - - - - - 604,535 59

NO CLAIMS FOR LOSSES.

Abstract of the EIGHTY-THIRD Semi-Annual Statement, showing the Condition of the Company on the 31st day of December, 1863.

ASSETS:

Loans on Bond and Mortgage, being first lien on Real Estate, worth over Fifty per cent. above the amount loaned	$157,360 00
Stocks, Bonds, and other Securities owned by the Company, market value	364,385 00
Cash in Bank and Office	6,603 11
Loans on demand with collateral	46,000 00
Premiums due and outstanding	5,384 00
Cash in Agents' hands in course of transmission, (business of December since received,)	10,220 39
Interest accrued on Securities	13,788 83
Other Property of Company	793 75
	$604,535 59

Losses unpaid, none.

Insures Property against Loss by Fire at usual rates, at the Office of the Company, or through their Agents in the principal Cities and Villages of the United States; adjusting and paying Claims with the liberality and promptness that has characterized their business during the past *Forty-one Years.*

The Customers receive **Three-Fourths** of the Net Profits of the business each year, without incurring any liability whatever.

R. W. BLEECKER, Sec'y. **JAMES W. OTIS, Pres't.**

R. F. MASON, Superintendent of Agencies.

DURYEA'S MAIZENA

RECEIVED

TWO PRIZE MEDALS





(FROM JURIES 3 AND 4)

AT THE

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION,

LONDON, 1862.

Being Sole Awards gained by anything of the kind. It also received Superlative Report of

"EXCEEDING EXCELLENT FOR FOOD."

MAIZENA,

At the GREAT INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION at HAMBURG, July, 1863, received the highest Prize Medal for its great delicacy as an article of food.

MAIZENA,

At the FAIR of the NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, at Utica, N. Y., September, 1863, received both DIPLOMA and MEDAL.

MAIZENA,

AT THE

Pennsylvania State Fair at Norristown,

OCT. 3, 1863, TOOK GOLD MEDAL.

"MAIZENA" has also taken the first premium at the AMERICAN INSTITUTE, New York City; NEW JERSEY STATE FAIR at Trenton, and at other places—in every instance where it has been exhibited.

"MAIZENA" has never failed to receive the highest award when placed in competition with Corn Starch and all articles of like character, after a thorough Microscopical and Analytical Examination of disinterested judges. It therefore stands commended to the public as the best article of its kind in the world without any comments of the manufacturer.

MAIZENA,

For Puddings, Cakes, Custards, Blanc Mange, &c., without isinglass, with few or no eggs, at a cost astonishing the most economical. It is also excellent for thickening sweet sauces, gravies for fish and meat, soups, &c. For Ice Cream, nothing can compare with it. A little boiled in milk will produce rich cream for Coffee, Chocolate, Tea, &c.

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WM. DURYEA, General Agent.

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A Daily Evening Newspaper,
Published at 1½, 2½, and 4 P. M.,
IN A LARGE FOLIO SHEET.

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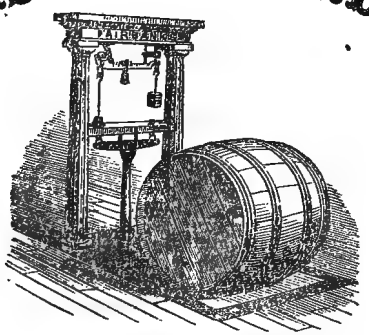
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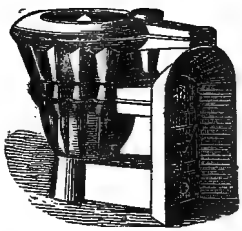
PRINCIPAL WAREHOUSES:

FAIRBANKS & CO., No. 252 Broadway, New York.
FAIRBANKS & BROWN, No. 118 Milk Street, Boston.
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TO SET IN BRICK, OR PORTABLE.



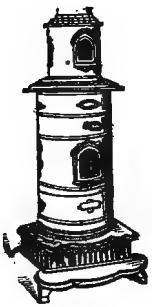
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Hospitals, Schools, Vessels, &c.

Send or call for a FULL DESCRIPTION, and an unparalleled mass of testimony from some of our first citizens.



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GET SANFORD'S MAMMOTH.

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With Radiator, Ventilator, and Gas Burning Attachment.

The Leading Stove for

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And all places where a SOFT, PLEASANT HEAT is desired. Fires kept all winter with an astonishingly small supply of coal.



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CHALLENGE AIR-TIGHT KITCHEN RANGES,

For Coal or Wood, set in fire-places without masonry, or out on feet; have the Largest Ovens of any in market; bake perfectly; never failing to brown at the bottom. Boil, Roast and Broil with great facility and dispatch, and ECONOMY OF FUEL. *A most desirable Range for Private Houses, Hotels, Hospitals, Barracks, &c.*

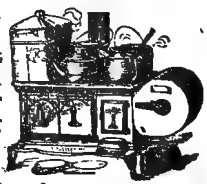


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SANFORD, TRUSLOW & CO.,

23 and 241 Water St., New York.

THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. NEW YORK, MARCH 15, 1864. No. 10.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

PLAIN ANSWERS TO PLAIN QUESTIONS.

Four questions about the U. S. Sanitary Commission, which are asked by some people who are not so much carried away by the excitement of the Fairs but what they can stop and inquire whether, after all, there is any sober necessity or fitness in this exertion to sustain an institution which aims to *supplement* Government supplies for the aid or relief of the soldiers.

First.—What *is* the Sanitary Commission, and why does such an institution exist at all ?

Second.—Is the growth of this Sanitary Commission a healthy growth, or is it not rather ministered to by a morbid sentiment ?

Third.—Has not the "*emergency*" passed, which is said to have called for, and justified this irregular agency ?

Fourth.—If the emergency has not passed, three years having elapsed, what prospect is there that it ever will be passed so long as the war continues?

These are the questions which some people ask — the birth, the pulse, the muscle, and the will of this Sanitary Commission, with its probable length of life.

The answers are as follows:

First.—The Sanitary Commission came into existence as the child of these two parents, viz.: on the one side, the motherly love which kept swelling up night and day in millions of hearts, and flowed out towards the tented field in such a stream as threatened to overrun all bounds. On the other side, the manly demand for law and system to guide and control this great moving tide. The marriage of these two gave birth to the Commission. Except for that union—the masculine with this feminine element—that tremendous tide of love, and impulse, and anxious tenderness, would ere long have been met by pointed bayonets and turned back, and forbidden entrance to the camp and hospital. This would have been done as a "military necessity," to save the Army from the embarrassment and the enervating influence of this rush of indiscriminate, irresponsible charity.

But God, in his mercy, could not see this mighty heaving of human hearts, which might become such a real power for good, lost to the World; so He wedded it to that which is really its truest lover and rightful spouse—law and system.

Government received assurance that not obtrusively, or unwisely, should this work of charity henceforth be done; that it would ever recognize and consult military authority and the necessity for military rules and discipline; that it would not run counter to, or parallel with (as in rivalry of,) the Medical Department, but strictly and gladly in co-operation with it—and to supply what that Department did not, or could not, readily furnish, whereby to add to the good health and good cheer of their sons, fathers and husbands, who meantime did not love their homes less, though they loved their country more.

Thus, the Sanitary Commission is the blended charity of all the Loyal States,

gathered and organized according to carefully studied methods approved by Government, so as best to guarantee the efficiency —to economize the energy, and to secure the continuance of this generous love which looked out with aching eyes and waiting hands from almost every house in the land.

Thus, is the Sanitary Commission the Agent of the People,—and a "Trustee" of their bounty, *held accountable*, and wishing to be held accountable for the use of all that is committed to it, of love and of opportunity, as well as of money and of supplies. It is the office of the Commission to find and meet those many needs which, as the world knows, always have existed with every great army, in spite of all that Government could do.

Its office embraces not merely the temporary alleviation of suffering, but by careful investigation and wise council, it aims to introduce reforms and new methods, and to remove many of the causes themselves of disease and death—and it seeks to excite to keener watchfulness and larger provision of official faithfulness.

Thus, in another form of phrase, is the Sanitary Commission the hand of "the People," filled with bread and wine, reached out in such manner as not to be refused; while back of it, giving it the pulse of its daily life, is this great, warm, throbbing heart at home—which must throb and beat, and will not be still, until those they have sent to the field be given back to them living or dead; and this they do not ask and would not accept until the war is so finished that Freedom shall be borne in with Peace.

Such is the answer to the first question: What *is* the Sanitary Commission, and why does such an institution exist at all?

The second question asks: Is this constantly increasing growth of the Sanitary Commission a healthy growth, or is not rather ministered to by a morbid sentiment? The answer is: It is peculiarly free from the danger or tendency of running into or resting upon sentiment. Its whole system of action is reduced, as far as is consistent with humanity, to business rules. It appeals to the public for support, not merely on the ground of alleviating the suffering of the soldiers, but on the ground of rendering more effective the men who are to carry on the war. It looks upon each man saved, or restored to health, as so much muscle, or will, or power given to the Army, as well as a husband or son given to his home.

The next question asks: Has not the "emergency" past which is said to have called for and justified this irregular agency? The answer is very clearly: No, it has not past. The calls for the agency are, indeed, different from what they were at first in many respects. Government, with increased facilities and larger experience, now embraces in its regular arrangements provision for some of the services once rendered by the Commission. But Government makes no provision for that immense class of cases covered by "Special Relief," requiring "Houses," "Lodges," agencies for correcting defective papers, collecting back pay for the feeble, obtaining pensions, carrying to their own homes the sick, guarding discharged soldiers from knaves and fiends, distributing clothes and comforts to individuals who are destitute. Hence, in this respect, the "emergency" has not passed which called for this irregular agency. Nor has Government yet obtained from Congress a bill granting to the Medical Department independent transportation for its supplies; and, in lack of this, it is absolutely essential that there be some agency—efficient, experienced, and well provided—to stand ready to bear to the battle-field, without a moment's waiting and without dependence upon Department supplies for the wounded and exhausted; for just then it is, in the first few hours after a battle, that a very little succor saves hundreds of lives; an hour of time then, and one ton of supplies then, are worth many hours and many tons the day following. Nor has Government yet provided that its Surgeons have authority to purchase, at discretion, supplies to meet emergencies; hence, the necessity continues for an agent close at hand authorized to buy, to any amount, from the nearest source, a supply—whatever may at once be used to feed or shelter the wounded upon the field of battle. And facts show that, but for this agency having been near, with the power

thus to purchase supplies, great suffering and loss of life would have occurred where food and blessing were by this means given to hundreds and even thousands of our wounded men.

Therefore, so long as these two obstacles continue to exist, (which the Medical Department have endeavored to have removed,) the "emergency" spoken of still stands; and so important to the saving of the lives of men and alleviating their sufferings is it to meet this emergency, that it would be guilt to neglect making the largest provision, though it be made, as it now is, at a heavy cost.

We might speak, also, of the work of furnishing to the general and regimental hospitals home comforts, as well as more usual supplies to meet special deficiencies. While these "supplementary" supplies give a hand of help in time of real need, these extra home comforts restore to health the soldier in his weary hospital life. We must not omit mention of the "Hospital Directory." It is essential, so the public say, to the friends at home; and, therefore, just here an "emergency," or certainly a demand, exists which the Sanitary Commission alone attempts to meet.

The final question asks: If the "*emergency*" has not passed, three years having elapsed, what prospect is there that it will be passed so long as the war continues? The answer is: We see no prospect that the need of the Commission will cease while the war goes on. Most of the conditions enumerated in answering the previous questions will, doubtless, continue to the end. Some of them are conditions inseparable from war, which Government cannot attend to, which its heavy machinery (necessarily and wisely made heavy, adapted to meet permanent conditions, not emergencies,) cannot adapt itself to.

Some, as is readily seen, are conditions developed as the war goes on. Those which exist this year may not exist next year; but others will arise in their place, unexpected now, but claiming at the time prompt and ample provision.

And it becomes a question worth considering, whether, even if it were possible, it would be desirable to have the provisions of Government so perfect and efficient that there would be no necessity or opportunity for this voluntary aid of the people? Who can tell how much of the cheerful and vigorous life of our Army, now years away from home, may be owing to the constant recognition by the soldiers of the work and love of the people ever thinking of them.

And who shall say what would have become of the people—the mothers, wives and daughters of the men in the tents, the hospitals and on the battle-fields—if they had not been allowed to spend their thoughts and time in working for those they love better than life!

F. N. K.

SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

No. 823 Broadway, N. Y.,
February 27th, 1864.

To the Standing Committee of the United States Sanitary Commission:

Gentlemen—A survey of the field of the Commission's work, as furnished by communications received at this office since your meeting of the 19th instant, shows a varied degree of activity existing in its different Departments.

At the West, increased attention is being given to the hospital centers at Memphis and Vicksburg, having under treatment 2,500 and 2,000 sick, respectively. Vicksburg has again become an important point, the sick and wounded of Gen. Sherman's forces continuing to arrive there up to the 17th instant, the date of the last advices.

The steamer Navigator, chartered by Dr. Newberry, for transportation on the Mississippi River, became disabled, and her first load was transferred to the Government transport Mississippi, by which it would be conveyed from Cairo free of cost to the Commission, to various points on the river.

Dr. Warriner expected to send a portion of the vegetables to New Orleans, where such supplies were much needed.

The Samuel Hill, sent up from New Orleans to Cairo, with sick, was also provided at that point with a considerable stock of vegetables, to be distributed within the Department of the Gulf.

At Chattanooga, the health of the troops is reported as improved. Special attention had been paid to scorbutic patients, and the issue of vegetables had effected much

good. Dr. Barnum has sent the report concerning transportation of the sick asked for by the Commission in January. The Assistant Surgeon-General has adopted Dr. B. as an officer of the Medical Bureau, but proposes that he shall still report to Dr. Newberry.

Dr. Newberry is at Cleveland, but returns early next week to Louisville, and thence to Nashville. He has been informed of the appropriation by the Commission for the building of Homes at Detroit and Buffalo.

Among the forces in Virginia, there has been reported little but routine work, At Portsmouth, however, a Lodge as a center of the work of special relief has been established by favor of the military authority, and is likely to render a much needed service. General Butler also evinces a disposition to encourage the Commission in its proposed care for the sick on the flag-of-truce boats, should exchanges of prisoners again occur.

In North Carolina, Dr. Page, is with system, planting hospital gardens with apparent prospects of success. He is much concerned at the possible spread of small pox, owing to the imperfect character of the vaccine matter received in that Department. He will be furnished weekly with moderate amounts of carefully selected virus. From September, 1863, to January 1st, in 666 cases—the mortality was 184, or about 28 per cent. From January to February 13th, of 285 new cases 105 died—a mortality of about 37 per cent., indicating, perhaps, an increased intensity of the epidemic influence.

Dr. Marsh writes from Beaufort of much work done and attempted with insufficient help and inadequate strength. He proposes to return to New York after the present campaign is over, and he has supplied in advance, so far as they can be anticipated, the wants of the following two months. If in sufficient health he will return, and would like to be accompanied with one medical and one lay assistant.

Our losses of stores at the late repulse at Olustee, Fla., are believed to be slight. The provision of stores for this Department is shown to be good, by the fact that a humane and careful Inspector like Dr. Marsh urges us not to send out any supplies to him on account of this engagement. Dr. Marsh reports a statement of casualties in Florida. He was to return there on the 23d instant.

There are no reports from Louisiana within the week, except a special one concerning aid rendered to the Navy during the past year, and the monthly report of stock on hand, and requisition for supplies.

In the home field there is great need, especially at the East, of increased effort for the production of material supplies. The three principal depots at Boston, New York and Philadelphia, are now nearly empty, and the prospect of their speedy replenishment, except the one at Boston, is not good. The diverting influence of the present and projected Fairs accounts for this, to some extent, in New York and Pennsylvania.

The number of canvassers employed in the Eastern States is now considerable. In New England, three; in New York, two; in New Jersey, one; and visiting several States, two; while in the home field at the West three are employed. They have been generally instructed that they are not to consider as of secondary importance the increase of local work, and not to solicit contributions to the Central Treasury, where such contributions would diminish the local interest in the work of supply in kind.

No reports of Inspectors have come in within the week. Dr. Graham has gone to Knoxville.

Respectfully,

J. Foster Jenkins,
General Secretary.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION AND THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

[From the North American Review.]

It is not the fault of the Sanitary Commission if exaggerated ideas of its claims and importance, as compared with those of the Medical Department, prevail in many quarters. In public addresses in all the great cities, in published letters to Governors of States and to State Surgeon-Generals, in its regular reports, and under all circumstances, it has magnified and cele-

brated the growing efficiency of the Medical Department, chronicled its vast and beneficent reforms, defending the Bureau against unjust charges, shown the recklessness of the rife rumors as to the general negligence, cupidity, and impotence of the Surgeons in the service, and endeavored to acquaint the public with the dependence of the sick and wounded on the care, pity, and generous provision of the Government itself, rather than on outside aid and mercy.

It is plain how exposed to misapprehension the Medical Department of so vast an army as ours is, how little credit it gets for the regular and successful performance of its duties, how much blame for its occasional failures to meet the exigencies that beset its affairs. All the while, for food, clothing, shelter, medical care, nursing, transportation, the sick or wounded soldier is dependent upon, and actually receives, seven-eighths of all he needs from the Government itself. The other eighth he must owe to the pity and care of some outside beneficence. He himself is apt to accept only as his due, and therefore thoughtlessly and ungratefully, all that the Government does for him, and to have the liveliest sense only of what it does not do, and to utter the most indignant complaints at its neglect. Of course he gives a corresponding gratitude to those who come in as volunteers to supply the necessary or unavoidable defects and omissions from which he suffers; and the Sanitary Commission, or some similar organization, gets for its comparatively light labors the praise and the gratitude really due in much larger measure to the Government itself and the Medical Department—above all, to the laborious and devoted Surgeons themselves. It is the old fallacy—we think more of the two-penny ounce of butter than of the ten-penny loaf of bread; because one merely satisfies our hunger, and the other gratifies our palate. The Sanitary Commission, being really in earnest, laboring not for praise, but for practical results, saw the vast importance of strengthening and stimulating that system to which the soldier must owe seven-eighths of his chances of escape from sickness, and of care and comfort when sick; and that no skill or success in managing and magnifying its own contingent work, which at the utmost was but a fractional interest, could be any sort of substitute for the zeal and efficiency of the regular Department. It saw and recognized the value of the loaf of bread, and determined not to allow the butter question to blind its own or the public's eyes.

But, after all, it had its own work to do, and to do well. It was plain enough, after a very short study, that the general utility and success of the Army system, and of the Medical Department as a portion of it, depended upon rigidity of method. Discipline is the soul of an army; strict accountableness and limited responsibility are essential in the administration of military affairs. Routine makes the skeleton, and red tape applies the ligaments to the system.

To attempt to supply an army as a family, or a village, or a city is supplied, or to carry civil maxims or customs into the camp, is a pure impossibility. Strict rules and regulations, and compulsory and inevitable conformity to them, are the conditions of the largest good to the largest number. It is certain, beforehand, that this necessary system will press with terrible severity upon a considerable class of exceptions; but to consider these exceptions, and bend the system to accommodate or include them, would be to imperil the advantage of that vast majority which the rule is established to serve. If the tape is so loose that any one paper can be easily pulled from the bundle, all the papers are likely to be lost, or found scattered by the wind. The Sanitary Commission, therefore, has never joined in the popular cry of too much red tape; it has never asked for, or consented to, any scheme for conducting medical affairs in a free and easy manner, without military subordination and carefully limited responsibilities. Whatever evils have attended this system, have been less than those its removal would instantly evoke. Indeed, it was mainly to enable the Medical Department to maintain its own rules with rigorous fidelity. that the Commission undertook to look after only these individual wants, and those exceptional sufferings, which grow out of the necessary imperfection of all large systems, and which have always furnished it its only legitimate and

welcome opportunities of service. That the exceptions in an army of a million and more of men, at one time or another in the field, with an average sick list of at least fifty thousand men, should be numerous in themselves, however small relatively to the number taken care of by the Medical Department itself, is what the most thoughtless might anticipate. They have been numerous enough and constant enough to task the utmost liberality of the nation, and to afford the most steady and exhausting labor to the Sanitary Commission. At no time have the extra supplies furnished by the public to the Commission, or to any and all outside ministries, been fully equal to the demands. Nor, with the experience now afforded to the careful students of army movements and exigencies, does it appear at all strange that great and frequent failures should attend the best plans of the Medical Department; battles proving general, when they were expected to be skirmishes or reconnoissances; the wounded turning out twice as many as any reasonable foresight could have anticipated; time and place of fighting being both suddenly changed; transportation impeded or preoccupied by greater necessities; and movements of the enemy, instantly defeating the whole, and the most sagacious arrangements made by Medical Directors.

Let it be remembered, that the first office of an army is to fight, and that the first necessity of the Government is to look after the fighting men, providing them with adequate ammunition, food, and reinforcements—that at the time of an impending battle, or during one, the chief solicitude is not, cannot, and ought not to be about the wounded, but about those still able to fight—and it will be seen how perplexed, delayed, and hampered the Medical Department must be, in getting forward its stores, in removing the wounded, or in taking care of them promptly. The first interests of the Army require that the Medical Department should be left in this subordinate and dependent position. You cannot afford it independent transportation without destroying its co-ordination with the other departments, and embarrassing it nine-tenths of the time with the care of trains, horses, and forage, for the sake of the advantages that would accrue to it for the other tenth of the time. Nor can the Commanding-General safely allow his hospital stores to be jeoparded by advancing them to the front, which doubtless would, if safe, be the most convenient for the service of the wounded or the sick. Thus, after the battle of Gettysburg, when Meade was pursuing Lee's flying army, and another general battle was hourly expected near the old field of Antietam, the General would not, and could not, allow the vast medical stores required in case of a battle to be brought over South Mountain, because Boonsboro', beyond which his own headquarters lay, and where the Sanitary Commission had opened its store houses, was liable any day to be attacked and ransacked by the enemy's cavalry. This was prudent and humane; and yet in case of a great battle it must have caused enormous suffering. Now, for this very reason that it was not safe for the Government stores, the Sanitary Commission determined to run the risk of its own stores, that, if a battle did occur, it might alleviate the wants of the battle-field, till the regular medical stores could be brought up. Thus the Medical Department followed its legitimate and bounden course of duty in obedience to judicious orders from headquarters. The Sanitary Commission, with its independent transportation, and independent movements in general, followed also its legitimate and necessary duty, and stood ready to prevent the evils which must otherwise flow from the best and wisest course left open to the Medical Department.

But it was not in battle fields and exigencies chiefly that the Commission found most seriously tested its principle of doing nothing for the sick and wounded soldiers which it could induce or compel the Government to do. Regimental, field, and general hospitals have been the steady sphere of its labors. It has spent its chief time, supplies, and energies in satisfying the wants existing there. For the first year of the war, there was not commercial industry enough in the country to supply the actual wants of the Army. Clothing could not be manufactured fast enough to meet the rapidly recruited ranks. Cloths were imported by the Government, as a

protection against the enormous rates which holders of suitable stuffs were selfishly exacting. Besides, the ideas of the Government Bureaus did not and could not expand as fast as the unprecedented wants of the Army did. Timidity and caution tied up even the boldest hands. The suffering which existed in the rank and file from want of blankets, stockings, overcoats, and tents was very great. The regimental hospitals, under new and inexperienced Surgeons, without acquaintance with bureau routine, were often desperately deficient, both in what they might have had, if at the proper time they had known how to ask for it, and in what no skill in asking at that time could secure. The general hospitals were just beginning to be established. Inconvenient and wholly unsuitable buildings were the only ones within reach, and the Government was not then aroused to the necessity of creating proper ones. The Hospital Fund, the usual adequate resource of the Surgeon for all *extra* comforts and delicacies, now extensively—nay, universally—in operation, could not at once be inaugurated, even by experts, and was utterly beyond the management of novices. It afforded no dependence for many months, and was of little use for the first year of the war. The Sanitary Commission took its place, and supplied a large part of all which the best and most efficient management could have yielded. It came in, everywhere, to do just what Government and the Medical Department, in the sudden expansion of the Army, by successive monstrous motions, from 75,000 to 300,000, to 500,000, to 800,000 men, could not so adjust means to ends, and supplies to the vast wants of the hour, as effectively and humanely to accomplish. But it did its work on system, according to analogous rules, and with a strict understanding with the Department and Bureaus, so as to discourage the imperfect preparations or inadequate arrangements of the Medical Bureau or Quartermaster-General; to make neglect hard and difficult and disagreeable for them; to uphold their efforts for reform and enlargement; and to emphasize in such a way their dependence, as to shame them into efforts to break loose from it. The Commission furnished no hospital supplies except on requisition of the Surgeon himself, who thereby acknowledged his dependence on outside help for what it was his pride and his duty to obtain from the Department he represented. No distribution by outside parties was allowed. The discipline of the hospitals, with the authority of the officers, medical and otherwise, was to be carefully upheld. No help that could be extended to individual cases of suffering would atone for the injustice done the general principle itself.

That which has often been made an objection to the Sanitary Commission, that it did not fill the hospitals with resident relief agents, or nurses, who should themselves be the judges of the wants of the sick, and the direct vehicles of relief, in the form of clothing, delicacies, or medicines, was one of its cardinal virtues. Such intrusion into military hospitals was not only fatal to discipline, to due responsibility, to the quietude of the place, and the control of the diet and treatment of the sick, but it was fatal to the peace, the self-respect, and the *esprit de corps* of the Medical Department. Wherever it was allowed, it did little but harm, and if the Sanitary Commission had encouraged or countenanced it, they would soon have lost all the influence they had with the Department and the Surgeons. Instead of this, they appointed experts to visit the hospitals, observe their wants, see the officers, nurses, and men, and, after conference with the Surgeon in charge, to obtain from him a requisition on their supplies for what he felt the hospital to need—to be applied under his own orders, and by his own agents, to his own patients. Skilled and judicious women, offering their services as nurses, and accepted through the free and hearty consent of the Surgeons in charge, have rendered invaluable services to the sick ever since the hospitals were opened. But they have owed their usefulness to their strict obedience and conformity to Army regulations, and only those docile and wise enough to respect the superior knowledge and authority of the Surgeons have been for any considerable time able to keep their places, or to make themselves greatly serviceable. Perhaps two hundred such women exist in the whole Army; to

whose noble, devoted, and gentle hearts, skillful hands, and administrative faculties are due a considerable part of the success which has attended the operation of our military nursing. The main dependence is, at all times, on detailed or enlisted male nurses, who, to the number perhaps of two thousand, are always on duty, and to the unwearied labors of our Surgeons—who, as a class, are not only utterly incapable of the negligence, drunkenness, fraud, and greediness with which they have been publicly charged, but have really rendered illustrious services, not only by gallant self-exposure in the field, but in watching and waiting on their charges with a vigilance which has cost many of them their lives. The cruel aspersions with which bigots and fanatics have often visited their conduct on battle-fields, where three or four consecutive nights have passed in hard service, with only two or three hours' sleep, has made their ability to do any work, or to keep themselves alive, dependent on the use of stimulants—charging them with general drunkenness, as at Chancellorville—are a scandal and slander which the closest and longest opportunities of observation enable us utterly to refute. The ordinary per centage of incompetency, lack of principle, and inhumanity doubtless exists among the Army Surgeons; but on the whole, we judge them to be superior to any other equally large class of officers in the field, while their duties are probably more constant, and at times more exhausting, than those of any other class.

It is by strict fidelity to these general principles that the Sanitary Commission has endeavored to avoid the peril which threatened the efficiency of the Government service, by outside interposition; and its success as an organization is due to the genuineness of the faith in which it has carried out its pledges to the Government, to be a strictly subordinate and ancillary body—loyal to the Medical Department—its fearless critic, but never its rival or supplanter—its watchful spur, but never its sly traducer or its disguised enemy.

LETTERS IN OUR DRAWER.

It is no part of the business of the Commission to meddle in politics, but it will be seen from the following letter that we have been unconsciously instrumental in securing one vote for Mr. Lincoln.

FORT DELAWARE,
February 25, 1864.

MR. J. B. ARBOTT, *Washington*:

DEAR SIR—I received the statement of my inquiry in regard to my back pay, &c., which I am under a great obligation to you for, and I hope that I will be able to repay you some day. I will give you my address when I am at my native residence, and when this cruel war is over, and there ever should be any way that I could repay you and you let me know, I will try and do it for you. I am now a private soldier in the army, and expect to be, till this war is over, God permitting.

My address is William Graham, Temperanceville, Alleghany Co., Penn.

It was not for the amount of my pay that prompted me to write to the President of your famous institution, but for the disgrace of having me marked as a deserter when I had no intentions of any such a thing. It was not my wishes to be discharged from the service, but Dr. Reiter told me that I could not stand it at all; but it is as you say, that it is more satisfaction to know that I was not marked as a deserter, than to get two or three months' pay. I am no politician, nor neither do I know what politics you are, but if Old Abe does run again, and they get that bill passed in our Legislature to allow us poor soldiers to vote, I will give him a hoist. But I do not want to take up your time with nonsense. I will close.

Remaining very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
WM. GRAHAM,
Battery G, Penn. Vols.

The report of Mr. Mühleck, one of the Relief Agents on the Potomac, contains some striking illustrations of the variety of the forms and degrees of suffering which we are called on to relieve—some of them touching enough, even to read of.

The rumors and apparent preparations for a move prevented me from leaving the store house to-day. But I would feel discontented, should I not mention that I have had the pleasure of doing good this Sunday afternoon. A young Sergeant of the 12th Massachusetts, pale and emaciated, stopped at our door, asking for some blackberry syrup. We had none; and he was quietly walking down the street, when I remarked that his weakness and prostration were so great that he could hardly walk. I called him back, and inquired what he was suffering from. He answered, from "chronic diarrhœa." He also told me that he was reported for discharge, but that he felt that unless the air of his home and a mother's care should very soon reach him, he would die. I gave him some cordial, filled his pockets with crackers and a piece of chocolate, and then he left the store.

He was deeply affected; I myself, hardly less than he.

At night fall, most of the 3d Corps passed through here. Quite a number of them, who felt weak and sick, stepped in and begged for some crackers, and in some instances, for stimulants. I complied with promptness and discernment. I had hardly sat down again to finish this report, when another fine young fellow from the 10th Vermont helped along by a Surgeon of his regiment, was brought in. The poor lad, in the darkness, had fallen down a high and steep embankment, fracturing his left arm, and probably his right fore arm. He was covered with dirt, and suffering intensely. George washed his face, while Norris rushed for bandages and rags, and I was helping the Surgeon in cutting his blouse and shirt off his body. I gave him some stimulants, and after he got examined and his arms partly dressed, I had him carried to the nearest hospital, (First Division.) His Surgeon, I add with great pleasure, was all care and kindness to him. Thus closes the first week of my new duties, although I had, previously to my connection with this Sanitary Commission, an idea of its work. Yet, I confess, I never appreciated the whole extent of its results and fruits. Happy do I feel, indeed, to be an instrument in thus dealing out the gifts of a grateful nation to her brave sons in the field.

Mr. Warner Johnson writes from the Brandy Station:

Our Lodge at Brandy Station has been found very useful to soldiers passing to and from the Army of the Potomac. One a wall tent, and two hospital tents, have been provided with bunks and supplied with abundant clothing. Since the 10th of January, one hundred and twenty soldiers found shelter for the night, who would otherwise have had the sky or their canopy, and no protection from the severity of the weather. About fifteen civilians, who had been benighted, have also been sheltered by us. Upon one occasion, a large number of artillery recruits reached here about dusk, whose brigades were scattered in various directions. In number about forty, they filled our three tents, and the floor of our main room; cooked their supper and breakfast, and left for their destination, well pleased with their accommodations. Last night about twenty soldiers filled our tents, and left this morning for their camps. We are enabled to save them much discomfort and suffering.

We find in the New Orleans *Era* of Febuary 6, the following testimony as to the labors of our Agents in that quarter:

Dr. Blake, the efficient Agent of the Sanitary Commission, has fitted up the steamer Laurel Hill with conveniences for the transportation of sick and discharged soldiers to Cairo. It is his intention to furnish every man a comfortable cabin passage on this boat, and to this end has had the state rooms put in order, and supplied with new bedding, blankets, &c. In addition to this he has had bunks fitted up in the saloon capable of accommodating eighty-eight passengers. The table arrangements will admit of a large number to be seated at once. All the provisions, furniture, towels, bedding, cooking utensils, table furniture, &c., have been furnished by the Sanitary Commission, and are quite new.

The advantages of a cabin passage, with regularly cooked warm meals, on a steamboat to Cairo, over a deck passage by sea, are too obvious to need pointing out. The sick defender of the flag has found a friend in Dr. Blake, whom he will have reason to long remember and thank.

The Laurel Hill is a Government transport, and will bring freight to the Quartermaster on her return from Cairo, which, at present rates of freight, will more than pay her running expenses. It will be remembered that she was caught in a gale in the Gulf last September, in which she lost her smoke-stacks, and was damaged somewhat in her upper works. She has been thoroughly repaired and painted, and being a very staunch vessel, is in all respects as good as new. It was expected that she would leave for Cairo last night, under command of the experienced Captain Thomas, but it is likely that she will be detained until some time to-day.

And Mr. Bullard writes us, February 20th:

My communication with General Reynolds, through Dr. Stipp, has resulted quite as successfully as could have been anticipated. A camp of distribution has been organized, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Webb. The Soldiers' Home has been as fully transferred to my care, by a special order from Gen. Reynolds, as under the circumstances could be desired.

* * * * * *

The arrival of the Pension Agent, Mr. Seaton, and his clerk, was very opportune. He already has his office crowded. There will be more than he can do in a few days. We shall be obliged to get for him more clerks. This "Home," on account of its central position in this Department, where necessarily large numbers of discharged and furloughed men gather and sometimes wait for transportation, is destined to be one of the most important connected with the Commission. As the Pension Office is near the Home, and in the same building with the Special Relief Office, which is already pretty well known among officials, it will have every facility for a large work.

* * * * * *

Good Out of Evil.—On the last trip of the transport steamer Cahawba to this port, a party of soldiers, contrary to Army regulations, engaged in gambling. Col. Stephen Thomas, of the 8th Vermont Regiment, fearing trouble would arise from this evil practice, determined to initiate the soldiers, who were new recruits, into Army rules and benefit their suffering comrades at the same time. He confiscated all the money on the board, and on arriving at the city turned it over to Dr. Geo. A. Blake, Chief Agent of the Sanitary Commission in this Department. The funds seized amounted to $135, and will be used for the relief of sick and wounded soldiers. This is a practical illustration that sometimes "Good cometh out of evil."—*New Orleans Era, Feb.* 12.

THE COMMISSION IN EUROPE.

We gave some account in No. 6 of the BULLETIN of the formation in Paris of an "European Branch of the Sanitary Commission," owing to the exertions of Dr. McClintock, and expressed the hope that we should before very long begin to reap the fruits of its labors, in the shape of contributions from the American residents abroad. It will be seen from the following extract from a letter just received from the Secretary, Mr. Bowles, that these expectations already begin to be realized:

Enclosed I now beg leave to band you bill of lading of one case of books—German, I suppose—which has been sent me by the Rev. L. S. Jacoby, of Bremen. In writing to the different German cities on the Continent, I mentioned that donations of German books would be acceptable, as we had so many of that nation in our army. I have another lot, which I expect to forward soon. You will also receive some boxes, which I shall ship this week, containing presents for the Metropolitan Fair from this city. If it can be managed, it is very desirable that these boxes be not opened at the Custom House, as it will be impossible for them to do so and return the goods without serious breakage. I shall give you complete lists of their contents, probably certified by our Consul, Mr. Bigelow. You will also receive some packages for the Fair, which are not sent through me, and are directed to private individuals who are to have tables at the said Fair. As Dr. Bellows' idea seems to be a Paris Table, perhaps it would be well for him to see these persons, and suggest that these be added to the general contribution from this city, and I think the ladies who receive them would expect an invitation to attend the table.

I have ordered two hundred and fifty cases of brandy, one dozen *litre* bottles each case, which will be ready in about ten days. We have chosen a different quality from that about which I last wrote, this costing in the neighborhood of f.2.50 per *litre*. The other was too new, and we were afraid to send it.

We have already commented upon the singular fact that, at the International Sanitary Conference recently held in Geneva, no mention was made of the United States Sanitary Commission; nor did, as far as we can judge from the report of the proceedings, any member of the Conference seem to be aware that there was any such body in existence. The diffusion amongst these gentlemen of information concerning the amount of labor we have already accomplished in the very field on which they are just entering, is one of the tasks which the new Branch promises to perform with great efficiency. Mr. Bowles has already commenced the distribution of our documents. He says, in the letter from which we have already quoted:

I likewise enclose you a copy of a letter received from M. J. Henri Dunant, (prominent in the Genevan Sanitary Congress,) which, you will observe, is very friendly in its tone. I shall learn if there is another Congress to be held, and when, in order that the Commission may send delegates, should they wish to. Some publications, also received from him, in which the labors of the United States Sanitary Commission are recognized, I will send with the other goods.

M. Dunant's letter is as follows:

[TRANSLATION.]

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst., for which I cordially thank you.

I accept, with the liveliest gratitude, the offer which you make in behalf of your Committee to correspond with me, and to send me the statistical and other documents now in your possession, or which you may hereafter receive, concerning the operations of the Commission in the United States.

On my part, I shall take care to forward you all documents which I shall consider of a nature to interest you. The experience which you have acquired in America will be valuable to us; and, unfortunately, I fear we shall soon be obliged to put into practice in many countries of Europe, those ideas of humanity and of charity, the success of which we have all of us so much at heart.

I am rejoiced, sir, to have opened relations with you, and I beg to present my best thanks to your Committee.

Receive, sir, the expression of my high consideration and respectful esteem.

J. HENRI DUNANT,
Secretary of the International European Conference and Secretary of the Genevan International Committee.

GENEVA, *February* 12, 1864.

THE WORK OF "RELIEF."

MR. KNAPP reports concerning the "Relief Work"—"general" and "special"—of the Commission, during the month of January.

Although the hospitals have not been full, and there have been no important movements in the field, yet there has been found constant occasion for the services of the Agents of the Commission, and the aid thus rendered has met real needs.

The general hospitals have been visited once each week, or oftener, and their actual wants supplied, while the aim has been constantly kept in view to make both Surgeons and patients feel as little dependent as possible upon any outside help, but rely upon securing the supplies furnished by Government, and upon the proceeds of a well-regulated "Hospital Fund."

The regimental hospitals have been visited constantly by the "Field Relief Corps" stationed with the several armies.

For the *Army of the Potomac*, the report of Dr. Steiner, Chief Inspector, will show you that his systematic method of work has aimed to keep him informed of the condition of all the regiments in that army; he embraces also in his care the troops in the vicinity of Harper's Ferry, of Point Lookout, of Norfolk, and of Fortress Monroe.

From *Newbern, N. C.*, and *Beaufort, S. C.*, no regular reports for the month have been received, but letters from Dr. Page and Dr. Marsh indicate that the relief work of the Commission at both these stations has been conducted, as in months past, with faithful efficiency. It will probably be necessary to enlarge our work in Dr. Marsh's Department by the establishment of a "Home," and an Agency for Special Relief at Hilton Head, and perhaps at one other point in that vicinity. Dr. Marsh has requested to be furnished with a plan for establishing and conducting a "Home" or "Lodge" at that place. It will be sent to him.

From "*The Department of the Gulf*" the reports are quite full, and very satisfactory. They indicate increased zeal and efficiency on the part of all the Agents of the Commission there; and on the part of soldiers and officers a continued and grateful recognition of the good service rendered by Dr. Blake and his associates in labor.

These reports cover the month of January, but date back some of them into December. They give record of relief service rendered *during the past few weeks, to twenty-one different military stations by personal visit by our relief agents with stores, and also of supplies furnished to eleven other stations.* Among the places of larger importance are New Orleans, New Iberia, Brashear City, Baton Rouge, Port Hudson, Forts Pike, Pickens and Barrancas, Decrovas Point, Texas, and Brownsville.

* * * * *

The vegetables sent in such abundance by the Commission to New Orleans, for distribution, have proved of immense good. Other supplies have been promptly received by our Agents there in advance of needs. Dr. Blake makes an earnest appeal for a boat, whereby independent transportation can be secured to the Commission for carrying supplies to points where needs exists, but to which transportation is often with great difficulty secured. It is a question, whether, in case we fail to obtain such boat from Government, it will not be wise and right for the Commission to purchase, and place there a small steamboat for this service, especially in view of the call which will probably be made the coming Spring upon the Commission for supplies to be carried to various points from New Orleans as a base.

Arrangements have been completed by which an Agency of the Commission for obtaining pensions, back pay and bounty has been established in New Orleans; and an experienced man (Mr. Seaton, recently of the Pension Office,) with a clerk, has been appointed to the work there, with all possible facilities secured to them by the Commissioner of Pensions and by the Second Auditor.

In connection with this work, Dr. Blake, of the Sanitary Commission, Chief Inspector for the Department of the Gulf, has been appointed by the Commissioner of Pensions "Examining Surgeon."

A large and very important field for special relief service of this particular kind (pensions, back pay and bounty,) is opened in New Orleans, and the distance of that place from the usual sources of assistance and information, renders the soldiers, or their families, stationed there peculiarly liable to those unjust dealings of claim agents against which the Commission seek to guard all who need help and protection.

The branch of special relief work at New Orleans and vicinity, which embraces "Homes" and "Lodges," is very satisfactory. The "Home" at New Orleans itself has been regularly transferred by the Western Sanitary Commission to the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

At "Brashear City" a "Home" has been established, which is rendering large kindness to many way-worn soldiers. Arrangements are also made by which Lodges will be established wherever and as fast as the necessities of the Army in that region call for or admit of their establishment. All the *material* for fitting up such Homes are in waiting at the store house in New Orleans.

* * * * *

Provision is made to accumulate a somewhat large amount of *supplies at the receiving store house* in Washington, to meet, probably, demands made by the Spring campaigns.

During this month no opportunity has been offered for the Commission to forward supplies to the prisoners at Richmond.

* * * * *

The Hospital Directory continues its kindly service, with constantly increasing facilities for usefulness.

MY EXPERIENCE OF THE GREAT FAIR.

I am no fabulous personage, neither a traveling sunbeam, nor a future New Zealander, nor one of the two horsemen who might have been seen coming over a hill, nor Robinson Crusoe, nor a Bourbon among us, nor an intelligent and reliable gentleman just escaped from Richmond.

My name is Watts. My wife married a Watts—and so that must be my true name. The story I shall tell is equally true. Some tales are admired because they abound in uncommon incidents, strange personages, original thoughts. But I have heard it said that the greatest productions of genius address themselves at once to the common experience of mankind. The present is one of those productions. On reading the first sheets to a select party of friends the other night, I was overwhelmed by their exclamations of astonishment and indignation. Jones, who lives at 152; Spriggs, who resides at 148; the charming widow in 154, and the crusty bachelor of 146 (all residents, you perceive, of our block), charged me with the unwarrantable publication of their own private experiences. I quieted their turbulence with one remark: "My friends," said I, "in regard to the Sanitary Fair, all good people feel and act alike. Portraying, therefore, in this respect, the history of a single virtuous soul, I have held a mirror to all virtuous souls." They breathed assent—all save Jones, who muttered "humbug!" but finding himself unsupported, even by the crusty bachelor, relapsed into cynic silence.

Not being one of those distinguished citizens who provided the preliminary $70,000 for the Fair, I noticed the effects of its approach first of all in my wife. We are all young folks, and our family consists of one remarkable boy. My wife had always had a weakness for worsteds, and of late she had lavished the products of her skill on that extraordinary child. Inasmuch as Susan was not extravagant in other respects, I had hitherto paid without a murmur her worsted bills, though in some families the introduction of so much zephyr would certainly have produced a storm. But now I saw with surprise that operations were in progress for which the existence of that inimitable babe was no adequate excuse. Certainly, an infant six months old, with Afghans, two breakfast capes, eight sacks, two hoods, an opera cloak, a pair of leggins, a red Sontag, a brown ditto, a pin cushion, ten pairs of socks, and knit underclothes innumerable and unmentionable, was sufficiently provided for. It was, therefore, with awe and wonder that I saw the beginning of a huge Afghan, which assumed, as it proceeded, the hues and features of the Star Spangled Banner. Now, I knew that a certain General, on the occasion of a serenade, had brought out upon a balcony his wife and baby, the latter wrapped in the American flag; and I remembered that my Susan reading of the circumstance in the newspaper, had been much impressed with the beauty and sublimity of the idea. I felt a fearful presentiment that she was about to try its effect upon our infant. I knew that my military reputation would not justify such a step. To be sure, I joined in the great Pennsylvania campaign, and sojourned a month in the hospital with other rheumatic warriors in the gallant —th; but all this did not prevent me from saying on the present occasion: "My dear, what are you doing? I hope that isn't for the baby!"

Susan having a gift of eloquence equal, I think, to Miss Dickenson, replied impromptu: "Yes, love! isn't it beautiful! and Matilda is going to make one just like it; and we are going to have a table; and I am on the committee, and so is that hateful Miss Jewsharp—and I want fifty dollars to buy materials—and, O, Augustus, you must write one hundred nice letters in poetry, you know—Mrs. Duffin says so—and all your grandfather's Revolutionary clothes and things, you know—and—"

"Susan!" I said suddenly, in my most impressive tone, "*will* you have the goodness to tell me what you are talking about?"

Thrown a little off her guard, she replied: "Why, don't you know! It's the Sanitary Fair!" For this direct and almost manly reply, I rewarded her with a green-backed fifty. This was the beginning of the beginning. As for the end, I dimly foresee it, and long for it, but it tarries afar off.

Thank Heaven, I am a philanthropist and a patriot. I do not object to being bled for soldiers, who are daily bleeding for us all. It will be seen, as my narrative proceeds, that beneath a graceful exterior of trifling mirthfulness, or even of satire, I carry a remarkably large and generous heart. In this respect I resemble the lamented Thackeray.—*From the Drum Beat, published by the Brooklyn Sanitary Fair.*

THE SOLDIERS' JOURNAL.

The first number of a new military periodical has reached us. It appeared on the 17th February, under the style of *The Soldiers' Journal*, and is published at the Convalescent Camp near Alexandria, Va., under the auspices of Miss Amy M. Beadley, the admirable and efficient Superintendent of the Relief Agency of the Sanitary Commission at that important center. It aims at supplying the thousands of men assembled there with wholesome reading-matter, and their friends and the people with information of their well-being and well-doing. This first number promises well, and the undertaking deserves support. Periodicals of this class should be collected and preserved, as material for the future histories of this great and memorable War. Twenty years hence stray numbers of them will be worth much more than their weight in gold.

WHO EATS THE SANITARY SUPPLIES?

The following testimony from Dr. Townshend is worthy of attention:

ST. LOUIS, MO., *February* 8, 1864.

MY DEAR WIFE—Your letter of the 1st inst., referring to the U. S. Sanitary Commission, was received to-day, and I reply immediately that you may have my testimony to use whenever it will encourage those whose hearts and hands are already in the work, or answer the objections of those who have listened to adverse reports.

And let me remind you at the outset, that my opportunities for observing are not simply those of a common soldier or line officer of equal rank, or Army Surgeons even, but much better; for, as Medical Inspector, I have wider range than either of them, and nothing else to do but look after what affects the health and comfort of the men, including, of course, food, clothing, shelter, surgical and medical treatment and nursing. I have seen not less than 25,000 sick and wounded men in hospitals, and have therefore many opportunities of judging of the doings of the Sanitary Commission, and now I will give you some of the conclusions at which I have arrived.

First.—I think it is far the best medium through which to send material comforts to the sick of the Army, and greatly preferable to State or local agencies. The Sanitary Commission is unitary and simple, embraces the whole field, and therefore overlooks nothing and duplicates nothing. Where would a State agent find his troops? In perhaps twenty different army corps in every Rebel State. A local agent, who cannot see the whole field, and don't know what has been sent here or there, cannot know where succor is most needed, and he lacks the facilities for communication and transportation.

Second.—The Agents of the Commission are not paid out of funds which you in Ohio contributed, nor do they consume the eatables which Aid Societies have sent. The salaried agents are paid from a California fund devoted to that purpose. I have often taken meals with the Agents of the Commission at their stations, and have invariably had set before me only what the market afforded, or the Agent's personal resources could supply.

Third.—I have no evidence that line officers ever use Sanitary stores, for they are never put under their charge, nor can they obtain possession of them by purchase or otherwise.

Sanitary stores designed for distribution among the sick of a hospital, are put under the control of the Surgeon in charge.

That stores, while in charge of the Surgeon, may in some instances have been misapplied, or used, or stolen, is possible, as of the stores belonging to the Government, but that the Surgeon in charge of any hospital has shared in or connived at any such misapplication, I have never heard charged by any person who had the means of knowing.

Two months since I visited (without notice,) the best hospital in Knoxville. Soon after I arrived the Surgeon's dinner-bell rang. I was invited to dinner. On the table was a clean table-cloth, and clean plates, and knives, and forks, and *pork*, and *bran bread*, and nothing else. The bread had not sufficient flour in it to hold it together; its cohesion appeared to depend on a little molasses used in the manufacture. I was helped bountifully. We all ate heartily, and no apologies were offered. On examining afterwards the food of several of the patients, I found them using good bread and crackers, and on inquiry learned there was not then (a few days after Longstreet left,) enough flour or army bread for all, and therefore the surgeons, the nurses and the patients, whose diseases would permit, used the bran bread, while the fine flour bread was reserved for those who had affections of the bowels. Other patients I found using garden vegetables of various kinds, and I learned that the supply being very short these were reserved for cases inclining to scurvy and other cases specially needing them; the surgeons, the nurses and patients who had nearly recovered could not indulge in such luxuries. Do you think that such Medical Officers would rob the sick soldier of a few delicacies that might be sent by his friends? A few days later I had the satisfaction of seeing two hundred and fifty packages of Sanitary stores, in addition to Government supplies sent from Chattanooga to the hospitals at Knoxville, and I have no fears that the doctors ate them up.

But why is it that returned soldiers do not more frequently express their gratitude for the comforts sent them? Because in most instances Sanitary stores are not distributed to the men directly by the Agent, but indirectly through the Surgeon in charge, and this is the only safe rule. Thousands of men in hospitals are wearing socks, drawers, shirts, and lying on beds, fed with food, and have their wounds bound up with bandages, all from the Sanitary Commission, without a suspicion of the fact. The Sanitary Agent tells the Surgeon what he has—the Surgeon tells the Agent what he wants, and it is put at his disposal to be given out as required. The Sanitary Agent, in his frequent visits to the hospitals, sees that his contribu-

tions are properly used; while the recipient himself may not know, or may not be in a condition to know, whether what he eats and drinks and wears comes from Uncle Sam himself, or some dear aunt or pretty cousin.

But, at the same time, scores of shirking loafers who are not sick, but pretend to a lame back, or a weak stomach, or fainting spells, are constantly endeavoring to sponge something out of Sanitary Agents; and if they fail, as they usually do, for these cowardly, grunting *melingerers* are easily recognized, they go away prepared to tell stories about the misapplication of Sanitary stores.

In short, I am satisfied that the Sanitary Commission is a well organized and well managed institution, and that it is the best possible agent for the distribution of what home fingers can prepare for the soldier.

I think, also, that for the coming Spring campaign we shall need all that can be raised, and I don't believe we shall need any thing afterwards.

As ever, yours,

N. S. TOWNSHEND.

RELIEF AND SUPPLY DEPARTMENT OF THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

From February 15th to February 24th, the stores and supplies issued to the Army from the New York office of the Commission, under the direction of the Standing Committee, have been as follows:

Sheets	603	Slippers	768
Socks	3,079	Farina	447
Bed Sacks	500	Dried Fruit	42
Pillow Cases	956	Beef Stock	906
Shirts	4,781	Jars Jelly	879
Drawers	4,098	Cordial, &c	1,035
Blankets	726	White Sugar	200
Towels	3,998	Pickles	2,150
Handkerchiefs	2,644	Cond. Milk	5,568
Mittens	638		

These have been forwarded to the points at which the wants of the Army have seemed most urgent. The largest portion has gone to Charleston Harbor, to North Carolina, to New Orleans, and to the Associate Secretary at Louisville, to be used under his direction, for the aid and comfort of our forces at Chattanooga and Knoxville. For this work the Central Treasury maintains, at heavy cost, steam transportation on the Western waters.

The estimated value of these supplies is $23,851.88.

They have been mostly drawn from the depot of the New York Branch, (the admirable and efficient Women's Central Association of Relief,) but a considerable portion of them has been necessarily purchased, and has been paid for by the Central Treasury. It is hardly necessary to observe, that the foregoing list does not include such supplies (doubtless of at least equal amount,) that have been drawn by the Commission from its other Branch Depots, East and West, during the same period.

The *garden seeds* that have been sent to the South and Southwest are to be used in the establishment of vegetable gardens at Hilton Head and other points, that will supply our men with anti-scorbutics, and thus save the heavy cost of shipping cargoes of potatoes and onions to the South, and the risk of spoiling on the way.

HOSPITAL SUPPLIES.

WASHINGTON, *February* 1, 1864.

F. N. KNAPP,
Associate Secretary:

SIR—I herewith send you the report of Fresh Hospital Supply Department of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, for the month ending January 31, 1864:

Butter, print	586	lbs	Squash	1½	doz
" roll	4,873	"	Quails	½	"
" tub	4,371	"	Herbs	451	bch
Mutton	9,788	"	Sage	5	"
Lamb	102	"	Celery	25	"
Poultry	4,064	"	Oyster Plant	20	"
Veal	637	"	Lemons	6	bxs
Lard	240	"	Apples	72	bus
Fresh Fish	124	"	Turnips	234½	"
Salt "	4,000	"	Carrots	18	"
Pork	245½	"	Onions	117¾	"
Dry Apples	1,632	"	Beets	210	"
" Peaches	10	"	Potatoes	311¾	"
Dressed Turkey	337¾	"	Rutabaga	36	"
" Duck	68	"	Parsnips	15	"
" Geese	16½	"	Sweet Potatoes	54	"
Eggs	3,912½	doz	Oats	12¼	"
Cabbage	3,638	hds	Live Chickens	113	prs
Oysters	5	gall	Prairie "	1	"
Cranberries	962	qts	Mackerel	½	bbl
Ale	2	bbls	Ale	10	doz
Sausages	15	lbs			

The amount of weight of the above supplies as taken from bills of Adams Express Co., is 129,071 lbs. or 64 tons, 1,071 lbs.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. B. CLARK,
Superintendent.

THE "SOLDIERS' HOMES" IN TENNESSEE.

During the four weeks ending January 30, there were received at the "Soldiers' Lodge," Memphis, 1,096 men, from seventeen States; 3,926 meals were furnished, and 1,205 lodgings. The average number admitted per day was: the first week, 90; the second week, —; the third week, 91, and the fourth week, 116. Papers were corrected for 14; 16 were aided in drawing pay, and 7 were sent to hospitals.

At the "Soldiers' Home," Nashville, during the same time, there have been admitted 2,478 from twenty different States; 9,818 meals have been furnished, and 3,906 lodgings. The average number admitted during the first week was 286; the second, 191; the third, 228; fourth, 195. Papers were corrected for 3, and 113 were aided in drawing pay.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TARRYTOWN, *February*, 1854.

MR. EDITOR.—Tarrytown, not the least among the many charming places along the borders of the Hudson River, is surely, also, not the last on the list of villages noted for a sincere and devoted patriotism.

The spot where Arnold's treason came to shame and confusion does still, it seems to us, glory in an atmosphere of a pure and earnest love for our country, and an *unconditional* loyalty to our Government.

We were impressed with this conviction when some weeks since we were permitted to attend an entertainment given for the benefit of our brave, but sick and wounded soldiers, and under the auspices of the "Soldiers' Aid Society of Tarrytown." This society, numbering some seventy members—a branch of that giant and sublime charity, the "Sanitary Commission," which latter scatters its blessings over half a continent—is, we grant, but a twig as compared with many sister societies in the same glorious cause; but one which, from the character of the women engaged in it, we are convinced is bearing healthy and plentiful fruits. We hope we may be pardoned for employing the good old Saxon word *women* in this connection, for we believe that every true Northern *woman* is loyal to her heart's center. We can imagine a fine lady, of the genuine Flora McFlimsey pattern, to be a traitress; but a true-hearted woman, "a perfect woman, nobly planned," with a copperhead, except in the shape of a husband, would be as monstrous a creation as the Grecian Sphinx, and one that would propound to us a riddle as deep and as unanswerable as did, it is said, the abovementioned monstrosity of old.

We can furnish no better evidence of the working efficacy of the "Soldiers' Aid Society" of this place, than to mention that it is under the management of Mrs. Wm. S. Wilson, as President; Mrs. Chas. Rhind, Treasurer; and Miss Christina Wilson, Corresponding Secretary—as able an administration as may be found in the land.

The pleasant musical entertainment, which we intended to make the subject of our communication, was held on the evening of the 22d ultimo, in the hall owned by the Messrs. Smith & Morris, which gentlemen, with praiseworthy and patriotic liberality, gave the use of the house free of all and every expense. The performers were Mr. D. D. Griswold, the well known and pleasing ballad singer; and a Mr. Jacobsen, (a resident musician, we believe,) assisted by three of his fair pupils. Mr. Griswold's rendering of several Scotch and Irish ballads was certainly most admirable, and elicited a hearty applause from the large and decidedly appreciative audience. The instrumental performers did themselves fair credit, and had it been otherwise, it would be very ungracious, indeed, to criticise where all had so generously volunteered their services. Mr. Wilson, in the course of the evening, offered a vote of thanks to Messrs. Griswold and Jacobsen, which was carried by acclamation; responding to which, Mr. Jacobsen's remarks led us to infer that he is not a lover of copperheads.

The *net* proceeds of the concert were $80, which sum, under the judicious direction of Mrs. Wilson, will furnish many comforts for our gallant but suffering soldiers. God bless the noble men, women and children engaged in the patriotic work.

NESBOCAJ.

THE VITAL AND SANITARY STATISTICS OF THE BRITISH ARMY IN INDIA, COMPARED WITH THOSE OF THE FRENCH TROOPS, UNDER LIKE CONDITIONS OF CLIMATE AND LOCALITY.

[Paper read before the British Association, August, 1863.]

If the progress of intelligence and advance of civilization have widened the source of some diseases, by developing to a greater extent the fatal results of vicious habits and disorderly passions among the multitude, some compensation for such will be found in the present advanced state of the several sciences, and more particularly of preventive and curative medicine, to which statistics have been successfully applied, in proof of the deductions that are made in regard to health. The practical application of the precepts of *hygiène*, by removing the sources of many diseases, has rendered them less frequent, and less fatal, in all climates, than they proved to be in former ages. Since the beginning of the present century, a remarkable and advantageous change has been thus effected; and, through such means the ravages of epidemic diseases, and the mortality-rate of prisons, hospitals, and poor houses, existing for the use of our civil population, have been greatly diminished. Thus the disturbing influence of burial grounds, filthy and undrained localities in London, of the present seasons, and overcrowding on the life of man, which gave rise to prevailing diseases from the plague years 1593, 1603, 1625, 1636, and 1665 to that of 1838, have been so far ameliorated, according to the second report of the Registrar-General, as to cause a reduction of the mean mortality from 25 to 2.81 per cent.* In proportion also as the salubrious condition of London has been improved, the distribution of deaths, among the various periods of the year, has been more and more equalized, till the maximum of mortality for late years has ceased to correspond, as formerly, to the hot months of July, August, and September.

* "Second Report of the Registrar-General," p. 89, London, 1840.

What has been so happily accomplished for the improved health and comfort of our civil population, can in a great measure be secured for our soldiers, both at home and abroad. The practical measures carried out after the report of the Commissioners, appointed in 1857, to examine into the condition and administration of our army hospitals, and into the operation of regulations in force to prevent disease in our army, both at home and abroad, have been followed by a reduction in the rate of mortality of our infantry at home, from 15.5 per 1,000 effective men in 1828, to 8.77 in 1859 and 1860.* Dr. T. Graham Balfour's report, for this last year, has also stated the mortality of infantry of the line at home, for fifteen years, 1839-53 inclusive, to have been 16.9 per 1,000. But for the credit of the medical department of the Royal Army, the fact must not be passed over, that the army statistical reports, begun in 1835 by Mr. Henry Marshall, Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, while associated with Lieutenant Tulloch, 45th Regiment, (now Major-General Sir A. M. Tulloch, K.C.B.,) and continued by the latter, with the assistance of Dr. T. Graham Balfour (now Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals,) first called attention to the condition of the soldier in regard to health, and the various deteriorating agencies which affected it. These reports led to the expediency of establishing the Registrar-General's Department, through which accurate information, on the extent and causes of mortality among the civil population, has been obtained. In 1838 the Commissioners' report, on the sanitary condition of the British Army, was published and laid before Parliament, followed by that on the organization of the Indian Army in 1859; and in this, the present year, 1863, we are favored with the very valuable and elaborate report of the Commissioners, appointed in 1859, to inquire into the sanitary state of the army in India.

In endeavoring to bring before you a short digest of the important information, collected in these volumes, regarding the influence of hot climates on the health of Europeans, and more particularly India, I propose to make free use of these reports, and of the statistical, sanitary, and medical reports of the Army Medical Department, for the years 1859 and 1860; as well as the collateral information, obtainable from the various reports on the mortality and sickness of English troops in India, published in the several volumes of the Statistical Society's *Journal*. For the facts on which a comparison may be made between the sanitary statistics of English and French troops, in hot climates, I shall chiefly have recourse to those supplied by M. Boudin in his "Traité de Géographie et de Statistique Médicales, et des Maladies Endémiques," Paris, 1857, and in his other publications on this subject.

We can scarcely overestimate the importance of ascertaining the causes and extent of losses sustained by armies, even in their native country, and in times of peace, from the ravages of disease; inasmuch as we cannot otherwise determine the expense of efficiently maintaining them, both at home and abroad. Independently of the annual decrements in armies, produced by various contingencies, as the good and bad materials that compose them, their ever-varying conditions under service, according to time and place, we must endeavor to fix the rates of their losses from disease, according to age and climate, and their ever-variable reductions by war and invaliding. Military service, when performed under apparently most salubrious conditions of both locality and climate, whether at home or abroad, is generally found associated with a higher rate of mortality than that incident to the indigenous inhabitants of the soil; and as this difference is not so strongly marked among officers, subject to like climatic influences, as among the non-commissioned officers and men, it is for the most part produced by a greater amount of intemperance and other vicious habits among the latter, and by overcrowding in the barracks. The proof of this will be manifest from the following ratios of mortality among the civil male population of England and Wales generally, of the officers of the Royal Artillery serving in England during the year 1860, and of the infantry of the line from 1839 to 1853:

	Mean mortality, per 1,000.
Civil male population, England and Wales generally*.....	9.28
Officers of the foot artillery, at home, 1860.	7.04
Infantry of the line, at home, for fifteen years, 1839-53.....†	16.8

The proportion of mortality among the civil population of France, between 20 and 30 years of age, rises to 12 per 1,000; that of the infantry of the army at home, 22.3 per 1,000,† and of the non-commissioned officers 10.8.

Since the sickness and sanitary condition of armies, therefore, may be derivable from mixed causes of locality, overcrowding in barracks, meteorological climate, dietetic

*The former is the death-rate of troops serving for thirty-two years, from 1797 to 1828. See Boudin's "Statistique de la Mortalité des Armées de Terre et de Mer," Paris, 1846, p. 2, and Dr. Balfour's "Statistical Report for 1860," p. 13, where the mean of the two years is as stated.

*The data for England and Wales generally, have been obtained from Dr. Farr's life table, in the twelfth volume of the Registrar-General's "Reports," and from the "Army Statistical and Sanitary Report," 1860, p. 141, and Table 55 in Appendix to the Sanitary Commissioners' Report, "On the Regulations affecting the Sanitary Condition of the Army," London, 1858, p. 476.

†M. Boudin's "Statistique Médicale des Armées," p. 8, and "Statistique de l'Etat Sanitaire et de la Mortalité des Armées de Terre et de Mer," Paris, 1846, p. 16.

errors, and vice, it is necessary to carefully sift and separate such mixed causes, and assign to each their due influence, in the production of increased ratios of military sickness and mortality. Much may be otherwise laid to the deteriorating influences of climate, which are only effects of insalubrious localities, overcrowding, dietetic errors, and vicious habits.

Sickness and increased ratios of mortality among European masses, removed to new climates, seem inseparably associated with smaller numerical degrees of latitude, as we advance nearer the Equator; and even in France we find that, for the provinces of its northern latitudes, the average mortality is 1 in 44, but for those of the south 1 in 33. How much more then must such averages increase among English troops, serving in the tropical climates of India, or of French troops in other hot climates, under like insalubrious conditions. The localities occupied by either, and which come properly under the denomination of hot climates, lie from the Equator to the thirtieth and sometimes the thirty-fifth degree of north or south latitude. In Asia, and regions of the south, these are India on this side and beyond the Ganges, Ceylon, Arabia, Persia, and Cochin China; in North Africa, Algeria, and on the west Senegal; and to the south, the African islands of Réunion, Mauritius, Bourbon, and Madagascar; and in South America, Guiana, the French Antilles, or Martinique and Guadeloupe, and the English Antilles, or islands in the Gulf of Mexico, with all that part of our possessions called the West Indies.

It is not less evident, from Dr. Forry's report of the sickness and mortality in the army of the United States, that the ratios of military mortality in that country increase, as we proceed from the north to the south :

North.....	18.8	deaths for 1,000	effective strength.
South.....	52.3	" "	"
Center.....	44.2	" "	"

The causes for such increase being the combined insalubrious agencies of increased temperature and malarious localities. The greatly increased proportion of *miasmatic endemic diseases*, which we find admitted into hospitals from such places, clearly indicates that they have their origin more from endemic influences of locality, than the peculiar meteorological condition of the climate. It was for these reasons I stated in my evidence before the Royal Commission, appointed in 1859, "that in *tropical* "*latitudes* the mortality must be higher "than in *temperate latitudes*, even after all "that may be done for the troops by the "very best prophylactic measures, both *en*-"*demic* and *dietetic*."

After these preliminary observations on the mortality and sanitary state of English and French troops, employed in their native country, I proceed to briefly consider their relative mortality, and sanitary condition, when serving in *tropical climates*, more particularly India; and for the state of the former, past and present, I cannot do better than refer for information to the "Report of the Royal Sanitary Commission," just published.

The ratios of mortality, deduced from given numbers of men, are at once the measure of their lives and the healthiness of the places they inhabit. They differ for the different countries of Europe, and for the localities, according to the greater or less salubrity of particular regions and their geological formation; and are always lower for the indigenous inhabitants of the soil, than for those who migrate there from other countries. Those for Europeans, exposed to the climatic vicissitudes of military life, and other contingencies of service, show an increase, in proportion to the proximity of residence to the Equator, and unremoved sources of endemic disease there, as bad water, bad drainage, filthy locality, overcrowded and ill-constructed barracks, in combination with dietetic errors, vice, intemperance, and want of suitable clothing, occupation, and exercise, according to the conditions of climate and seasons. It would be quite impossible, amidst such extended subjects of inquiry, to select more than a tithe of them for illustration on this occasion; and I shall, therefore, confine myself to the three following heads :

1st. Mortality, and other ratios of decrement of the effective strength of European troops, serving in India, and other hot climates.

2d. The sanitary ameliorations of the sickness and mortality effected of late years.

3d. The sanitary measures still necessary for application to English troops in India.

According to Table I, copied from No. 10 in the Appendix to the "Report of the "Commissioners on the Sanitary State of "the Army in India," the average rate of military mortality there, for eighty-six years, is given at 67.9 per 1,000; being at the same time stated, in the body of the report at 69 in 1,000 during the present century. The following are the words of the report:* "The deaths in the fifty-six years, "1800-56, among all the Company's non-"commissioned officers and men, including "invalids, in India, amounted to 40,420 out "of an aggregate of 588,820 years of life, "obtained by adding up the average an-"nual strength in those years; so the an-"nual rate of mortality has been 69 in 1,000 "during the present century.

"The mortality rate was as high as 134 "in the first Mahratta War, and it was as "low as 41 in 1852. It was high again in

* "Report and Précis of Evidence," p. 18.

"the years of mutiny, and it has been subsequently lower than the Indian standard. From the rate of 55 in 1770-99, the rate rose to 85 in the thirty years, 1800-29; and the mortality fell to 58 in the twenty-seven years, 1830-56; so that the death-rate of the British soldier, since the first occupation of the country down to the present day, has oscillated round 69 per 1,000."

TABLE I.—*Annual rate of Mortality in periods of years, from* 1770 *to* 1856, *in each of the Indian Presidencies.*

Years.	Deaths Annually to 1,000 Strength. Bengal.	Bombay.	Madras.	India.	Remarks.
1770–1800.	70.6	78.2	37.5	54.7	The siege of Seringapatam and conquest of Mysore.
1800–10....	91.5	84.5	54.8	73.7	General war in the Carnatic.
'10–20....	68.7	99.6	97.0	84.8	Conquest of Dutch and French islands, Mahratta War, and cholera.
'20–30....	84.5	97.9	95.2	90.7	Burmese War.
'30–40....	60.1	46.3	55.5	55.7	
'40–50....	79.5	68.3	43.5	65.4	
'50–56....	67.8	31.1	44.3	60.7	
Total.....	....	....	....	67.9	

Note.—This table is copied from Table 10 of the Précis of the "Commissioners' Report of the Sanitary State of the Army in India," London, 1863, p. 178.

TABLE II.—*The Mortality of the French Army in Hot Climates, except Algeria, for ten years, from* 1838 *to* 1847, *is thus distributed in ratios per* 1,000.

Years.	Martinique.	Guadeloupe.	Guiana.	Senegal.	Réunion.	Average.
1838.....	79.1	192.6	48.0	152.5	32.4	110.6
'39.....	165.2	158.8	25.0	43.1	25.5	117.4
'40.....	103.5	156.9	19.1	65.5	20.0	98.4
'41.....	102.8	129.5	39.5	75.2	84.8	98.8
'42.....	86.8	42.1	26.5	62.0	30.5	52.1
1843.....	103.2	68.9	29.8	82.5	45.5	73.3
'44.....	78.0	72.1	19.2	66.2	28.1	58.8
'45.....	53.3	45.6	19.2	41.3	13.5	38.2
'46.....	93.6	25.6	16.6	27.6	19.7	37.4
'47.....	60.3	28.0	12.5	38.9	25.5	37.2
Mean.....	90.4	89.0	25.3	61.7	30.5	69.5

It is quite true that, in this next table for French troops in tropical climates, a like average of 69.5 per 1,000 is given; and the contrast is remarkable to show how much the rate is caused by hot climates and localities, and is not chiefly caused there by intemperance and vicious habits; a conclusion long since arrived at by Dr. Edward Balfour's statistics and observations on the means of maintaining troops in health, read before the Statistical Section of this Association, at Swansea, in August, 1848.* It is with earnestness he protests against partial deductions on this subject, and says: "Exertions solely devoted to check intemperance, even if successful, can only palliate, but never remove, the evils that spring from climate. It may, likewise, by withdrawing attention from one great, and I believe the greatest cause of sickness, the noixous influence of particular localities, tend to retard the day, which I hope to see, when healthy sites having been selected for cantonments, the English soldier shall enjoy, in India, almost as good health as in his native country." There can be hardly a difference of opinion as to the important part vice and intemperance play, in increasing the sickness and mortality of English soldiers abroad, and for the imperative necessity "of discontinuing the sale of spirits in the canteens of India," and of adapting the soldier's diet to season and latitude. Still these unremoved sources of the sickness and mortality there, are not the main causes of the increased ratios of both; as Miss Nightingale's summary of the evidence, in the stational returns, proves† that the miasmatic diseases of fevers, diarrhœa, cholera, and dysentery, are produced under elevated temperature, by bad water, misplaced lavatories and cesspools, bad drainage, filthy bazars, and overcrowding in barracks, huts, and sick wards.

But reverting to the mortality-rate, 69 per 1,000, as being hitherto the normal one for sickness and disease in India, it is scarcely a true representation of the deduction that should be drawn from the facts collected in the various statistical tables, published in the Appendix to the Commissioners' own Report, sufficient allowance not being made for the increased casualties of war, cholera, and invaliding, during the period of fifty-six years, 1800-56, assumed for the basis of some of the calculations in the report. Of these fifty-six years, twenty-five, including the Sikh War, 1845-46, and the Punjaub campaign, 1848-49, were periods of war and cholera; this last disease, according to Inspector-Gen. Burke's Indian returns, 1826-32, having for these six years increased the mortality 11.5 per

* "*Journal* of the Statistical Society," vol. xii, p. 34, 1849.

† "Royal Commissioners' Report, vol. i, folio, p. 347.

1,000 of the effective strength.* Besides the average difference of mortality, between the war-rate and that of peace, or 27 per 1,000, as shown in the following table for Madras troops, not having been deducted, while the rate of invaliding in India is included, and thought of no importance, the assumed average of death, and decrements from natural causes, is thus raised to 69. It was not without good reason, therefore, that the Secretary of State for India, in his place in the House of Commons, the 23d of July last, said, "that the

TABLE III.—*Madras Troops.*

Years.	Service.	Number of Years.	Number of Deaths.	Average Annual Mean Strength.	Annual Average Number of Deaths.	Ratio per 1,000 of Deaths to Mean Strength.
	WAR.					
1793–98	Carnatic	6	1,549	6,696	258	49
'99–1800	Mysore and conquered countries	2	1,548	6,967	774	111
1801–5	General war in the Carnatic, conquered countries, and the Deccan	5	3,691	8,355	738	88
'10–11	French and Dutch islands	2	1,844	13,328	922	69
'17–19	Pindarie War in the Deccan, and Maluca in Hindostan	3	2,993	13,586	997	73
'24–26	Burmah	3	3,646	10,144	1,215	119
	Total	21	15,271	8,796	727	83
	PEACE.					
1806–9	Peace	4	2,645	9,318	661	70
'12–16	Marching	5	3,460	12,133	692	57
'20–23	Peace	4	2,466	10,916	617	56
'27–38	"	12	6,221	10,660	518	48
	Total	25	14,794	10,781	592	55

"general conclusion as to the mortality, "being based on facts going far back, does "not afford a very good index of the sani"tary state of the Indian Army at the pres"ent moment."† When we turn to table IV in the Appendix of the Report, in which the rates of mortality for periods of service in the three presidencies, 1847-56, are given, we find that 51.2 per 1,000, inclusive of other casualties, was the average annual mortality of the late East India Company's European troops for those ten years. It is stated, in a foot note to the table, that the mortality for this period was considerably below the previous average in Madras and Bombay; but it is doubtless a more close approximation to the true rate of the mortality in India, for the last twenty-six years, than the one taken for the basis of the Sanitary Commissioners' Report. In Dr. T. G. Balfour's summary of the health of the Royal Army previous to 1859,* the following two tables give the rates for the three presidencies:

	1830-37.	1838-56.
Madras	52.2 per 1,000.	41.5 per 1,000.
Bombay	33.1 "	60.9 "
Bengal	44.5 "	76.2 "
Average	43.3 "	59.5 " (for 26 years.)

The mean of these two tables being 51.4, or the average mortality of the late East India Company's European forces, as given in the table of the report before quoted. Additional proof of this average being nearer the true one, for late years, than that assumed in the Commissioners' Report, may be drawn from the rate per cent. of invaliding for fifteen years' service.

Among the effective non-commissioned officers and men of the late Company's European forces, during the years 1847-56, as given in Table IV; and which rate, 27.8, deducted from 64.3, the mean casualty-rate of the last twenty-five years, 1838-62, inclusive of invaliding and cholera, would leave the normal death-rate of late years for India 36.5 per 1,000: the mean death-rate of our European troops in the three presidencies from 1850-54, being only 40.4.†

According to that table, the rate per cent. for deaths and discharges, among men who had served ten to fifteen years, is 5.28 per cent.; which, when raised for 1,000, would give 52.8 as the mortality-rate. In the same table 2.78 is given as the rate per cent. of invaliding at the above period of service, and when this is raised for 1,000 it gives the other casualties of service, 27.8, the difference, as already shown, between the war and the peace rates of mortality in India, previous to the year 1838. Perfect reliance cannot then, I think, be placed on the returns of the East India Company's troops, prior to this year, as the mortality-rates obtained from them include many abnormal casualties of service.

But descending from general statistical principles, for securing trustworthy con-

* Quoted by M. Boudin, p. 52 of his "Etat Sanitaire et "Mortalité des Armees de Terre et de Mar," Paris, 1846.
† "Times" newspaper of the 24th July, 1863, p. 7.

* "Statistical, Sanitary, and Medical Reports of the "British Army for the Year 1860," pp. 133 and 138, London, 1862.

† This is the mean taken from the Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the organization of the Indian Army, presented to Parliament in 1859; and has been quoted by the "Army Statistical Report, 1860," at p. 111. A well written article, in the "Times of India," September 9th, 1863, says, "A total mortality of 2,360 "men, upon a strength of 73,000, gives about 32 per 1,000 "as the average of all India; the Commissioners make "it 70; and we are persuaded that, if their figure be "divided by 2, the result will give about the right aver"age."

TABLE IV.—*The Casualties in the effective Non-commissioned Officers and Men of the Local European Forces in India during the years* 1847-56.

Years of Service.	Strength. (Years of Life.)	Casualties. Deaths. (D.)	Invaliding. (I.)	D. & I.	All Causes.	Rate per cent. Deaths. (D.)	Invaliding. (I.)	D. & L.	All Causes.
1	14,380	938	45	983	1,547	6.52	.31	6.83	10.75
1–2	11,630	623	88	711	1,085	5.36	.75	6.11	9.33
2–3	9,220	518	83	601	873	5.62	.90	6.52	9.45
3–4	9,530	470	121	591	907	4.93	1.27	6.20	9.51
4–5	10,120	446	128	574	871	4.41	1.26	5.67	8.60
5–10	41,860	1,968	468	2,436	4,048	4.70	1.12	5.82	9.67
10–15	21,440	1,131	597	1,728	2,949	5.28	2.78	8.06	13.75
15–20	9,976	429	598	1,027	1,424	4.30	6.00	10.30	14.28
20 and upwards.	43,090	193	779	972	1,207	6.25	25.21	31.46	39.06

Note.—This table is compiled from the tables of casualties of effectives in the presidencies. Under "invalided," are included here, besides the true invalids, the following casualties: 1. Discharged by purchase. 2. Discharged on account of term expired or otherwise. 3. Promoted. 4. Transferred to town major's list. 5. Transferred to other corps. 6. Deserted. 7. Missing, &c. 8. Other causes. Those on the town major's list of Bengal are included among the effectives.

clusions on the subject of military mortality, let us enter on the statement of particular facts, regarding the increase and diminution of military death-rates for war and peace, brought together in Table V.

In this, the annual rate of mortality per 1,000, for the line forces of India, during the thirty-nine years, from 1817 to 1855 inclusive, is calculated from the table at p. 319 of the report. We here see that during the first Burmese War and the siege of Bhurtpoor, the rate rose as high as 158 per 1,000; and varied in times of peace from an average of 75 to 32.5 per 1,000. For seventeen years of war the death-rate was 80 per 1,000; and for twenty-two years of peace, 51.3; averages that correspond very nearly with those given in Table III.

But while the average mortality of the British Army in India, from 1830 to 1837, was only 43.3 per 1,000, according to Dr. Balfour's summary before quoted; in the next period, from 1838 to 1856, it rose to 59.5, including the mortality from wounds and service during the Afghan War, the Cabul massacre, the Sind and Gwalior campaigns, the Sikh War, 1845-46, and the Punjaub campaign, 1847-48, with the Second Burmese war, 1852-53; and when we deduct the casualties of war and service for this last period, the mortality-rate, 42.5 per 1,000, would, I believe, be a nearer approach to the normal standard of India during peace, than the mean of the two tables, 51.4.

TABLE V.—*Showing the Annual Rate of Mortality per* 1,000, *for the European Line Forces of India, during Thirty-nine Years, from* 1817 *to* 1855 *inclusive.*

Years.	Rate of Deaths per 1,000.	Remarks.
1817....	69	Pindaree War.
1818....	85	Average mortality 75 per 1,000 in peace.
'19....	80	
'20....	77	
'21....	68	
'22....	73	
'23....	67	
1824....	129	Burmese War.
'25....	157	Siege of Bhurtpoor.
'26....	158	
1827....	75	Average mortality 53 per 1,000 in peace.
'28....	66	
'29...	50	
'30....	36	
'31....	41	
'32....	47	
1833....	63	Coorg War.
1834....	70	Average mortality 50 per 1,000 in peace.
'35....	34	
'36....	43	
'37....	53	
'38....	52	
1839....	76	Average mortality 74 per 1,000.
'40....	95	
'41....	90	Afghan War. Cabul Massacre.
'42....	107	
1843....	77	Sind Campaign.
'44....	81	Gwalior "
1845....	124	First Sikh War.
'46....	86	
1847....	47	Second Sikh War.
'48....	65	
1849....	67	
1850....	42	Average 42 per 1,000 in peace.
'51 ...	42	
1852....	63	Second Burmese War.
'53....	49	
1854....	35	Average mortality 32.5 in peace.
'55....	30	

It was stated by Sir Charles Wood, in his

speech already referred to,* that "during the mutiny in India, the mortality in twenty regiments which were sent from this country, but which were not in action, was only 34 per 1,000," which must be exclusive of war casualties, I should think; and in the next table, or No. VI, which is a return of mortality and invaliding of her Majesty's troops serving in India, 1861, the actual mortality in India from locality and climate is 35.3 per 1,000; the other casualties for invaliding and deaths on the passage home being 33.3. All such sources of discrepancy, as direct and indirect results from warfare, and other contingencies, must be eliminated from our statistical data before a true estimated rate of the mortality, from natural causes of locality and climate, is attainable. If such peculiarities of service are not attended to, and minutely enumerated for all comparisons, we can arrive at only vague and by no means satisfactory conclusions.

TABLE VI.—*Annual Rate of Mortality and Invaliding of Her Majesty's Troops serving in India, 1861, exclusive of late Honorable East India Company's Troops.*

	Bengal.	Madras.	Bombay.	Total. India.	Deaths per 1,000 Strength.
Mean effective stren'th, 1861	37,488	10,739	8,860	57,087	..
Admitted into Indian Hospitals	73,233	18,471	15,649	102,353	..
Number of days under treatment (average sick time to each soldier)	29.30	21.04	26.65	25.66	..
Deaths in Indian Hospitals	16.42	156.	204.	2,002	35.3
Killed in Battle	None.	None.	None.	None.	None.
Deaths on board ship, on passage home, and in Hospitals at home	66.	14.	15.	95.	1.67
Invalided	Returns not receiv'd.	38.2	255.	Bengal returns not received.	33.3
		6.37			

Colonel Sykes' paper,† on the Sickness, Mortality, and Invaliding in the East India Company's European and Native Troops, from 1825-44, the last being the year previous to the Sikh War, gives the rate per cent. of European mortality 5.409, and that of invaliding 2.884 per cent., which rates, when raised for 1,000 men, become respectively 54.09 and 28.84. The former rate, however, includes 7.24 per 1,000 of deaths from cholera; and which, when deducted from the aggregate death-rate, leaves that of ordinary deaths from other natural causes 46.85 per 1,000. The rate for invaliding is a little higher than that I have employed for deduction, to obtain the hitherto normal rate of European mortality in India.

(To be concluded in our next.)

* "Times" newspaper, 24th July, 1863.

† This, which is quoted from the *Statistical Journal*, vol. x., p. 100, forms Table 28, "Appendix of the Commissioners' Sanitary Report," 8vo, p. 195.

IMPUTATIONS ON THE COMMISSION.

An anonymous imputation on the integrity of the management of the United States Commission has obtained some currency lately. It was an insinuating fling making no charges and therefore difficult to be met. This is not the first time that this beneficent enterprise has been the target of malice, envy, or something equally mean and ungenerous. There may be exceptional instances of misconduct in the agents of this organization, who are numerous, as there always must be in all undertakings of men, while men are human, but the general conduct of the Commission is above reproach; nay, it merits the grateful approbation of the American people for its active, timely and tender charity towards the sick and wounded men in our armies.

The Commission has performed a double duty, with admirable fidelity and with munificent results on the one hand, and beneficent effects on the other. With one hand, and with its voice, it has appealed to the people in behalf of their suffering brothers, who are stricken in the discharge of their soldiers' duty, till it touched their hearts and commanded their lavish bounty which the necessities of the case drew so largely upon. With the other hand it has been the almoner of the noble contributions it has caused to be made. It has collected, prepared and husbanded these till the havoc and destruction of the battle-field solicited aid, and then has sympathizingly and most serviceably distributed them. Its chief officers have served "without money and without price." Its subordinate agents are paid very moderate wages. The whole expense of the Commission is as scrupulously kept down as the business expense of a snug firm in trade.

Not lightly, not unjustly, is this grand charitable organization to be spoken of to the detriment of its self-sacrificing character and of its means for continuing its needful work. While the war lasts, its work will last. While the war lasts it must continue to appeal to the generosity of our people for support, and to bestow the means for relief which it receives as it has hith-

erto done. We have always applauded the intrepid, resolute and tender-hearted women who administered to the relief of the sick and distressed men in Crimean camps. We can refuse to do no less, in justice to this organization, which is as pure in motive and energetic and intrepid in work and beneficent in results as the single-handed charity of the English Sanitary Commission.

We may exhibit the conduct of the Commission in its financial administration, the point where it is covertly attacked, by subjoining the following statement, from the BULLETIN of the Commission, made by Dr. Bellows. This is his final summing up, after giving some details:

1. The Board of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, Vice President, Treasurer, Medical Committee and Standing Committees, give time and services gratuitously. They are refunded (in part,) their traveling expenses; nothing more.

2. Their agents, two hundred in number, general and associate secretaries, medical and sanitary inspectors, relief agents, clerks, depot and store house keepers, wagoners, &c., receiving some more and some less, average just $2 per day, or less than ordinary mechanics' wages. Total, $12,000 per month for the vast human machinery of the Commission, stretching from Texas to the Potomac, from before Charleston to Kansas.

3. About fifteen-sixteenths of all the eight millions the Commission has received, goes on to the backs, or into the mouths of the soldiers.

4. The cost of collecting and distributing supplies is less than three per cent.

5. About twenty-three hundred men are now, and for a long time have been, in daily use and enjoyment of the homes and lodges of the Commission.

6. The battle-field service of the Commission requires a large accumulation of funds and of supplies. At Murfreesboro', Antietam, Gettysburg, Chattanooga, Vicksburg, Port Hudson, sudden and vast demands were made, and are always likely to be made. Fifty thousand dollars would not cover the cost of our whole service in the first two weeks after any one of our great battles—at Gettysburg it was $75,000.

7. We reckon that if we divided all the aid we have given to the sick in regimental, general, and other hospitals, to men in peril of sickness from scurvy and exposure, it would amount to $3.50 a case; many men having received this several times, as often as they were sick. The seriously wounded have been often—as at Gettysburg—the receivers of as much as $10 aid per man. We mention this to show not how much, but how little, this sometimes called extravagant Commission costs, considering the blessings it is the almoner of.—*Utica Her'ld.*

NOTES ON NURSING.

NOISE.

Conciseness and decision are, above all things, necessary with the sick. Let your thought expressed to them be concisely and decidedly expressed. What doubt and hesitation there may be in your own mind must never be communicated to theirs, not even (I would rather say especially not) in little things. Let your doubt be to yourself, your decision to them. People who think outside their heads, the whole process of whose thought appears, like Homer's, in the act of secretion, who tell every thing that led them towards this conclusion and away from that, ought never to be with the sick.

Irresolution is what all patients most dread. Rather than meet this in others, they will collect all their data, and make up their minds for themselves. A change of mind in others, whether it is regarding an operation or re-writing a letter, always injures a patient more than the being called upon to make up his mind to the most dreaded or difficult decision. Further than this, in very many cases, the imagination in disease is far more active and vivid than it it is in health. If you propose to the patient change of air to one place one hour, and to another the next, he has, in each case, immediately constituted himself in imagination the tenant of the place, gone over the whole premises in idea, and you have tired him as much by displacing his imagination, as if you had actually carried him over both places.

Above all, leave the sick room quickly and come into it quickly, not suddenly, not with a rush. But don't let the patient be wearily waiting for you when you will be out of the room or when you will be in it. Conciseness and decision in your movements, as well as your words, are necessary in the sick room, as necessary as absence of hurry and bustle. To possess yourself entirely will ensure you from either failing—either loitering or hurrying.

If a patient has to see, not only to his own but also to his nurse's punctuality, or perseverance, or readiness, or calmness, to any or all of these things, he is far better without that nurse than with her—however valuable and handy her services may otherwise be to him, and however incapable he may be of rendering them to himself.

With regard to reading aloud in the sick room, my experience is, that when the sick are too ill to read to themselves, they can seldom bear to be read to. Children, eye-patients, and uneducated persons are exceptions, or where there is any mechanical difficulty in reading. People who like to be read to, have generally not much the matter with them; while in fevers, or where there is much irritability of brain, the effort of listening to reading aloud has often brought on delirium. I speak with great diffidence; because there is an almost universal impression that it is *sparing* the sick to read aloud to them. But two things are certain:

(1.) If there is some matter which *must* be read to a sick person, do it slowly. People often think that the way to get over it with the least fatigue to him is to get it over in least time. They gabble; they plunge and gallop through the reading. There never was a greater

mistake. Houdin, the conjuror, says that the way to make a story seem short is to tell it slowly. So it is with reading to the sick. I have often heard a patient say to such a mistaken reader, "Don't read it to me; tell it me." Unconsciously he is aware that this will regulate the plunging, the reading with unequal paces, slurring over one part, instead of leaving it out altogether, if it is unimportant, and mumbling another. If the reader lets his own attention wander, and then stops to read up to himself, or finds he has read the wrong bit, then it is all over with the poor patient's chance of not suffering. Very few people know how to read to the sick; very few read aloud as pleasantly even as they speak. In reading they sing, they hesitate, they stammer, they hurry, they mumble; when in speaking they do none of these things. Reading aloud to the sick ought always to be rather slow, and exceedingly distinct, but not mouthing—rather monotonous, but not sing song—rather loud, but not noisy—and, above all, not too long. Be very sure of what your patient can bear.

(2.) The extraordinary habit of reading to oneself in a sick room, and reading aloud to the patient any bits which will amuse him or more often the reader, is unaccountably thoughtless. What *do* you think the patient is thinking of during your gaps of non-reading? Do you think that he amuses himself upon what you have read for precisely the time it pleases you to go on reading to yourself, and that his attention is ready for something else at precisely the time it pleases you to begin reading again? Whether the person thus read to be sick or well, whether he be doing nothing or doing something else while being thus read to, the self-absorption and want of observation of the person who does it, is equally difficult to understand—although very often the readee is too amiable to say how much it hurts him.

One thing more: From the flimsy manner in which most modern houses are built, where every step on the stairs, and along the floors, is felt all over the house; the higher the story, the greater the vibration. It is inconceivable how much the sick suffer by having any body overhead. In the solidly built old house, which, fortunately, most hospitals are, the noise and shaking is comparatively trifling. But it is a serious cause of suffering, in lightly built houses, and with the irritability peculiar to some diseases. Better far put such patients at the top of the house, even with the additional fatigue of stairs, if you cannot secure the room above them being untenanted; you may otherwise bring on a state of restlessness which no opium will subdue. Do not neglect the warning, when a patient tells you that he "Feels every step above him to cross his heart." Remember that every noise a patient cannot *see* partakes of the character of suddenness to him; and I am persuaded that patients with these peculiarly irritable nerves, are positively less injured by having persons in the same room with them than overhead, or separated by only a thin compartment. Any sacrifice to secure silence for these cases is worth while, because no air, however good, no attendance, however careful, will do any thing for such cases without quiet. The effect of music upon the sick has been scarcely at all noticed. In fact, its expensiveness, as it is now, makes any general application of it quite out of the question. I will only remark here that wind instruments, including the human voice, and stringed instruments, capable of continuous sound, have generally a beneficial effect—while the piano-forte, with such instruments as have *no* continuity of sound, has just the reverse. The finest piano-forte playing will damage the sick, while an air, like "Home, sweet home," or "Assisa a pié d'un salice," on the most ordinary grinding organ, will sensibly soothe them—and this quite independent of association.

VARIETY.

To any but an old nurse, or an old patient, the degree would be quite inconceivable to which the nerves of the sick suffer from seeing the same walls, the same ceiling, the same surroundings during a long confinement to one or two rooms.

The superior cheerfulness of persons suffering severe paroxysms of pain over that of persons suffering from nervous debility has often been remarked upon, and attributed to the enjoyment of the former of their intervals of respite. I incline to think that the majority of cheerful cases is to be found among those patients who are not confined to one room, whatever their suffering, and that the majority of depressed cases will be seen among those subjected to a long monotony of objects about them.

The nervous frame really suffers as much from this as the digestive organs from long monotony of diet, as the British soldier from his twenty-one years' "boiled beef."

The effect in sickness of beautiful objects, of variety of objects, and especially of brilliancy of color, is hardly at all appreciated.

Such cravings are usually called the "fancies" of patients. And often, doubtless, patients have "fancies," as *e. g.* when they desire two contradictions. But much more often their (so called) "fancies" are the most valuable indications of what is necessary for their recovery. And it would be well if nurses would watch these (so called) "fancies" closely.

I have seen, in fevers, (and felt, when I was a fever patient myself,) the most acute suffering produced from the patient (in a hut,) not being able to see out of window, and the knots in the wood being the only view. I shall never forget the rapture of fever patients over a bunch of bright-colored flowers. I remember (in my own case,) a nosegay of wild flowers being sent me, and from that moment recovery becoming more rapid.

People say the effect is only on the mind. It is no such thing. The effect is on the body, too. Little as we know about the way in which we are affected by form, by color and light, we do know this, that they have an actual physical effect.

Variety of form and brilliancy of color in the objects presented to patients are actual means of recovery.

But it must be *slow* variety, *e. g.*, if you show a patient ten or twelve engravings successively, ten-to-one that he does not become cold and faint, or feverish, or even sick; but hang one up opposite him, one on each successive day, or week, or month, and he will revel in the variety.

The folly and ignorance which reign too often supreme over the sick room cannot be better exemplified than by this. While the nurse will leave the patient stewing in a corrupting atmosphere, the best ingredient of which is carbonic acid, she will deny him, on the plea of unhealthiness, a glass of cut-flowers, or a growing plant. Now, no one ever saw "overcrowding" by plants in a room or ward. And the carbonic acid they give off at nights would not poison a fly. Nay, in overcrowded rooms, they actually absorb carbonic acid and give off oxygen. Cut-flowers also decompose water and produce oxygen gas. It is true there are certain flowers, *e. g.*, lilies, the smell of which is said to depress the nervous system. These are easily known by the smell, and can be avoided.

Volumes are now written and spoken upon the effect of the mind upon the body. Much of it is true. But I wish a little more was thought of the effect of the body on the mind. You who believe yourselves overwhelmed with anxieties, but are able every day to walk up Regent Street, or out in the country, to take your meals with others in other rooms, &c., &c., you little know how much your anxieties are thereby lightened; you little know how intensified they become to those who can have no change;* how the very walls of their sick rooms seem hung with their cares; how the ghosts of their troubles haunt their beds; how impossible it is for them to escape from a pursuing thought without some help from variety.

A patient can just as much move his leg when it is fractured as change his thoughts when no external help from variety is given him. This is, indeed, one of the main sufferings of sickness; just as the fixed posture is one of the main sufferings of the broken limb.

It is an ever recurring wonder to see educated people, calling themselves nurses, acting thus. They vary their own objects, their own employments, many times a day; and while nursing (!) some bed-ridden sufferer, they let him lie there staring at a dead wall, without any change of object to enable him to vary his thoughts; and it never even occurs to them, at least to move his bed so that he can look out of window. No, the bed is to be always left in the darkest, dullest, remotest, part of the room.

I think it is a very common error among the well to think that "with a little more self-control" the sick might, if they choose, "dismiss painful thoughts" which "aggravate their disease," &c. Believe me, almost *any* sick person, who behaves decently well, exercises more self-control every moment of his day than you will ever know till you are sick yourself. Almost every step that crosses his room is painful to him; almost every thought that crosses his brain is painful to him; and if he can speak without being savage, and look without being unpleasant, he is exercising self-control.

Suppose you have been up all night, and instead of being allowed to have your cup of tea, you were to be told that you ought to "exercise self-control," what would you say? Now, the nerves of the sick are always in the state that yours are in after you have been up all night.

We will suppose the diet of the sick to be cared for. Then, this state of nerves is most frequently to be relieved by care in affording them a pleasant view, a judicious variety as to flowers,* and pretty things. Light by itself will often relieve it. The craving for "the return of day," which the sick so constantly evince, is generally nothing but the desire for light, the remembrance of the relief which a variety of objects before the eye affords to the harrassed sick mind.

Again, every man and every woman has some amount of manual employment, excepting a few fine ladies, who do not even dress themselves, and who are virtually in the same category, as to nerves, as the sick. Now, you can have no idea of the relief which manual labor is to you—of the degree to which the deprivation of manual employment increases the peculiar irritability from which many sick suffer.

A little needle-work, a little writing, a little cleaning, would be the greatest relief the sick could have, if they could do it; these *are* the greatest relief to you, though you do not know it. Reading, though it is often the only thing the sick can do, is not this relief. Bearing this in mind, bearing in mind that you have all these varieties of employment which the sick cannot have, bear also in mind to obtain for them all the varieties which they can enjoy.

I need hardly say that I am well aware that excess in needle-work, in writing, in any other continuous employment, will produce the same irritability that defect in manual employment (as one cause) produces in the sick.—*Miss Nightingale.*

* It is a matter of painful wonder to the sick themselves, how much painful ideas predominate over pleasurable ones in their impressions; they reason with themselves; they think themselves ungrateful; it is all of no use. The fact is, that these painful impressions are far better dismissed by a real laugh, if you can excite one by books or conversation, than by any direct reasoning; or if the patient is too weak to laugh, some impression from nature is what he wants. I have mentioned the cruelty of letting him stare at a dead wall. In many diseases, especially in convalescence from fever, that wall will appear to make all sorts of faces at him; now, flowers never do this. Form, color, will free your patient from his painful ideas better than any argument.

* No one who has watched the sick can doubt the fact that some feel stimulus from looking at scarlet flowers, exhaustion from looking at deep blue, &c.

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF RELIEF AGENT, THIRD CORPS.

"Friday, being Christmas Day, I saw the prisoners† again that I visited early in the week, and furnished them some articles as indicated in the abstract.

"I was much amused at the plan adopted by the prisoners in order to get tobacco. The prisoners have formed themselves into what they call the 'Tobacco Club,' and every man, on his arrival, must either pay the sum of fifty cents or be tossed in a blanket. The majority willingly pay the amount required. The money goes into a common treasury to be expended in the purchase of tobacco, which is divided equally among all. The other night, a rough, independent sort of a fellow was brought in, and refused peremptorily to pay the amount required, ridiculing, at the same time, the penalty but the tossing was resorted to, and before it was over, he would have willingly paid the fifty cents, could he have been released from the vigorous exercise."

† Deserters and others, some on slight charges.

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

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The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

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The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

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The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

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Total Amount of Assets, January 1, 1864	$3,140,930 80
Total Amount of Premiums	3,252,256 76
Excess of Earned Premiums over Losses, &c.	1,137,063 33
Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies	441,206 49
Guaranteed Cash Dividend to Dealers, (holding certificates of same) on Paid Premiums Earned during the Year, whether Loss has Accrued or not	269,614 80
Scrip Dividend to Dealers, on Earned Premiums	15 per cent.
Dividend for the Year to Stockholders	26 per cent.

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2d. Upon VOYAGE Risks upon FREIGHT, a return of TWENTY PER CENT.

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ASSETS, - - - - - - - 604,535 59

NO CLAIMS FOR LOSSES.

Abstract of the EIGHTY-THIRD Semi-Annual Statement, showing the Condition of the Company on the 31st day of December, 1863.

ASSETS:

Loans on Bond and Mortgage, being first lien on Real Estate, worth over Fifty per cent. above the amount loaned	$157,360 00
Stocks, Bonds, and other Securities owned by the Company, market value	364,385 00
Cash in Bank and Office	6,603 11
Loans on demand with collateral	46,000 00
Premiums due and outstanding	5,384 00
Cash in Agents' hands in course of transmission, (business of December since received,)	10,220 39
Interest accrued on Securities	13,788 83
Other Property of Company	793 75
	$604,535 59

Losses unpaid, none.

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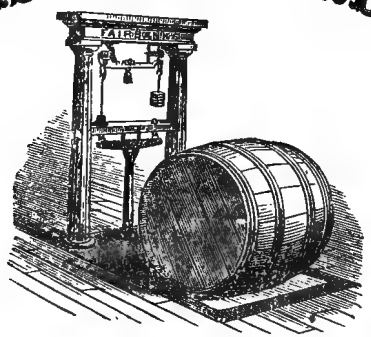
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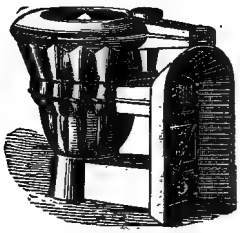
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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. NEW YORK, APRIL 1, 1864. No. 11.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall Street, or No.* 823 *Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

WHEREIN WE HAVE TO COMPLAIN OF THE PUBLIC.

The amount of support which the Commission has, almost from the outset, received from the public in all the loyal States, has, we need hardly say, been something unprecedented. Voluntary contributions for a humane object were never before made on such a scale, within the same period. The great fairs, which are taking place in various parts of the country, are the most extraordinary, as well as most magnificent, exhibitions of benevolence of which there is any record. The quantity of stores and the sums of money placed at our disposal have been immense. They have not, so far, enabled us to meet all the demands upon us; but they so far surpass, both in amount and in the alacrity with which they have been bestowed, all other contributions in the whole history of charity, that the nation is astonished at the extent of its own efforts for the relief of suffering, and the rest of the world is beginning to be astonished also.

This being the case, what have we to complain of? If we have only to ask in order to receive; if every village, town, and city responds to the least of our calls, what more do we want? If the public is doing more to aid us in our work than any public ever did before, and more than we ventured to hope for when we began it, what do we mean by the heading of this article? These are questions which will suggest themselves to most people the minute they glance at this page, and they are just the questions we want to answer.

As the enterprise in which we are engaged grows in magnitude, as the amount of stores sent to us and as the amount of money given us, or promised to us, increases, the spirit of criticism on the part of the public, of course, rises higher. The more there is entrusted to us, the more jealously we are watched. The larger the field of our labors, the greater number of points of attack are presented to our enemies and detractors. When the Sanitary Commission is in every body's mouth, and when the population of whole cities is working or giving to swell its stores, the streets and wharves encumbered with its supplies, of course a greater number of people than ever are anxious to know what comes of the money, and are prone to doubt the wisdom or economy of those who spend it. And all this is most natural and most reasonable. No body ought ever be entrusted with even one hundred dollars of the public funds, not to speak of hundreds of thousands, without having all his operations

carefully scrutinized, and fully and fearlessly criticised. So far from feeling this criticism to be irksome, we covet and encourage it. We want to keep it up. We want the public to know what we do, and to pass judgment on it. We invite examination, and rigid and close examination, of our manner of working, and of the results of our work. If any body has any fault to find with it, we are desirous to have him state it publicly, either that we may publicly acknowledge him to be right, or publicly give our reasons for thinking him wrong.

But what we have to complain of is, the wide diffusion, particularly in the great cities, and especially in this city, of a spirit of cavilling and carping, on the part of those who not only do not know any thing about the organization of the Commission, or the results of its labors, but who will take no pains to learn. If such an organization as ours, so honored and trusted by the people, had neither enemies nor assailants, it would prove conclusively that human nature had undergone a radical change. We have hundreds, and they are actuated by all sorts of motives; but the hostile criticisms of at least two-thirds of them are due to sheer, unmitigated ignorance. We meet people every day who ask us, what goes with all this money which the Commission is receiving; whether the President does not receive $10,000 a year; whether the stores are not horribly wasted; whether enormous sums are not paid in salaries to employés; whether there is now any need for the Commission; whether the Government does not supply every thing, or nearly every thing, the soldiers need. When we endeavor to ascertain the sources from which these objections come, we find in nine cases out of ten that they have been suggested by gossip at a dinner table, or during an evening call; by a letter from a surgeon in the army, who probably never came in contact with the Commission at all; or an officer, who might have been fed and clothed by it for weeks without knowing it. And there are a great many very honest, well-meaning men and women who go about, week after week, spreading these accusations from house to house, and growing bitterer and bitterer, and more satisfied of their truth, the oftener they repeat them, without ever giving themselves the trouble to devote even twenty minutes of honest, patient labor to the task of finding out whether they have any foundation or not.

Now, the Commission publish the Bulletin fortnightly, and distribute about 14,000 copies of it for the express purpose of answering these questions—of showing what goes with the money, what wants it supplies, what the army think of its work. They are all answered in its columns, month after month, with tiresome explicitness. The *Sanitary Reporter* is published at Louisville, for precisely the same purpose, and distributed in great quantities; so is the *Sanitary Echo* at Portland, Me.; and so is the *Messenger* in New Jersey. They are sent to, or can be obtained by, nearly every body who takes the slightest interest in the Commission or its work. They contain its reports, its accounts, its movements and doings of every kind; and, in addition to these, a great many thousand pamphlets have been circulated, with the same object —that of keeping the public fully and accurately informed of the nature, and extent, and result of the work to which they have contributed so much in money, goods, and labor. In December last a pamphlet, known as Document 69, was printed, giving a very complete statement of the objects and methods of the Sanitary Commission —accounts of its receipts and expenditure —and it was sent over the country in every direction, to every body who was known to us to take, or be likely to take, any interest in what we were doing.

More than this the Commission cannot do. It cannot obtain the insertion in the newspapers of such masses of matter as its reports, except as advertisements; and to pay for them as advertisements in such a number of papers as would insure their being seen in all parts of the country, would cost a sum of money which it would be utterly unwarrantable to expend, for the mere purpose of securing publicity.

What, then, is the reason that there is so much ignorance and misconception afloat about the needs of the Commission, and the extent of its labors? It is simply that people do not read what we publish. It is easier and far pleasanter to sit and listen to

the chit-chat of somebody who denounces or slanders it, than to sit down and wade through what it has to say for itself in its publications. We have ourselves, more than once, listened to accusations against it from persons on whose table piles of the BULLETIN were lying, at that moment, unopened. Even a hasty glance at them would have cleared up the very points on which the owner was professing ignorance and alarm. No doubt reports and accounts are dull reading. The stories of inspectors, and relief agents, and hospital visitors, and lists of supplies do not always possess the charm of a romance. But, then, there is no way of making them any more attractive, except by the sacrifice of truthfulness; and we hold that it is the duty of those who want to know why we need so much money, and how we spend it, to read them carefully before helping to create or circulate doubts, with regard either to the wisdom or usefulness of our work. In the country districts, from which our supplies generally come, we have little to complain of on this score; but there is in the cities a good deal of misconception about us, which a very little time spent, even once a fortnight, in acquiring information would remove.

WHAT WE DID AT OLUSTEE.

Dr. Marsh writes from Jacksonville:

Allow me, 'midst these constant interruptions, to give you a rapid glance of what has been transpiring during the last four weeks.

On the 6th of February I received official information that, on the evening of the same day, an expedition would leave for Jacksonville, Fla. In the afternoon of the same, we were prepared to accompany it. Surmising, however, that little or no preparation had been made for battle-field casualties, and that the expedition was not regarded as a very serious enterprise, I sent for the brig Mystic, loaded with sanitary stores, then in Light-House Inlet, 62 miles distant; and for A. B. Day, of tested usefulness, to accompany it.

The expedition, with little hindrance, arrived at its destination, losing but one man, and him while landing; the enemy retiring as our troops took possession of the town. After a little delay it was determined to follow the line of the railroad leading to Lake City, in the direction of Tallahassee. The enemy would skirmish and retire as we approached. A few advantages were gained, which have been already publicly reported.

On the 18th ult. the main body of the army took its line of march from Jacksonville, and bivoucked three miles east of Baldwin. On the succeeding day, at 8 P. M., it reached Barber's. The next day, at 7 A. M., the march was resumed, and the line of railroad followed to the point where the wagon road crosses the railroad east of Olustee; thence following the wagon road, leading nearly in the same direction, to a point where the road passes between two cyprus swamps; and just after emerging from these swamps, and to the north of them, we met the enemy in position and awaiting us. Our march all the day had been a narrow path, lined by almost impenetrable thickets, some parts sandy but often swampy, and the men compelled to march in water from one to two and a half feet in depth; officers in stocking feet, some carrying their boots, others having thrown them away.

In passing between the two swamps, the artillery was nearly or quite abreast of the infantry, and in this relation unexpectedly met the enemy. Capt. Hamilton, of the artillery, asserts that when he first saw the enemy, he was not more than fifty yards from them, and too near to work his guns; and further states that himself and EVERY OFFICER of his command had been picked off previous to the fire from the enemy in the front. The enemy were securely posted; his infantry behind a breastwork of logs and in rifle pits, with his cannon in position in the rear and partly on one side. Our men were naturally, by such unexpected attack, thrown into disorder, but soon rallied, inspirited by their daring commander, Gen. Seymour, who shared in the thickest of the fight. From the nature of the ground it was impossible to hold our position, and a retreat was ordered. To secure it the 1st N. C. C. T., and the indomitable 54th Mass., (colored,) were brought up to hold the field, while the main force retired—and well did they hold

it, until the retreat was secured. Then, and not till ordered, did they leave the field—a field covered with their dead comrades. The 54th was the last on the field, and covered all our retiring force, and itself in perfect order, and could at any point have been turned and hurled upon the foe.

As no expectation of an action had existed, so few preparations for casualties had been made. Each man, not too severely wounded, in the best way he could withdrew from the field; a few on army wagons, some on horses and mules, and the larger portion on foot, to Barber's, sixteen or seventeen miles distant. To this point the cars had previously proceeded from Jacksonville, and at this point the assistants of the Commission had halted, (not being allowed to proceed farther,) and prepared to receive the wounded. I need not detail the work of the Commission here. It *did its duty;* it left NO PORTION of its duty UNDONE. I will simply state that from Commission stores we fed the wounded, clothed them, placed them upon beds, improvised from bed-sacks and hay, and then forwarded six car-loads of them to Jacksonville. Three loads still remained, and at this juncture, Gen. Seymour, having ordered what commissary stores had there accumulated to be burned, advised our corps and their noble assistants to leave the remaining wounded and retreat, or they would be captured. All resolved to stay with the wounded, and if these were captured to go with and minister to their wants. Fortunately three cars soon returned, and the wounded with our remaining stores having been placed upon them, the train followed the retreating army. Through eagerness to escape the supposed pursuing enemy, too great pressure of steam was employed, and the flues collapsed. And here the immortal 54th (colored) did what ought to insure it higher praise than to hold the field in the face of a victorious foe—with ropes it seized the engine (now useless) and dragged it with its doomed freight for many miles, into Jacksonville. They knew their fate if captured; their humanity triumphed. Does history record a nobler deed?

Thus were suddenly thrown upon the medical staff several hundreds of wounded and famishing men. True, for want of transportation, the medicines of five regiments were left here, but there was absolutely no other provision; and wounded men do not need medicines. Here, again, the stores of the Commission were thrown open, and I am assured by the chief executive medical officer (whose statement I forward you) that he needed no supplies, medical or other, which he did not obtain from the Commission; and next to none were used which the Commission did not furnish.

The wounded have been removed to Beaufort, Hilton Head, and St. Augustine, from one hundred to two hundred being retained in hospital in Jacksonville. As no shell were used, the wounds were less horrible than those on Morris Island; the number of wounded greater. Those with slight wounds were returned to their regiments, not included in the estimate. Those unfitted for duty, with the loss on the field by death and capture, * * *
The most of those severely wounded, and who could not withdraw themselves from the field, were doubtless on the following day captured and cared for by the enemy.

—

The following documents explain themselves, and need no comment:

HEADQUARTERS, DISTRICT FLORIDA,
DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH,
JACKSONVILLE, Fla., *March 3d*, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS—No. 10.

I. The Brigadier General Commanding, gratefully recalls to the recollection of the troops of this command, the debt incurred by them, during the recent movements, to the Sanitary Commission and its agent, Mr. A. B. Day. Much suffering has been alleviated, and many inconveniences removed, by the energy and promptness with which the supplies of the Commission have been placed at the control of our medical officers; and for those who have been so benefitted, officers and men, the Brigadier General offers his own and their most sincere thanks.

By order of Brigadier General T. Seymour.

R. M. HALL,
1st Lieut. 1st U. S. Artillery,
Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL.
Assistant Adjutant General.

—

HEADQUARTERS, U. S. GENERAL HOSPITALS,
JACKSONVILLE, Fla., *Feb. 24th*, 1864.

This is to certify, that on the 21st day of February I received a telegram from Dr. A. Major, medical director of the sick of

Florida, then at Sanderson Station, Florida Railroad, ordering me to forward to him, at the earliest possible moment, certain medical and sanitary supplies, and a special train of cars, as we had a large number of wounded there.

That at the time such telegram reached me I had no stores or supplies whatever, except such as belonged to five regiments then in the field, and they not embracing the articles required.

That in this emergency I called upon Mr. A. B. Day, agent in charge of the affairs of the U. S. Sanitary Commission in this district, and made a requisition upon him for the articles.

That he at once supplied, from the stores of the Commission, all the articles specified in my requisition, and proceeded himself with them to the front, where I have since learned he arrived safely, and with his assistants rendered valuable service in taking care of and removing our wounded.

That within the ensuing twenty-four hours I received from the front over seven hundred sick and wounded men, and again drew upon the stores of the Commission for all of the requisite articles for their proper treatment and care, and the establishment of the hospitals in which they were placed.

That my requisitions were all honored by Mr. Day, and that without the Commission stores furnished by him, the patients under my care must unavoidably have suffered very severely.

That my large requisitions upon the Commission stores were rendered unavoidably necessary, from the fact that the required articles could not be obtained from any other sources.

That I received from the stores of the Commission an abundant supply of all articles embraced in my requisitions, and cheerfully bear testimony to the great service rendered to the Medical Department by its agents on the occasion named.

WM. A. SMITH,
Surgeon 47th N. Y. V., in charge Post Hospitals.

JACKSONVILLE, Florida, *24th Feb.*, 1864.

MR. A. B. DAY,
Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission,
Jacksonville, Florida:

SIR—It affords me pleasure to testify to the invaluable aid received through you from the Sanitary Commission, on the occasion of our late engagement.

To your prompt response to my requests for sanitary supplies, and the personal exertions of yourself and assistants in the care of and removing of our wounded, is due the prevention of very much suffering, which would otherwise have been inevitable.

That I found it necessary to draw so largely upon the stores of the Commission, is explained by the fact, that at the time our wounded arrived I was entirely destitute of all supplies of Government stores from the Medical Department, and there was no means of obtaining them from any other source than the noble institution which you so creditably represented. I am happy, also, to add that I received from the Commission a full supply of all articles called for by my requisitions upon them.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed,)
DR. ADOLPH MAJOR,
Medical Director, District of Florida,
Surgeon U. S. V.

Nothing is included in the following return that was used *on* the battle-field:

HEADQUARTERS, U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,
JACKSONVILLE, Fla., *Feb. 29th*, 1864.

DR. M. M. MARSH,
Inspector, U. S. Sanitary Commission,
Department of the South, Beaufort, S. C.:

DOCTOR—I have the honor to report, as an abstract of the records of this office, the following, as the issues of the Sanitary Commission from the station under my charge, for the last half of the current month. The destitution of the Medical Department stores in this district, at the time of the recent battle of Olustee, will account to you for the large issues of Commission stores.

I beg, in this connection, further to state, that no attempt was made upon my part to do more than provide for the *immediate* and *pressing necessities* of the wounded men, who were so suddenly and so unexpectedly thrown upon our hands.

Blankets	267	Coffee, cans	67
Bed sacks	582	Corn starch, papers	262
Pillow sacks	275	Farina, papers	141
Pillows	148	Chocolate, lbs	30
Sheets	199	Pickles, gallons	48
Shirts	346	Vegetables, bbls	25
Drawers, pairs	357	Tea, lbs	65
Socks, pairs	306	Beef stock, lbs	297
Lint, bbls	2½	Tamarinds, quarts	24
Bandages, bbls	6½	Tin cups	9
Cloth pieces, bbls	6½	Tin basins	4
Pillow cases	106	Sul. morph., bottles	3
Handkerchiefs	162	Chloroform, 1 lb. bottles	2
Towels	648	Castile soap, lbs	33
Slippers, pairs	336	Quinine, bottles	2
Slings for wounded arms	39	Ext. ginger, bottles	12
		Jellies, can	1
Cushions for wounded limbs, bbls	2	Tomatoes, cans	8
		Red pepper, ozs	4
Crackers, bbls	34¼	Sugar, lbs	20
Dried apples, bbls	6¼	Tourniquettes	12
Stimulus, bottles	89	Sponges	12
Milk, cans	345	Peaches, cans	8

I have the pleasure to herewith return you vouchers for the above issues, save for such things as were used by myself and assistants at Baldwin Station, (where we met the wounded.)

The number of wounded or disabled men, whose comforts were promoted, to a greater or less extent, by the stores issued as above, was something over seven hundred.

I am, doctor, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
A. B. DAY.

LETTERS IN OUR DRAWER.

Our readers will perceive from the reports contained in this and previous numbers of the BULLETIN, that the greatest want of our Army in the Southwest just now, is fresh vegetables. Scurvy is making its appearance amongst the men in every direction, and its presence renders wounds and other diseases incurable. The exhaustion of the country in which we are operating in Tennessee, the length of the line of communication, the smallness of the means of transportation, and the recent severity of the weather, have withal, rendered it very difficult to supply anti-scorbutics, in quantities even nearly adequate to the emergency. All these difficulties, except one, still exist, and are not likely to decrease during the coming campaign; and it has, therefore, appeared to our agents, that the best way to meet them, was to raise the vegetables on the spot. There is the land and the labor, and all that has to be provided, are the seeds and tools. They have accordingly gone to work to raise crops, and with every prospect of success. We have already recorded the commencement of the experiment, and all the accounts which we have lately received, show it to be progressing favorably.

Dr. Hewit, the Medical Director of the Department of the Ohio, wrote from Knoxville, February 23d, to the A. A. General, Captain Dickson:

SIR: I respectfully recommend that a suitable place be selected for a kitchen garden, sufficiently large to supply fresh vegetables for the hospitals and garrison of this post, and that the necessary steps be taken to prepare the ground and provide protection for the crop. The U. S. Sanitary Commission will furnish all the seeds that may be required.

I respectfully recommend, in addition, that the loyal citizens in the neighborhood be encouraged to raise vegetables for the market, and be granted all possible security in so doing; and that a supply of garden seeds be obtained for gratuitous distribution through the Sanitary Commission and otherwise, as may be deemed just and most expeditious.

This was emphatically endorsed by General Schofield, as follows:

The within meets the approbation of the Major General Commanding in the highest degree, and the military authorities will do all in their power to help the matter along.

Mr. Seymour, our Agent at Knoxville, accordingly writes, March 1, to Dr. Newberry:

Mr. Wm. M. Culburtson, who is in the employ of the Commission, I have sent to you for the purpose of procuring a supply of seeds and implements for a garden at this place. He is a practical gardener, and will be able to give you all the necessary information respecting our plans. We propose to have put under cultivation from 50 to 75 acres, and if it meets your approbation, to have him superintend it. I think it very important to have a garden at this place. All the potatoes, onions, and other vegetables we raise here will save a vast amount of transportation and expense.

Enclosed, I send you a request of the Medical Director with the proper endorsement.

I should have moved in this matter earlier had we not have been in so unsettled a state in military affairs. Now that Longstreet has retired and our army advanced, we can go on with the work without molestation.

Vegetables and all eatables are very much needed here. You cannot send too many potatoes and onions, also crout. Good ale is much wanted in Hospitals. We want all the *socks* you can send. The Government is wholly destitute of them. Should like some shoes, hats and pants.

Mr. Crary has made a list of articles wanted for our mess. It may be soon necessary to establish a post in front.

Mr. Read writes, Feb. 29, as follows, respecting the progress made in the same work at Chattanooga:

And I must still continue for a few days, gathering plows and harrows, spades, shovels, axes, hatchets, seed-markers and seed-drills, grindstones and whetstones, wrenches and hammers, material for hotbeds and frames, and the 1,001 articles necessary for a gardener's camp, each of which, down to a curry-comb and horse-brush, I have first to find, and then get an order for; and must get all my general official orders through before I can devote any time to the dear people at home.

To-day it rained too much to plow; to-morrow, I think, if pleasant, we shall have nine plows running. I have twelve horses in the camp, and shall take out ten to-morrow. Teams seem the great difficulty. Gen. Thomas' Adj't and Chief Q. M., both said it was not possible to spare a single horse or mule for plowing, and to avoid a failure, I have culled the best from the convalescent corralls, and as I work them with convalescent soldiers, every thing corresponds.

You shall hear from me as soon as possible, with a grist for your mill, but be patient.

How much need there is of this gardening, may be gleaned from the following, from Mr. Carpenter, our agent at Memphis, (Feb. 24.)

Since my last report, upon my return from Helena, Dr. Warriner arrived with sanitary stores, leaving at this point one hundred barrels of potatoes, and twenty-five of onions. The potatoes are peculiarly acceptable, as scurvy is making its appearance quite freely in several of the camps. It is very desirable to receive a supply

sufficient to allow, at least, a few rations for general distribution. It would undoubtedly have a marked effect in checking the spread of diseases of this class.

We have still the same wants with regard to farinaceous food, stimulants, sheets, socks, &c.

We have at this place about —— white troops and about —— colored troops, with about 2,500 sick in general hospital and 500 in regimental hospitals.

Small-pox is still on the increase, and quite prevalent. Pneumonia and diarrhea are still in excess of any prevailing diseases. The regiments are generally reported in fine sanitary condition.

Nor is it in the West alone that the gardening goes on. The movement has extended to North Carolina, and, so far, with promising results. Dr. Page writes, March 6:

Your note of the 27th reached me this morning, with enclosed vaccine matter. Its reception has created a feeling of great satisfaction already—more especially as we have recently had an addition to our surgical corps of Dr. Martin—a medical gentleman, enthusiastic on the subject of small-pox and vaccination. If he is retained here, I look forward to an early suppression of our terrible pest.

I learn some express matter has arrived for me in the Schooner "Pearl," at Moorehead, and will be up to-morrow. I presume that the garden tools and the remaining seeds—Short Corn, Mohawk Beans and Champion Peas, and Flat Dutch Onion, are among them. Gardens and garden-plots are springing up in every part of the service. The Generals have gardens, the A. A. G's, and so on down. The crops will be a glorious relief to our service. The large Hospitals are supplied with the early seed, and small ones are preparing the ground and asking for seed. It would seem that every soldier's and officer's mess were anxious to have a garden patch at their kitchen door. When you know that a wilted cabbage-head from New York commands the exorbitant Sutler's price, of sixty to eighty cents, and the demand not supplied at that price, you will not be surprised at the soldier's enthusiasm for gardens and green sauce. I am now endeavoring to start a fine garden on the opposite bank of the Neuse—within the enclosure of the Small-pox Hospital, which is so isolated from society and the markets. Its culture will be a healthful relief to the convalescents there. It now contains some two hundred patients and an exposed camp of a large number.

I wish you could send me a re-supply of some varieties—say,

2 lbs. Scollop Squash.
2 " Hubbard "
2 " Boston Marrow Squash.
½ bushel Marrow Peas.
½ " Champion of England Peas.
1 lb. Cucumber.
½ " Red Olive Radish.
½ " Red Turnip "
½ " Nutmeg Cantelope.
1 " Red Turnip Beet.
1 " Long Blood "
1 " Orange Carrot.
1 " Early Dutch Turnip.
½ lb. Okra.
¼ " Parsley.
½ " Ice Cream Watermelon.
¼ " Gherkin Cucumber.
2 " Cress.
½ bushel Tom Thumb Peas.
1 " Cranberry Pole Bean.

The twenty barrels Mercer seed potatoes have arrived in good order.

We shall have a large space of fine land in our Hospital Garden for a coarser crop. Can you not send me twenty-five bushels of a good kind of white-bread corn for planting, as we have a steam grist mill? The crop would afford our hospitals a fine quantity of sweet corn meal in the fall and winter.

We have large borders on the ornamental grounds of the General Hospital, and some ornate garden-work for floral effect.

* * * * *

To show you the zest with which our Hospital Surgeons entertain the idea of a Hospital Garden, I enclose for your perusal a letter of acknowledgment received this morning from Dr. Bellangir, U. S. V., Surgeon in charge of Mansfield General Hospital at Moorehead City.

I paid thirty-seven dollars and forty-six cents freight ($37.46) on the freight of the "Petrel" on her last trip. Was it correct?

This letter will go via canal and Old Point, with some danger of capture by the rebel guerrillas, as they are infesting that line of communication, and fired on the boat the last trip down. If the letter should fall into their hands it may sow seeds of discontent in their ranks. At any rate they will be as much interested in this part of the note as ourselves.

We are still on the alert, and General Peck is pushing on strong works of defence, and perhaps some for offence. Our 3d N. Y. Cavalry are not to be caught napping, nor will they be likely to leave much neutral ground between us and the enemy.

I write this in some haste and violence to the chirography and style, but the mail closes earlier than I anticipated.

MANSFIELD GEN. HOSPITAL,
March 5, 1864.

DEAR DOCTOR.—God bless the Sanitary Commission, and its efficient, able, and obliging representatives in this District, Dr. J. W. Page & Bro. Such a choice lot of garden seeds, so neatly arranged and labelled, as I received yesterday, is enough to make an amateur gardener quite happy with himself and the rest of mankind. I hope if you favor us with a visit during the summer to show you some of the things growing in about the right shape, but really I am unacquainted with some of the articles sent. What is the Gherkin Cucumber? When must it be planted? When do you plant Okra, and what are its habits about coming up? The other seeds are all familiar. I will be delighted to receive the other seeds mentioned, especially the Champion of England Pea. Will send you up the fore part of next week a mess of lettuce and radishes; that is, provided you have not already plenty of them; do not intend to be *distanced* much by either Newbern or Washington, N. C. Doctor, I have set a clerk at work on your blank reports; hope soon to have our hospital properly reported every week. Am mortified at our miserable

blundering in that matter. Accept my warmest thanks for many favors.

Yours truly,
J. B. BELLANGIR,
Surgeon U. S. V., in charge.

From other quarters we have nothing novel to report, but our every day work goes on every where with unabated vigor.

We have been able at New Orleans to bring about an improvement in the Government machinery, which will save a vast deal of misery. Dr. Blake, writing from that city (March 8,) says:

During the month of February much was accomplished that will add to the comfort of the soldier, and redound to the credit of the Commission.

* * * * * *

A communication from Mr. Bullard to Major Brigham, chief paymaster, was the occasion of an order for all paymasters to pay the soldier's mileage and subsistence from this city to his home. Before this he received an order on the quartermaster for transportation, and was given whatever happened to be convenient, without any reference to his personal comfort. Privates, maimed and enfeebled by disease, have been stowed away in transports like cattle, and allowed to find a resting place any where, on cotton bales or in the hold; to subsist as best they might on scanty rations. Now, the mileage and subsistence give every discharged soldier a comfortable passage home.

* * * * * *

Some were too sick to go on the ordinary transport, and hence an application was made to the Quartermasters' Department, to furnish a special steamer for the purpose of a hospital transport.

The Laurel Hill was first assigned, then withdrawn, and finally the N. W. Thomas. Both these steamers were fitted up by the Commission. The latter will run to Cairo, carrying discharged men who are too sick to go from the Department by common transports.

And in the report of Mr. Bullard, our relief agent at that point, (March 4,) we find the following:

My report for the month of February has been unavoidably delayed. The new movement of troops through Brashear, made it probable that there would be at least a temporary increase of work at the "Soldiers' Rest" in that place.

* * * * * *

Late Monday night a squad of seventy-six recruits for a New York regiment arrived in Brashear, *en route* for Franklin, to join their regiment. The night was stormy; some of the men were sick; all without experience in the service. They had but just landed from the transport, which had brought them from New York, when they were started for the field. The officer having them in charge asked if we could cook them some rations, and give them a place on the floor, or any where under cover, for the night.

We prepared them some good coffee, gave them an abundance of excellent bread and butter, and then made the best arrangement we could for sleeping. Most of the beds were already occupied. The sick men were furnished with cots; the rest were well satisfied with the floor.

We gave them breakfast and dinner the following day, and they left us with many kind wishes for the Sanitary Commission.

For Tuesday we had, in many respects, a repetition of the preceding twenty-four hours. Eighty-three men were received, some dropping in as late as 11 P. M. A squad of some thirty men came in about 10 P. M.

They were from various regiments, and on their way to New Orleans for the Invalid Corps Camp. The beds were already full, but we gave them a supper, and spread them on the floors.

I have given you these somewhat extended details, as coming under my own observation, and showing about the character of the work in Brashear.

The officials and soldiers, so far as I had the opportunity of conversing with them, express the greatest satisfaction, and, I think, appreciate the benefits resulting to soldiers delayed at this point, and all speak well of the superintendent, Mr. Reynolds.

I gathered the following statements from his journal:

FROM FEBRUARY 14TH TO MARCH 1ST.

Number received at the Soldiers' Rest	569
Number of meals	1,219
Number of lodgings	334
Daily average	39
Whole number at the "Rest" during February	802
Whole number of meals during February	1,955
Whole number of lodgings "	523
Daily average "	27
Rations drawn "	716

* * * * * *

Discharged and furloughed soldiers are relieved at the Home on showing their papers. Soldiers just arrived in the city, in special cases, are fed before being sent to the "Camp of Distribution." Stragglers coming too late to be sent to the camp are kept till morning, and after breakfast all put on their way. Any soldier bringing an order from General Reynolds's headquarters is relieved, in consideration of the Government providing for the Home an expensive building, in a central locality, convenient to most of the military offices.

* * * * * *

I enclose Mr. Weaver's report for the month of February, New Orleans "Home:"

DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY.

Number of men received	756
Number of lodgings	4,518
Number of meals	15,525
Average daily number of men	156
Largest number for one day	220
Smallest " "	85

One death at the Home in February.

In the Special Relief Office I have to report continued activity.

The journal shows a record of thirty-two cases. $4,307.60 ("back pay,") has been collected. The correspondence necessary for the correction of imperfect papers, coming from the distant regiments, is increasing.

I have received certificates and passes with

transportation, for several parties who had lost their discharged papers.

So far I have had every facility afforded me by officials, that could be reasonably asked, on all my applications for necessary papers or information.

WHAT THE SURGEONS IN THE FIELD THINK ABOUT THE COMMISSION.

The officers and medical men, who are present with the Army in the field, know, of course, better than anybody else can possibly know, what are the wants of the men under their care, and to what extent the Sanitary Commission has been able to supply them. We therefore beg for the public satisfaction, no less than for our own, to call attention to the following testimony. It will be seen, by those who will have the goodness to read it, that the condition of the government storehouses in New York, has not necessarily any bearing on the actual sanitary state of the men in camp at the seat of war.

My Dear Sir—I have just been examining the consolidated weekly reports of sick and wounded of the divisions comprising the 17th Corps, and also the inspection reports of the surgeons-in-chief of divisions, and, so far as made, that of the acting medical inspector of the corps, Surgeon John M. Woodworth, 1st Illinois Artillery, and am so gratified with the condition of health exhibited, that I cannot refrain from expressing my thanks and obligations to the United States and Western Sanitary Commissions; the immediate and active agencies which have been, under Providence, largely instrumental in preserving the health of the troops, and thus maintaining a state of efficiency rarely equalled, and perhaps never surpassed.

Coming to the present location from the long march of nearly eight hundred miles from Memphis to Knoxville, and so far back; and fighting at Collliersville, Cherokee, Tuscumbia, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge and Ringgold, and losing throughout, in killed, wounded and missing, nearly two thousand men; the gratification of the gallant corps could hardly shape itself in words, when, on reaching at last a resting place —weary, worn, ragged, footsore and hungry— it found the inevitable Sanitary Commission, with their supplies of vegetables, delicacies, hospital supplies of food and clothing, and experienced once more the benefits of that active and loving sympathy, which, in its organization and results, challenges history for a parellel, and which, in its never-wearying love, labor, sacrifice, hopefulness, broad catholic charity, and courage-inspiring words of cheer, corresponds fittingly with, and is a glorious pendant to, the patriotism, valor, endurance and high-heartedness of the noble army—braving disease and death—enduring all things in the present, and hoping all things in the future—fighting for those altars and fires, at and around which they are daily made to feel they are perpetually remembered. This is as it should be. The soldier battling for his country and home; and home, stretching out its hand of sympathy and bountifulness to his battle-cry of "Liberty and Union," answering with words of love and hope; and when, through wounds and sickness, the arms fall from the manly hands which have carried them so often, and so far, into the ranks of the foe, holding out unfailingly those loving and untiring arms which carry cheer, and succor, and renovation to him, whose loss might otherwise be certain and irremediable.

This view of the far-reaching and beneficial influences flowing from the projection (so to speak,) of home into the field, is, I am convinced, not sufficiently dwelt upon. During a term of service commencing a few days after the fall of Fort Sumter, and nearly all the time in the field, I have witnessed both its patent and palpable effects, and those more intangible and recondite results, visible in the individual only to the observant student, but known and recognized in the mass as the base and groundwork of the efficiency, tone, moral of the army. In this electric chain of material aid and sympathy—this knowledge and confidence that, go where he may, the arms and comforts of home are extended to him—that makes the soldier buoyant, hopeful, brave—defiant of danger, because he knows, if sickness or wounds result from his performance of duty, that preparations have been made for the very event by loving hands of mothers, wives, sweethearts and sisters; and that the hoards of the rich and the earnings of toil-worn hands are freely drawn upon to support and renovate the dearly remembered ones who have gone forth from all the homes of the land to fight for and restore the Union.

I am satisfied, from this long and familiar intercourse with the army in active service, that many are brave, even reckless, both because of the knowledge that they are watched by loving eyes, that fill with proud and happy tears when they do nobly; and because they are "sustained and soothed by an unfaltering trust," that, happen what may, preparation and provision have been made for the emergency,

even against their hour and manner of suffering.

The soldiers look with confidence to the Commissions for prophylactics, also; and the liberal distribution of vegetables has been productive of incalculable good, by preventing that deterioration and deprivation of the system, which is the precursor of typhus, scurvy and all those formidable evils, which arise in the army from derangements of the nutritive function. The Medical Department of the army supplies bountifully, now, what is needed in the way of medicines and hospital stores; those medical officers whose ideas of service and administration were found incompatible with the needs of the emergency and the spirit of the times, having been forced to yield their notions, or pushed aside altogether. So far, then, as this portion of the army is concerned, it seems to me that the greatest amount of good may be done in the way of prevention; and I would respectfully urge, as my opinion of the method of bringing the greatest good to the greatest number, that the Commissions should direct the large-hearted liberality of the soldiers' friends towards gathering and forwarding to the army those vegetables which are the most difficult to procure on the part of the Commissary Department, or which are not in the army ration, and which have proved so valuable hitherto in the prevention of disease, arising from the derangement of the function of nutrition and the depraved condition of system, which is nearly certain to follow confinement to one class of food. The occupancy for a long time past of this part of the country by both armies, has stripped it of supplies, and many of the inhabitants are forced to apply to the Army Commissary for subsistence.

This corps, belonging to the moving column, and "Great Class in Geography," under the tuition of three eminent instructors, Sherman, Blair and Logan, the constant change of place has enabled it to gather whatever of a variety a larger space of country afforded; but it is now dependent upon the supply brought to it in common with the Army of the Cumberland, over a heavily burdened railroad, and which, though good in quality and now plentiful in quantity, is still limited in variety, and occasionally deficient in those articles which are especially desirable.

The health of our troops is now so excellent, that the greatest expectations may be based upon their efficiency in the coming campaign; and, if the articles mentioned can be furnished, I have no fear that the number of sick will exceed the four per cent. now reported, although the months of February and March are most trying to troops who are allowed to deteriorate during the change from winter to spring.

I should remark that only four per cent. are excused from duty, and only two per cent. are really so ill as to need medical attendance. In many regiments there is not an inmate of a regimental hospital. We have not sent a man to general hospital since leaving Bridgeport, on Christmas, and have at this place a post hospital mainly for the care of sick belonging to the Provost-Guard, on duty in town, quartermaster and citizen employees, &c.; less than twenty in all, being reported as "remaining sick." I know that this information will be gratifying to those who bear in remembrance the patriotic citizen who has become a soldier, and to you, the representatives of those Sanitary Commissions, whose bounties I have witnessed during so long a period, and under so many trying and desperate circumstances. And it is with a warm and grateful feeling at my heart that I declare, that in a service of nearly three years, performed in the States of Maryland, Tennessee, Virginia, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia, I have never been in circumstances, however trying, in positions, however desperate and hopeless, or in places of danger, however great and imminent, but either preceding us, close by our side, or following in our very footsteps, were to be found the active, self-sacrificing, ubiquitous agents of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, braving disease, and danger, and death, in the pursuit and exercise of a noble philanthropy, which will for ever entitle them to the gratitude of their country, and to the proud appellation of "The Soldiers' Friend."

I am, sincerely and truly, your friend,

(Signed,)

CHARLES MCMILLAN,

Surgeon U. S. Vols., Medical Director 15th A. C.

DR. A. N. READ,

U. S. Sanitary Commission.

HEADQUARTERS MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,
99TH REGT. ILLINOIS INFANTRY VOLUNTEERS,
INDIANOLA, Texas, *Feb.* 15, 1864.

SIR—Permit me, through you, to return my thanks to the U. S. Sanitary Commission, for the benefits derived by my regiment, from it.

The following statement will show you the incalculable value of your Commission to troops in the field:

I have three men whose discharge papers I had made out and forwarded. These papers came back approved, and an order for the men to report in New Orleans for their final discharge from the service, on account of chronic diarrhea. In the meantime I had procured from you corn starch, beef stock, condensed milk, and sherry

wine, which I had prepared for them, and on this diet they have been rapidly recovering, and, in my opinion, will be fit for full duty in thirty days; thus saving three good soldiers for the Government.

I may add, that in no other way could I have procured these articles, as they are not supplied by the Government to troops in the field.

Very respectfully,

J. K. LEDLIE,

Surgeon, 99th Regt., Illinois Infantry Volunteers.

To EDWARD MITCHELL, Esq.,
U. S. Sanitary Commission Agent.

MURFREESBORO', TENN.,
February 20th, 1864.

To Dr. Reed, Sanitary Commission:

SIR:—Having lately seen various newspaper articles charging the Agents of the Sanitary Commission with carelessness and fraud in the appropriation, use, and distribution of supplies furnished by the loyal people of the North, for the Army, I desire to assert, on my own knowledge, that these charges, as far as they relate to certain specific times or places, are either unintentionally or wilfully false.

In March last I was assigned to duty upon the staff of Major-General Rosencrans, as Medical Inspector—a position that gave me ample opportunity of witnessing the working of the Sanitary Commission. Prior to the battle of Chickamauga, my intercourse with the Commission was slight; but afterwards I saw sufficient to warrant me in declaring that not only does a vast majority of its supplies reach those for whom they are intended, but that the amount of good done by them is beyond compensation. I know that from their depot at Stevenson, Ala., after that battle, immense quantities of supplies were forwarded to Chattanooga for the use of the wounded, and that more would have been sent could transportation have been obtained, and that the supplies (save such as were stolen) were used in, and were a perfect God-send to the hospitals there. I was present when the supplies from Stevenson from the Quartermaster's, Commissary's and Sanitary Commission, were sent to Sequatchie Valley, to establish a Soldier's Home for feeding the wounded in transit from Chattanooga to the hospitals in the rear, and I know that they were put in the hands of a good and reliable man, who had been the Medical Director of the Department, and detailed by General Rosencrans to take charge of the post. This Home was afterwards transferred to Kelly's Ferry. In my capacity as Inspector, and in obedience to orders, I visited that point several times. It was under the charge of Surgeon Failor, 19th A. V. I., and Rev. Mr. Kennedy, and no wounded or sick soldier passed that point without receiving all the care and attention that circumstances would permit. That many "shoulder-strapped gentry" were also fed, is true; they could get food and lodging nowhere else; and from Major-Generals to Second Lieutenants, were most thankful for the aid and comfort they received. I know that after the battles of Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Ringgold, &c., large quantities of Sanitary stores were issued to the sick and wounded. Mr. Reed, the Agent at Chattanooga, received every few days instructions from G. Pierce, Surgeon U. S. A., Medical Director of the Department, as to what articles to bring forward, and they were distributed to, and used by those needing them, and for whom they were designed.

In December last I took charge of over 200 wounded and sick, whom it was necessary to remove from Chattanooga to the rear. When the boat touched at Kelly's Ferry, the Sanitary Commission's Agent there gave me for their use, and they got them, such articles of food as could be used, and a liberal supply. When I arrived at Bridgeport, Ala., with my charge, I was delayed after getting my men into the cars for nearly a whole day, and the Sanitary Commission there furnished them with coffee, whisky, food, blankets, shirts, socks, drawers, pants, &c., to every man who expressed a wish for, or had need of such articles. On leaving Nashville for Louisville, I found attached to my train a Sanitary Commission car, supplied with bunks clean and nice, and an abundance of first-rate food and cooking utensils, and every man on that train was fed with food as abundant as good, and as well cooked as they could desire, and I doubt not would take great pleasure in branding as liars all who traduce the Sanitary Commission.

I make this statement without solicitation, and as a mere act of justice to parties interested, and conscientiously believe that the abuse bestowed upon the Commission owes its origin to ignorance of what it really does do, positive malevolence, jealousy, or else is from those who have sought for, but have failed to receive from the Commission, favors to which they had no right, and have thus sought to vent their spite.

Most respectfully,
Your obediant servant,
(Signed). HENRY N. SEYS,
Surgeon 15th Ohio Vols.

NASHVILLE, *February 26*, 1864.

To Dr. J. S. Newberry, Secretary
Western Department Sanitary Commission.

SIR:—I take pleasure in being able to forward to you the preceding testimony. It is specially

valuable, as Dr. Seys has been for the last year Medical Inspector of the Army of the Cumberland, and as such, has been constantly visiting camps, for the purpose of ascertaining and reporting to the Medical Director the condition and wants of the sick and wounded. It is true that the Sanitary Commission give most of their goods designed for the sick through the Surgeons in charge. The Surgeons are the regularly authorized agents of the Government to watch over the sick and wounded, and supply their wants. As a class, they work faithfully, honestly and laboriously; and, with very few exceptions, they faithfully distribute the gifts of the Commission. What person of good judgment would, if he could, put a can of preserved fruit, a bottle of wine, or other articles in the hands of the sick, leaving them to judge how much, and when, they should use them? It is not safe to do so. We are compelled to trust the Surgeons. We can do so safely.

Yours truly,

A. N. READ.

THE ARMY IN TENNESSEE.

The past month has brought with it no great battle in this Department, yet there have been constant notes of preparation, and the agents of the Commission have been unusually active. No more store-rooms have been opened, and there has been no special change in those previously established. Rev. O. Kennedy reports favorably from Murfreesboro' and from the soldiers in the hospitals there. I have received and forwarded to you valuable testimonials of the good done there by the Commission. These were given unsought, and disproved the false statements made by letter-writers that our supplies are given to the officers.

From Huntsville I learn by Mr. H. Tone, in charge of the store-room, that he has frequent calls for vegetables from the surgeons, who report cases of scorbutis, and on this account are urgent. A portion of the 15th A. C. have left Huntsville, but their sick remain.

Mr. Wm. A. Sutliff has obtained convenient store-rooms and quarters in Stevenson, and his work there is generally commended. There the Alabama House was taken by Government for a Soldiers' Home; is in charge of Government Officers, and by their request we have furnished a large supply of bedding, and for filling the bedticks five bales of straw, which we could not obtain nearer than Louisville; besides the Commission have furnished candlesticks, sconces, and other articles of furniture, as well as vegetables for the table.

At Bridgeport, Mr. E. H. Pocock in charge, is working with his accustomed good judgment and energy. At least thirty-five regiments, and those as needy as any in the army, look to that depot for their supplies; they have, perhaps, received their share, yet it has been but little compared with their wants.

The shipment of stores to Knoxville, and an attempt to identify our unburied or partially buried dead on the field of Chickamauga, has been added to the usual work of the Commission at Chattanooga. M. C. Read, who accompanied the burial party for this purpose, has been in many instances successful. He has also given personal and special attention to preparing for early planting a large hospital garden. The number of discharged and furloughed soldiers, returning from Knoxville and from our divisions now advanced beyond Chattanooga, are so great as to make it necessary to establish at Chattanooga a "Soldiers' Home." Our agents there have been offered a good building, which I hope will soon be ready for use.

In Nashville, during the past month, a most excellent field hospital, admirably planned, has been rapidly built for the accommodation of the still increasing number of cases of small-pox. The number of the other hospitals remains the same. The new small-pox hospital will give great relief to the large number of patients, now over seven hundred. The rooms previously used had been so over-crowded that the mortality had been fearfully large. They were more dreaded by the soldiers than the disease itself, and when they were told "You have the varioloid, and must be sent to that hospital," the answer was, "Then I must die," which conviction was too often verified. This is all changed, and I hope to be able to report hereafter a much less percentage of deaths, on account of improved sanitary condition of the hospital. In this connection it may not be improper for me to state that I inspected the house and hospital, all in one building,

where the refugees are received and their sick cared for. At that time there were over four hundred inmates, mostly women and children, the wives and children of Union men, and of rebels now in arms against the Union. They are here because they must come or starve. They have been made thus destitute by various causes. One Union woman said to me, "They hung my husband and took everything I had, because he was a Union man." Our Government is feeding and clothing them, making no distinction between friends and enemies; and they are sent North, if they desire to go, as many of them do. I saw that these poor, ignorant, half-clad sufferers were not only dreadfully exposed to small-pox themselves, but were liable to spread it over the city and throughout the Northern States. A large proportion of them had never been vaccinated, and I applied to Gov. Johnson to furnish vaccine virus, and order the surgeon in charge to vaccinate all present and each day all who came in. Mr. Oviott, the agent of Gov. Johnson in charge of these people, saw at once the importance of the measure. On his application, Surgeon Clendennin, Medical Director, signed the necessary order to obtain the vaccine virus without delay, and instructed the surgeon in charge to vaccinate all, which, at a subsequent visit, made a few days after, I found had been done.

The "Home" in Nashville has been over-crowded during the past month; they have but one hundred beds, yet they have fed and lodged about two hundred daily. Within the month Gen. Granger, the Post Commander, doubting his authority, refused to issue rations or fuel. On application to Gen. Grant, he replied "Of course it must be done," and gave the necessary order, relieving us from that embarrassment. Soon after, our agent at Chattanooga wrote me that the authorities there were desirous to do all they could for us legally, but could find no authority to issue forage for our horses. We had then but two, but we must have them, and as it was almost impossible to supply ourselves, I again resorted to Gen. Grant, who gave an order that in all parts of his command forage be issued on application of the authorized agents of the Commission, approved by the Post-Commander. I have sent copies of this order to Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Louisville.

For the past eight months the Commission in Nashville has not been able to obtain comfortable quarters. The city is constantly crowded to overflowing; a suitable building was hardly to be found. After long delay, I applied to Gen. Grant, asking for a large house, and, if practicable, plain furniture. By the assistance of Mr. Scovel, our true friend and a good Union man, such a house was found, and Gen. Grant promptly put us in possession, adding to this favor that of paying the rent. We receive such aid with gratitude, as substantial testimonials from the General whom the nation delights to honor, of the value of our work.

The forwarding of stores from Nashville the past month has been mostly done under the superintendance of Mr. Jones, Mr. Robinson being absent on furlough. Mr. Fracker has given his attention principally to the retail business, in which business, however judiciously it may be done, it is difficult to give entire satisfaction. The requisitions from surgeons are often much larger than we have the means of filling, and occasionally soldiers have forged orders. Both branches of the work have been well done. In general the goods called for have been forwarded promptly; and when requisitions could not be filled, so far as possible satisfactory explanations have been made. Rev. Mr. Hoblit, after a short leave of absence, has returned with new zeal to his work of "special relief," and in this work no one can be more successful. In many cases of inquiry after friends long lost, he has been able to obtain satisfactory answers, after others of less experience have looked in vain. In his intercourse with the officers, careful to ask for only what is just, he obtains all he asks. We have not in this department a more faithful or successful worker.

Rev. Mr. Ingraham and Hon. Mr. Root, both of Milwaukie, are engaged in visiting hospitals and camps in Nashville and vicinity, looking for those in need of special relief, listening patiently to the complaints of the sick and suffering, and encouraging

them to bear unavoidable troubles patiently; or when they can be relieved, kindly furnishing help from the stores of the Commission; or they correct the evil by applying to the nurse, the ward-master; or, if necessary, to the surgeon for help. In this work they are everywhere welcomed by the surgeons.

The calls for help are sometimes such that it is difficult to determine whether we can aid the soldier most, by furnishing the article required, or if it should and could have been procured of Government, induce the officer in charge of the soldiers to obtain it from that source. There is such a thing as making our gifts too cheap—so cheap that they are not appreciated, and so free and easy to be obtained, that sufficient effort is not made to obtain them through Government channels—which are a little more difficult. I have even heard of Surgeons who think it too much trouble to state their wants in writing to the storekeeper, not wishing to give their time to such small matters—that being rather the business of the Steward. There are but few such Surgeons; not more, I should judge, than those who misappropriate Sanitary stores. Applications from Hospitals and Convalescent Camps are not uncommon—the reason assigned being that the patient is "without descriptive roll." In conversing with the parties who make these requests, I am told that clothing cannot be issued in such cases, because soldiers sometimes give wrong names, or make false statements as to the regiments which they belong; and if clothing were issued to such soldiers, the officers issuing would be personally responsible. However, as I believed the record upon which they were received was *prima facie* evidence that they were the persons they represented themselves to be, and if it was legal to give them rations upon this evidence, it was equally so to clothe them, I addressed a note to the Assistant Medical Director in charge of the Hospitals in Nashville, asking him to inform me whether clothing can or cannot be issued to patients in hospital without their descriptive rolls. He replied, "clothing can be issued to all enlisted men without their descriptive rolls;" and at the same time he sent me a note, asking me to inform him if I found any Surgeon who refused to issue to any *needy* soldier. At the same time it has been our rule to supply the applicants at once from our stores, lest they might suffer by the delay. There are also many employees of the Government in hospital, who cannot be thus supplied, not being enlisted men. I hope soon to know that every enlisted soldier needing clothing in all long-established hospitals is furnished, and that the same will be done in Convalescent Camps.

The Hospital Train between Nashville and Chattanooga, in charge of Surgeon Myers, is in excellent order; the cars and beds are clean, and the sick and wounded are well-fed, but all sick and wounded have not had the benefit of this train. In cold weather some have been passed over the road in box-cars without fire. Several instances of suffering from this cause coming to my knowledge, I notified Dr. G. Penn, Medical Director, asking him that such men be retained in hospital until they can be sent on the Hospital Train; or if this is not always practicable, that the best seats in the passenger-cars be given them rather than to well soldiers, or to those civilians who are visiting the Army for the purpose of speculation, or to gratify curiosity. I have not yet heard from my request, but believe the evil will be corrected.

The Hospital Cars between Nashville and Louisville, are by no means what they should be. There are not enough of them, and they are not good enough. Dr. Barnum, who has long had charge of the train, and has done all that could be done to aid his patients, informs me that he expects soon to be furnished with a better train.

By telegrams from our agents at Chattanooga, and information confidentially furnished us, we have learned that an extra supply of stores may be needed; acting upon this information, all the reserve stores in Nashville have been forwarded. More have been asked for from Louisville, and are already on the way, and thus I trust we shall be prepared for every emergency.

Mr. Ingraham informs me that comparatively few of the soldiers in Nashville Hospitals know that they receive aid from the Commission. So long have the Surgeons been accustomed to draw from our stores

that the novelty is gone. Like the air we breathe, although used daily, they are used without any special thought, but as a matter of course; when drawn, they are placed with those drawn from the Government Commissary in a common store room, and issued with them; and although they may be used with strict fidelity, they are not known to the patient as Sanitary stores. The novelty of receiving them has passed, and it has ceased to cause remark by the attendants, as it once did—the Surgeons resting in the knowledge, as we have also done, that the stores were faithfully used—have not given sufficient thought to the importance of all the sick and wounded knowing, and even testifying, that they receive these gifts, in order to satisfy the contributors at home, and encourage them in their work.

Recently, vegetables have been issued to regiments in the vicinity of Nashville, and as their reception was a comparatively new experience, they have made much more impression, and cheerful testimony of their value is being furnished. Sufficient staple garden seeds for large hospital gardens have been purchased and sent to Murfreesboro', Tullahoma, Chattanooga, and Knoxville. Experienced gardeners have also been secured to take charge of the gardens.

Regimental Hospitals have been discontinued, and Brigade Hospitals are to take their places. These are to be furnished with one wall tent and one hospital tent for every 350 men present for duty, with axes, spades, camp-kettles, &c., that are necessary.

I have found time during the past month to visit several of the Hospitals of Nashville, but not all. Hospitals, Nos. 1, 15, 8, 19, and the Cumberland Hospital, I found to be in the most excellent condition. Improvements in heating and ventilation in No. 1, are very marked. The Cumberland Hospital is in beautiful working order; its neat and comfortable appearance indicates an unusual degree of interest and systematic management on the part of its Surgeons. Connected with this, as well as with several others, is a light-diet kitchen, in charge of experienced ladies, who receive the stores furnished, either by Hospital fund or from the Commission; and under the direction of these ladies are prepared all the delicacies which each Surgeon orders for his sick. Thus the sick man receives such food and such quantities as his Surgeon thinks best for him, and so well are they supplied, that a lady going through one division found but one grumbler, and he wanted some canned peaches, and said his mother and sisters gave him preserves when he was sick at home. This is a large hospital, capable of containing about 2,000 patients. It has no chapel—no reading-room—no place for writing. Its Chaplain, Rev. Mr. Day, Dr. McDermant, Surgeon in charge, and his Assistants, have asked that the Commission erect a suitable building for these purposes. A plain one—capable of accommodating 250 men—would not only be a means of moral improvement, but would, in my opinion, by giving the sick and convalescing a place to retire to, where they can read and write to loved ones at home, be eminently a Sanitary measure.

I have to continue to report that the great want of the Army is fresh vegetables. The calls from hospitals and regiments are frequent and urgent, and compared with the demand, but few are furnished by either the Government or the Commission.

Capt. Lytle, Chief Commissary, informs me that about the first of January, 300,000 pounds of potatoes were spoiled by frost, and since then none have been issued from this post to troops in the field, yet there has usually been a supply for the hospitals. There are but few on the way, and I fear that the excessive cold at the North has destroyed a large part of the crop, and with every exertion our supply will be limited. The regiments that have gone home on furlough are returning strengthened, but it should be remembered that only the strong could or would re-enlist, that the sick and feeble were left in camp or hospital; these with the regiments remaining, must be supplied. In almost every camp, if they have not been sent to hospital, are to be found some with gums enlarged and softened, and that bleed at the slightest touch; the teeth are loosened, and in some cases are covered by spongy gums. The legs are full of pain, swollen, and covered with

dark blood-discolored spots under, or on the skin. Decomposition of the blood has so far progressed, that a slight wound, a vaccine vesicle, or a chronic diarrhea, without vegetables, cannot be cured. And worse than all, the victim is so depressed in spirits, that life to him is a burden. Such cases will continue to occur, and not unfrequently, and such can be cured and prevented by a few rations of fresh vegetables. I hope they will be furnished yet more abundantly.—*Dr. Read's Report, Feb.* 29.

THE HOSPITAL.

Narrow beds by one another—
White and low!
Through them softly as in church aisles
Nurses go—
For the hot lips ice drops bringing,
Cold and clear;
Or white eye-lids gently closing,
For the bier.

Strong men, in a moment smitten
Down from strength.
Brave men, now in anguish praying
Death at length.
Burns the night lamp where the watchers,
By the bed,
Write for many a waiting loved one—
"He is dead!"

One lies there in utter weakness—
Shattered, faint—
But his brow wears calm befitting
Martyred saint;
And although the lips must quiver,
They can smile,
As he says, "This will be over
In a while.

"As the old Crusaders, weeping
In delight,
Knelt when Zion's holy city
Rose in sight,
So I fling aside my weapon,
From the din,
To the quietness of Heaven
Entering in.

"Standing in the solemn shadow
Of God's hand,
Love of glory fading from me,
Love of land.
I thank God that he has let me
Strike one blow
For His poor and helpless people,
Ere I go."

White and whiter grows the glory
On his brow.
Does he see the Towers of Zion
Rising now?
Stands the doctor, weary, hurried,
By his bed:
"Here is room for one more wounded—
He is dead."

St. Helena, S. C.

"WHAT NEED IS THERE FOR THE SANITARY COMMISSION?"

The following will show that there is plenty of work for the U. S. Sanitary Commission to do. The Commission is making strenuous efforts to supply the wants in Western armies.—EDS.

OFFICE MEDICAL DIRECTOR, ELEVENTH CORPS,
LOOKOUT VALLEY, Tenn., *Jan.* 11, 1864.

SIR—In accordance with your desire, expressed during your visit on the 6th, I take pleasure in laying before the Sanitary Commission, through you, the following statement of the present hygienic condition of the Eleventh Army Corps, and earnestly solicit any assistance that the Commission may be able to furnish.

Reports from regimental medical officers show an alarming increase of sickness during the last month, the number daily excused from duty on this account varying from five to fifteen per cent. of the effective force, while the number prescribed for, of course, much exceeds this. The principal disease, that, indeed, which in its prevalence, its obstinacy under treatment, and its frequent fatal termination, becomes our most dangerous adversary, is chronic diarrhea.

Within the last three months the One Hundred and Forty-first New York Volunteers has lost from this cause six per cent. of its aggregate strength present, while the mortality in the One Hundred and Forty-third New York Volunteers is even greater than this, amounting to twenty-five deaths since the 1st of November, 1863, to an average strength of four hundred and fifty men. Of those remaining, one hundred and seventy-four are reported sick by Assistant Surgeon Croft. Some of these have died in corps hospital, some in camp; and it has been observed, as a strange and enigmatical feature of the disease, that its victims have been the sturdiest and ruggedest men in the regiment. No effect whatever has resulted from the various plans of treatment tried. Some of the men did duty up to the hour of their death; and several surgeons have expressed their astonishment, that so near the end men could display the muscular force they do. Such is not the character nor cause of ordinary camp diarrhea, and it leads one to seek some complication which may explain it.

I accordingly sent a circular to each senior regimental medical officer of the corps, desiring him to search with care for any symptoms of a scorbutic taint among the men, and at the same time to state what particular articles were

most needed to establish healthy vital action. The result was most instructive. Though few cases of positively marked scurvy were reported, the symptoms of the scorbutic blood-poison, the peculiar gums, the hemorrhagic cachexia, the want of union in new, and the reopening of old wounds, the listlessness and lassitude, the purpural discoloration of the skins, &c., were noted in very many of the regiments present, viz.: in Twenty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers; Thirty-third New Jersey Volunteers; One Hundred and Thirty-fourth, One Hundred and Forty-first, One Hundred and Forty-third, One Hundred and Fifty-fourth New York Volunteers; Twenty-first Wisconsin Volunteers, and Sixty-first Ohio Volunteers.

The type of diseases is low, the fevers of a malarial and sporadic character, rapidly assuming a typhoid aspect, and the general appearance of the men, particularly in the regiments comparatively lately enlisted, is depressed. They are in need of clothing and blankets. Many have no change of clothing, nor have had for many weeks, consequently they are filthy in the extreme. This is especially the case with the Thirty-third New Jersey. All the hospital stores of this regiment—and it came out excellently provided for by the State authorities—were lost in the Tennessee River, by the capsizing of the boat in which they were. Shoes, blankets and pants have not yet been furnished in sufficient quantities by the Quartermaster's Department, and changes of stockings, shirts and drawers are generally wanted. The Commissary Department is tasked to its utmost to furnish the absolute necessaries of life, and there have been no issues of potatoes or onions since our return from the fall campaign. A limited supply of beans and rice has, as far as I am aware, been the only issue of dry vegetables, and one three-fourths' ration of whisky, partly distilled, the only issue of spirits in the same time. The amount of fresh meat furnished has also been limited.

The following extracts from the reports of different regimental surgeons will illustrate our present condition:

"Not over one-third of our men have a change of under-clothing, and not one-half have sufficient clothing to keep them warm when on duty; nearly, or quite all, are compelled to do their cooking in parts of old worn-out canteens." [Surgeon Spooner, 61st O.V.I.]

"Diarrhea prevails to an alarming extent, and of a character not be controlled to any great extent by medicines. About two-thirds of the whole command are more or less affected by it. The rations are scanty and ill-cooked, scarcely any vegetables being furnished." [Assistant Surgeon Mathews, 143d New York Volunteers.]

"For nearly a year no full rations of vegetables have been issued to the One Hundred and Forty-first New York Volunteers. During this time vegetables have not been issued in one-tenth the quantities allowed by the army regulations to men in the field. The men have lost their relish for hard bread and bacon. Their blood is impoverished, and symptoms of scorbutus appear. When they get sick it is impossible to treat them with desirable success from this cause." [Surgeon Beaks, One Hundred and Forty-first New York Volunteers.]

"The prevailing disease is diarrhea, and other affections of the alimentary canal, which can be traced directly to the insufficiency and irregularity of rations and cooking, and particularly to having been without any vegetables.' " [Surgeon Hübschman, Twenty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers.]

"An unusually large number of our men are suffering from diarrhea, and of that character over which medical skill has but little control. We can attribute the condition only, I think, to an impoverished condition of blood caused by an improper and too scanty diet." [Assistant Surgeon Hong, One Hundred and Thirty-fourth New York Volunteers.]

I would not have you think that this is owing to any lack of efficiency in the officers managing the Quartermaster and Commissary Departments, for I am convinced that as far as those in this corps are concerned, no exertion has been spared and no trouble avoided to remedy it; but such are the facts, and I state them plainly, in order to explain the present sanitary condition of the corps, and to lay its claims fairly before the Sanitary Commission.

The articles that are imperatively needed, both as prophylactics with the well and remedies for the ill, are potatoes, onions, vinegar, soft bread, dried and sub-acid fruits, fermented cabbage, pickles, soup and spirits in diet, and shoes and under-clothing of all kinds, in quantities sufficient to restore a normal functional action and furnish healthy blood for several thousand men.

Until this change is effected the surgeon must continue to witness his most approved remedies fail, and see his cases approach an inevitably fatal termination. It is the unanimous opinion of all the medical officers that no symptoms of improvement are manifesting themselves, that, on the contrary, the hygienic condition of the corps is deteriorating day by day. We need help, and we need it soon; and I cannot refrain

rom repeating my earnest solicitations to the Sanitary Commission, through you, that early efforts be made to provide at least to some extent for these, our urgent necessities. I am aware how many appeals for aid the Commission receives, but I am also aware how nobly it responds to them, and this it is that emboldens me to state our wants fully, and perhaps with some importunity.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

DR. G. BRINTON,
Surgeon U. S. Vols., Medical Director Eleventh Army Corps.

DR. A. N. READ,
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Nashville, Tenn.

RAFFLING AT THE FAIR.

LETTER FROM THE SANITARY COMMISSION—ACTION OF THE LADIES.

The following letter from the Standing Committee of the Sanitary Commission, gives the reasons for prohibiting raffling at the Sanitary Fair, and it will be seen that the ladies of the Executive Board have abandoned the practice, in deference to the judgment of the Commission:

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION, No. 823 Broadway, NEW YORK, *Jan.* 27, 1864.

To the Executive Board of the Metropolitan Fair:

LADIES.—The Standing Committee of the United States Sanitary Commission, having had the subject of "raffling" brought before them, in connection with the Metropolitan Fair, desire to say, very respectfully, to your Committee, as they have said to the Gentlemen's Committee, that they are deliberately opposed to any resort to this questionable means of disposing of any of the articles on sale.

They are opposed to it on these grounds:

1. It is illegal; and an institution like the Sanitary Commission, designed to minister to the wants of those who suffer in maintaining the cause of law and order in our national conflict, ought not, directly or indirectly, to give the least countenance to an illegal proceeding, even if winked at by the authorities or authorized by custom.

2. Without debating the principle involved, the actual influence of an appeal to the *lot* has been found so perilous to the social and moral interests of society, that its disuse is precisely proportioned to the advance of law, order, and moral and Christian culture. As public money lotteries have yielded to the rise of moral sentiment in this community, is it not time that all other kinds should follow them, and is not the present moment a good one to strike at the root of the custom of raffling at fairs, which has survived most other forms of this evil?

3. The Sanitary Commission, owing whatever pecuniary or other support it has received to the confidence reposed in its law-abiding and moral character, feels that no increase in the pecuniary results of the proposed fair, accruing from the use of any means subject to just question on either ground, could repay it for the loss of confidence which it must suffer from such support.

It cheerfully accepts any deduction from the probable returns from the fair, occasioned by adherence to the highest principles in the conduct of it. Understanding that the Ladies' Committee, inspired by high moral considerations, have already adopted rules restraining the more obvious evils of raffling, we cannot doubt that they will rejoice to perfect their good work, by abolishing the custom. They have hesitated to do this, probably, only from fears of surrendering the pecuniary interest of the fair. They will no longer hesitate, we trust, when we express our full readiness to run all the risk of this loss.

Respectfully yours,

HENRY W. BELLOWS,
W. H. VAN BUREN,
C. R. AGNEW,
G. T. STRONG,
WOLCOTT GIBBS,
Standing Committee of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

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The following reply to the above communication, without the date of its passage, was received by the Rev. Dr. Bellows, in an official communication from Mrs. Hamilton Fish, President of the Ladies' Committee, on Friday, Feb. 19:

Resolved, The ladies of the Executive Board, associated in a great enterprise under the auspices of the Sanitary Commission, have resolved that, in deference to a formal petition, sent to them by the Standing Committee of that Commission, and in obedience to the law, they do hereby abandon all raffles and lotteries, as a means of raising money at their proposed fair.

—

LETTER FROM REV. DR. BELLOWS.

NEW YORK, *Feb.* 22, 1864.

In sending you the correspondence between the Standing Committee of the United States Sanitary Commission and the lady managers of the Metropolitan Fair, on the subject of "raffling," I beg leave to say that when the fair was started and the generous services of the managers were obtained, the objections to raffling had not taken so clear a form as to give any body the impression that it could be abolished. The most that was hoped for was that the practice could be regulated, and to this point the Ladies' Committee courageously addressed themselves. It was well known that even Church fairs profited by this custom, and that clergymen's salaries had been eked out by its fruits. It is not surprising that a sudden and vehement expression of scruples, imputing bluntness to the consciences of the managers of the fair, should have aroused some indignation and retarded their disposition to yield, under moral duress and threats of the law, to such an unexpected outbreak of conscientiousness. The truth is, the subject is new. The moral sensibility of any considerable portion of the public in regard to it is new. Pious and conscientious people have raffled too lately, with perfect innocency of feeling, to be able at once to appreciate the moral evil of the usage, or the scruples of those who oppose it; and there are still many thorough and excellent Christians

who regard the custom, when confined to benevolent fairs, as wholly unobjectionable.

On the other hand, the same may be said of most of the evils which have yielded to the rising tide of Christian sentiment. They have enjoyed the countenance of many of the excellent and judicious, up to the very hour of their fall. Things which are not evil in themselves, but only made evil by those tendencies, are not easily characterized. Those who have not had special reasons for considering their tendencies do not see their evil. The Standing Committee of the Sanitary Commission, having had their most anxious attention drawn to all the consequences of the custom of raffling, have thought it their duty to discourage it, on the grounds given in their communication to the ladies. They desire, however, to acknowledge their full appreciation of the difficulties which have embarrassed the managers of the fair in adopting their conclusion, and to express their grateful sense of the ladies' compliance with their wishes.

It is not to be concealed that the pecuniary success and immediate interest of the fair are greatly imperilled by the abandonment of a custom, which has enlivened fairs as well as filled their treasuries. Let those, then, who with ourselves have felt it to be a duty to discountenance "raffling," turn their minds to some practical suggestions for supplying innocent substitutes for the custom. Is our invention so poverty-stricken that we cannot devise some other means than this for giving interest to our fairs? Above all, let that portion of the public who rejoice in this effort to stop a practice which was at least first cousin, if not own brother, to the "lottery," see to it, that the interests of sick and wounded soldiers do not suffer by the high ground now taken in regard to raising the means for their succor.

Very respectfully yours,

HENRY W. BELLOWS.

THE COMMISSION AND THE NAVY.

From September 13th, 1862, to February 16th, 1864, the Sanitary Commission have sent to the naval hospital at New Orleans, and to twenty-three different Government vessels, the following supplies: 129 cases of farina, 120 cases of corn starch, 264 cases of condensed milk, 541 cases of concentrated lemonade, 95 cases of chocolate, 70 bottles of wine and brandy, and 54 lbs. of arrowroot. Also, dried and cased fruit and vegetables, tea, tapioca, pickles, sugar, cocoa, soap, jelly, &c., in smaller quantities. Also, 216 sheets, 106 fans, 186 handkerchiefs, 64 pair of drawers, 137 pillow cases, 154 hospital shirts, 516 towels, and 243 books.

"PHILANTHROPIC RESULTS OF THE WAR."

Among the donations to the Metropolitan Fair, for the benefit of the Commission, there is one which, for obvious reasons, deserves special mention. A merchant of this city has procured the preparation of a little volume, compiled with great care and labor, from official and other authentic sources, entitled, "The Philanthropic Results of the War in America," in which are given, with much interesting detail, the amounts contributed by states, counties, towns, and individuals, for the bounties, aid to families, care and comfort of the soldiers; and brief histories of the numerous organizations, national and local, for the relief of the sick and wounded, assistance to freedmen, to white refugees, &c., &c. The work is one of material interest, and will have, we doubt not, a wide sale. The generous donor has given the plates, and an edition of 5,000 copies, to the Commission. It is a neat 18mo volume, of about 160 pages, and is sold at 50 cents. It is for sale at the Fair, and is, or will be soon, on sale by the booksellers generally.

COAL FROM ENGLAND FOR THE FAIR.

OFFICE OF THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH CO.,
22 Old Broad Street, E. C., *27th February*, 1864.

MY DEAR DR. BELLOWS—The British ship "Gibraltar," Captain Durham, consigned to H. D. Brookman, 37 South Street, New York, will leave here in a few days for Sunderland, to take on board the 1,000 tons of coal for New York. We shall raise the money here and in Paris to pay the freight and insurance, so that the Sanitary Commission may receive the entire proceeds of the sale of the coals. This will be the very best quality of gas coal, and I most sincerely hope that some of our rich gas companies of New York will be willing to pay you an extra price for it. Hoping that the ship "Gibraltar' will have a safe and rapid passage to New York, and that the Almighty will shower every blessing upon you, and your noble efforts to relieve our sick and wounded soldiers,

I remain,

My dear Dr. Bellows,

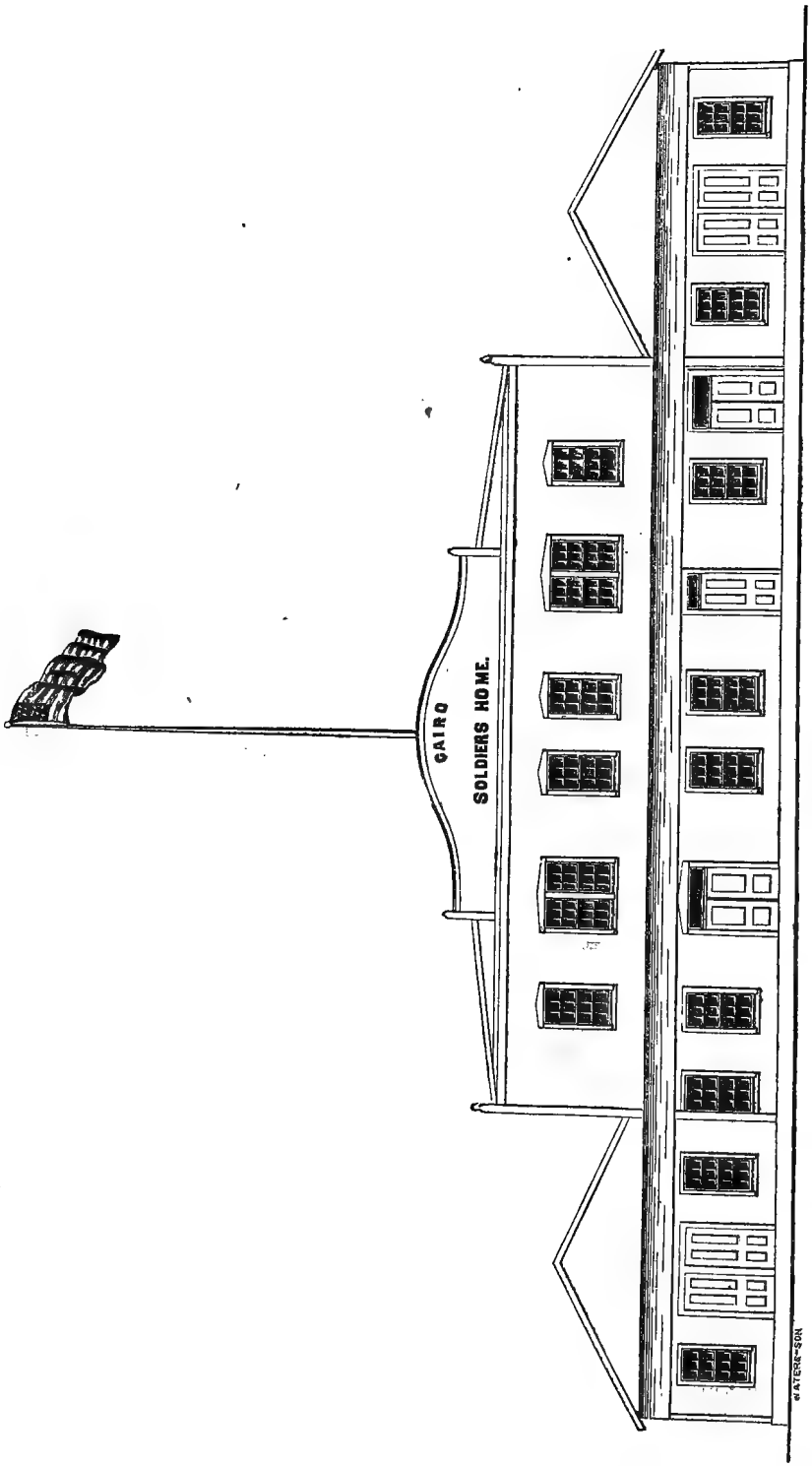
Very truly your friend,

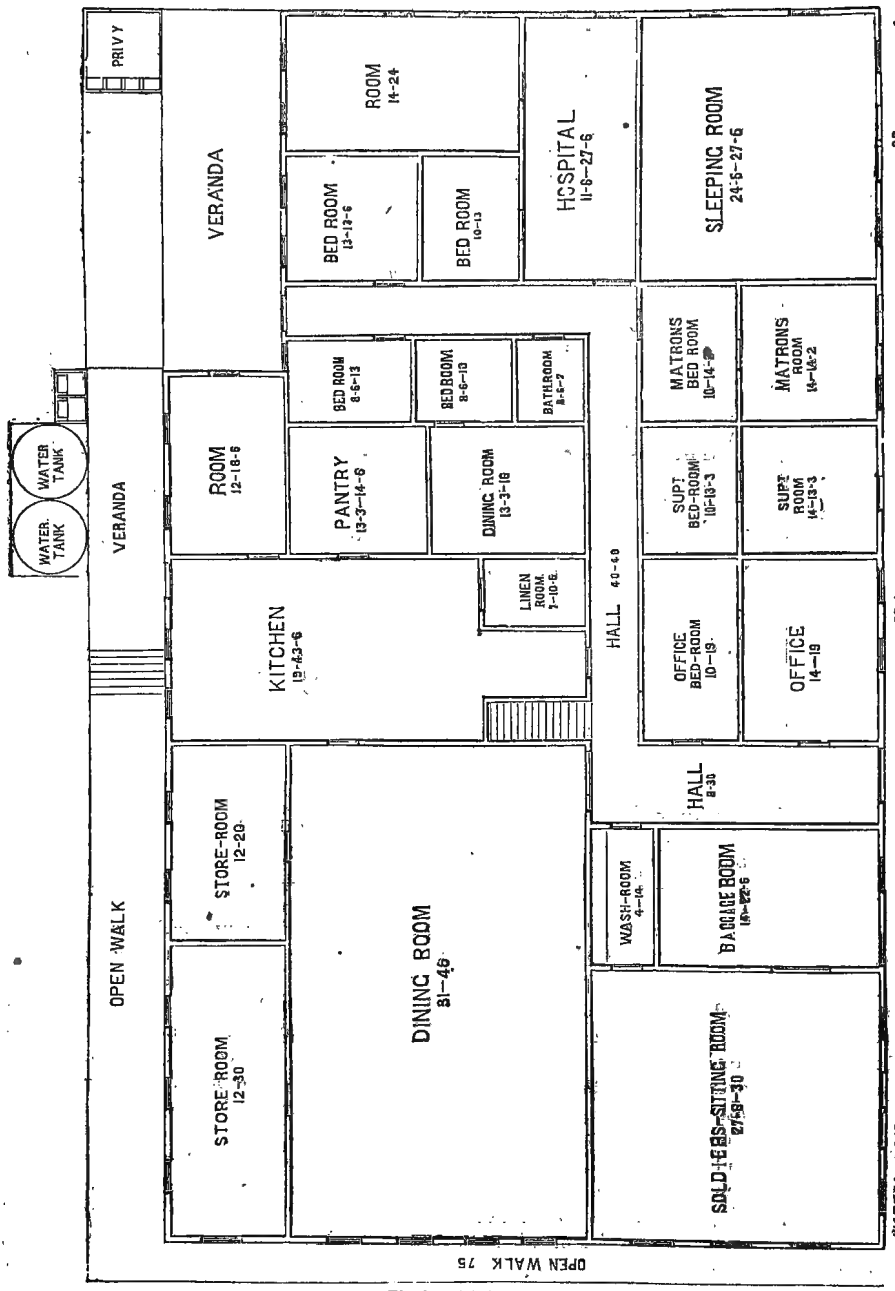
(Signed,)

CYRUS W. FIELD.

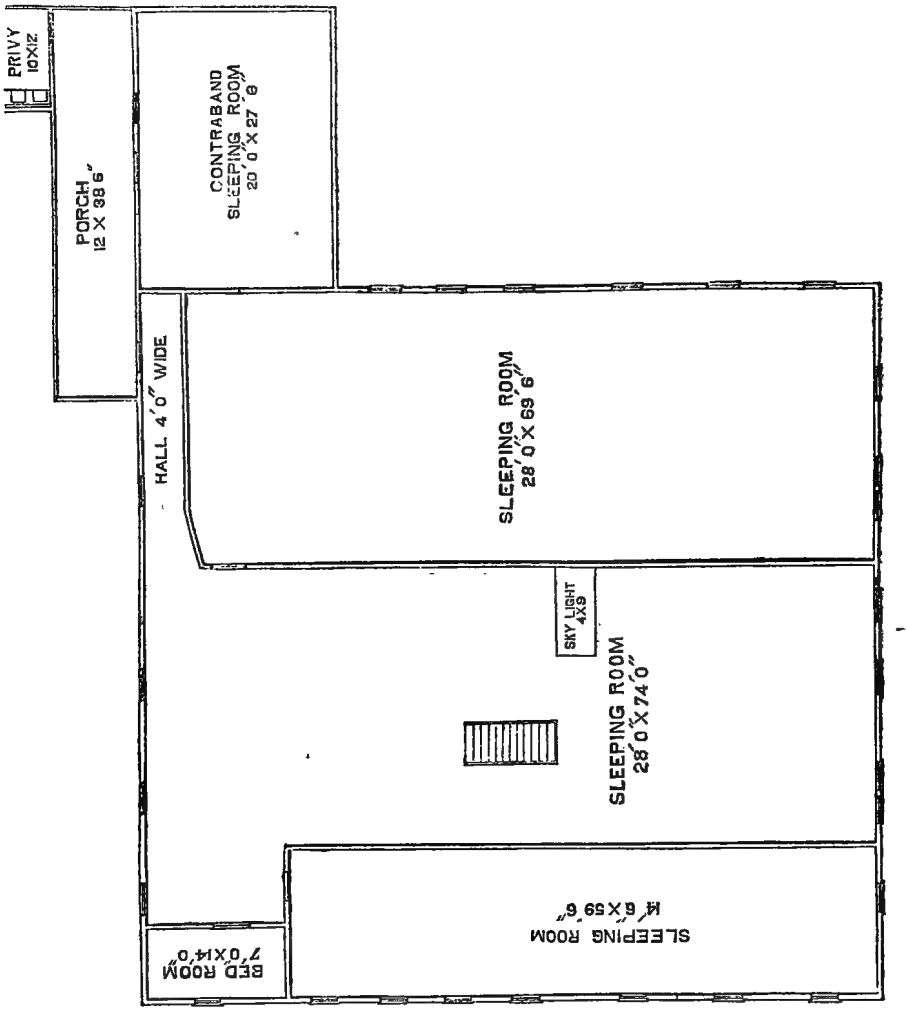
REV. DR. BELLOWS,
President of the U. S. Sanitary Commission,
East 20th Street, New York.

G. G. Edgerly, Esq., writing from Brownsville, Texas, under date of February 20th, 1864, says that General Herron, as well as the officers and men in his command, express many thanks for the stores already furnished, and are very desirous that the Commission should maintain a permanent department at that post. General Herron has authorized the Commission to ship stores from New Orleans on any Government transport coming to this point, (Brownsville.)


CAIRO
SOLDIERS HOME.
SOLDIERS HOME
AT
CAIRO ILLINOIS
ERECTED BY THE
UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION


PRIVY
VERANDA
ROOM 14-24
BED ROOM 13-12-6
BED ROOM 10-13
HOSPITAL 11-6-27-6
SLEEPING ROOM 24-6-27-6
28
WATER TANK
WATER TANK
VERANDA
ROOM 12-18-6
BED ROOM 8-6-13
BED ROOM 8-6-10
BATHROOM 8-6-7
PANTRY 13-3-14-6
DINING ROOM 13-3-18
MATRONS BED ROOM 10-14-2
MATRONS ROOM 14-18-2
SUPT BED-ROOM 10-13-3
SUPT ROOM 14-13-3
KITCHEN 13-6.3-6
LINEN ROOM 7-10-6
HALL 40-4.9
OFFICE BED-ROOM 10-13
OFFICE 14-18
72-4
OPEN WALK
STORE-ROOM 12-20
HALL 8-30
DINING ROOM 31-4.6
WASH-ROOM 4-14
BAGGAGE ROOM 16-22-6
STORE ROOM 12-30
SOLDIERS-SITTING ROOM 27-9-30
28
OPEN WALK 75

FIRST FLOOR.



SOLDIER'S HOME AT CAIRO, ILL.

The above is the plan of the "Home" which has just been established at Cairo, for the relief of the discharged and furloughed soldiers and recruits, passing up and down the river. It differs little in arrangement, though in many ways a great improvement upon those already in existence at Nashville at other places. Except in the relief afforded after a great battle, there is probably no branch of the labors of the Commission in which so much is done for the prevention of suffering as in the maintenance of these Homes. The eagerness of sick or wounded men to reach home is so great, that they in a vast number of cases leave the army with little thought as to difficulties of the journey, with very little preparation, and little consideration for their own strength; and where they do not come to grief through physical weakness, they are very apt to do so through ignorance or thoughtlessness. The necessity for Stations along the great routes, therefore, in which the sick and weary can find rest and attention, and the estrays can find counsel and shelter, has been manifest from the outset. The Commission has been endeavoring to meet the want as far as it means would permit, and it has now "Homes" or "Lodges"—which are Homes on a small scale, at a great number of points. Cairo is a very important Station, as nearly all the troops going South and West pass through it, as do all those coming up the river. We are sorry to be compelled to omit the monthly reports of the work done at the "Homes," at Memphis and Nashville, in this number, for want of space.

THE COMMISSION IN RUSSIA.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
ST. PETERSBURG, *Feb.* 29, 1864.

MY DEAR SIR:—Although not personally addressed in relation to the subject of your late communication to the American Minister here, I nevertheless feel too envious of the moral distinction of being useful—in however humble a manner to the cause, with which you have so nobly identified your honored name, and given the inestimable benefit of your untiring services—to spare any exertions to promote its pious purposes.

With this view I have addressed myself to several loyal Americans here—and I am happy to add there are none in Petersburg but loyal ones—who have generously responded to my applications, by placing at my disposal sums of money, which they have desired me to expend along with Gen. Clay's, and my own, in such manner as I deemed best.

I have accordingly purchased such articles *only* as are *manufactured in Russia*, and which I know to be rare, or unknown in America.

It is important that I say a word concerning the smallness of the whole contribution:

Winter is upon us, in all its Northern rigors; the communication by water with the Western World is wholly cut off; and even by land is rendered precarious and difficult. Under these circumstances a number of large packages would—judging by my past experience—be delayed far beyond the period when they could be turned to account.

Fortunately for the one, which I have the satisfaction of sending now, I have availed myself of the return of Mr. Phelps, our Consul here, who will deliver it to the Sanitary Commission in person.

The number, also, of the contributors is small, but, it must be remembered that our countrymen are never numerous in Russia—and more especially at this season of the year.

With these preliminary explanations, I proceed to subjoin a list of the contents of the case, praying sincerely for the perfect success of the humane and patriotic cause in which so many benevolent and loyal men and women of my native city are engaged.

With sentiments of the highest consideration, I have the honor to be,

Your very ob't humble servant.

HENRY BERGH,
Secretary of Legation.

The Reverend
HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, &c.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM AMERICAN CITIZENS IN RUSSIA TO THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION FAIR.

2 decorated vases, made of "felt;" Russian manufacture; cost $23. (Marked A.)

2 dozen photographs of Russian costumes; cost here $6. (Marked B.)

2 elegantly embroidered smoking caps—real gold and silver. (Marked C.)

3 pairs of elegantly embroided slippers. (Marked D.) From Gen. Clay.

1 fire gilt bronze of a water carrier, barrel, two pails and sled. (Marked No. 1.)

1 fire gilt water sled. (Marked No. 2.)

1 fire gilt snow sled, (marked No. 3,) for removing snow from streets of Petersburg.

1 fire gilt model of great bell of Moscow. (Marked 4.)

1 fire gilt fancy bell. (Marked No. 5.)

1 fire gilt, representing the "*Pond*," or pound weight, of Russia. (Marked No. 6.)

2 boxes of Russian "Flower Tea." (Marked 7 and 8.) These teas are very expensive, costing as high, sometimes, as $75 and $100 per pound. From L. Chandor, Esq.

2 models—patron saints of Russia and Peter the Great. (Marked 940.) From Mr. Avery.

1 Holy Family, or "Russian Saints," such as are seen in every palace, cottage, house, and hovel. (Marked No. 11.)

1 porte-monnaie, of workmanship peculiar to the city of Moscow. These articles are very expensive, often costing $20 and $25 for even smaller samples. (Marked No. 12.)

4 dozen of photographs of the Imperial Family, and other distinguished Russian persons. (Marked No. 13.)

1 box of Russian tobacco. (Marked No. 14.)

1 "Samovar." This article of Russian domestic life requires comment. It is of universal use, and though at first sight it appears more complicated and less available than our spirit kettle, yet, upon closer acquaintance, it is found to possess qualities which ours does not. It can be used *out doors*, when the wind blows—as, for example, upon the piazza of a country house—will burn a great while, and when the chimney is removed, any thing may be kept hot by being placed upon it. Charcoal, *already* ignited, or set burning after the coal is put under it, is the fuel, and the chimney may be removed to increase the draft. The shape is the ancient Muscovite form, unchanged for centuries. There are belonging to it:

1. Urn, itself.
2. Large cover to ditto.

3. Perforated top, (removable.)
4. Chimney.
5. Key to the spout.
6. Tray to stand upon.

(Marked No. 15.)

4 bottles of "Küml." This is also of Russian manufacture, is rarely seen in other parts of Europe, and is regarded as the most delicate *liqueur* in existence. This sent is the best quality made—*Riga* manufacture—and a high price should be demanded for it.

2 copies of *La Revue Amusante*, containing a description of General Clay's great ball, in honor of the anniversary of Washington's birthday.

From

HENRY BERGH,
Secretary of Legation to Russia.

BOOKS FOR THE ARMY.

At a meeting of officers of the 6th Corps, held on the evening of the 23d of February, Colonel T. G. Thomas was chosen chairman, and Adjutant L. W. Beers appointed secretary. The following resolutions were had:

Resolved, That, in the name of the officers and men of the 6th Corps, we accept the handsome and valuable gift of six hundred volumes of standard and miscellaneous works, tendered in such flattering and patriotic terms by the U. S. Sanitary Commission, through their gentlemanly agent, Mr. Smith.

Resolved, That the generous donors, in thus anticipating and removing an intellectual want, so keenly felt by the soldier during the many hours of idleness and inactivity and camp life, deserve, and we hereby tender them, our heartfelt thanks.

Resolved, That, learning that it is the intention of the Sanitary Commission shortly to make more donations of reading matter in other corps, we extend to them our best wishes for their future welfare and success in the good work, which has been the means of so much comfort to our corps.

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to Mr. Smith for the very kind and laborious manner in which he superintended the work of distributing the volumes in behalf of the Commission.

Resolved, That the secretary of this meeting communicate these resolutions to *The New York Daily Tribune* for publication.

On motion, these resolutions were unanimously adopted, after which the meeting adjourned.

L. W. BEERS,
Secretary of Meeting.
6th Army Corps, Army of Potomac, near Brandy Station, Va.

Dr. Geo. A. Blake, Inspector, writing from New Orleans, under date of March 5th, 1864, says our HOME has proved a perfect success. During the month of February, 15,525 meals were served, and 4,508 lodgings forwarded. At Brashear City, our Soldiers' Rest furnished about two thousand (2,000) meals.

PROTECTIVE
War-Claim Association
OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK.

OFFICE, 35 CHAMBERS STREET,
NEW YORK.

President.
LIEUT.-GEN. WINFIELD SCOTT.

Vice-Presidents.
HON. HAMILTON FISH.
JOHN J. CISCO, ESQ.
ADMIRAL DUPONT.
RUDOLPH A. WITTHAUS, ESQ.

Treasurer.
ROBT. B. MINTURN, ESQ.

Directors.
HONS. E. D. MORGAN, GEORGE OPDYKE, HIRAM BARNEY, JAS. W. BEEKMAN. REV. H. W. BELLOWS, D.D. MESSRS. JOHN JACOB ASTOR, JAMES BROWN, WM. H. ASPINWALL, JAS. GALLATIN, HOWARD POTTER, WM. E. DODGE, JR., THEODORE ROOSEVELT, PETER COOPER, GEORGE BANCROFT, DANIEL LORD, WILSON G. HUNT, ROBT. L. STUART, ALFRED PELL.

Apply in person or by letter, to
HENRY GREENFIELD, *Sec'y*,
35 CHAMBERS STREET, New York.

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE MERCANTILE MARINE
INSURANCE COMPANY.
No. 35 Wall Street, New York.

INCORPORATED APRIL, 1842.

Assets over $1,400,000.

MARINE and Inland Transportation risks on Vessels. Freight and Merchandise insured on the most favorable terms.

Policies are issued, loss, if any, payable in Gold, or at the office of RATHBONE, BROTHERS & CO., Liverpool, if desired.

Parties effecting insurance at this office may participate in the scrip dividend of profits, or receive an equivalent cash discount, at their own option.

The risk of war covered at the lowest current rates.

ELLWOOD WALTER, Pres't.
CHAS. NEWCOMB, Vice-Pres't.
C. J. DESPARD, Secretary.

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
A. E. Shiras, U. S. A.
R. C. Wood, Assistant Surg.-Gen'l U. S. A.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., New York.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clarke, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, Jr., Philadelphia, Penn.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Prof. Fairman Rogers, Philadelphia, Penn.
C. J. Stillé, " " "
Ezra B. McCagg, Chicago, Ill.

OFFICERS:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., President.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Vice-President.
George T. Strong, Treasurer.
J. Foster Jenkins, M.D., General Secretary.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Associate Secretary.
J. H. Douglas, M.D., Associate Secretary.
F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary.

STANDING COMMITTEE.

Henry W. Bellows, D.D.
George T. Strong.
William H. Van Buren, M.D.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D.
C. R. Agnew, M.D.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 22 Summer Street, Boston, Mass.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 4th Street, Pittsburg, Penn.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, Ohio.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

General Superintendent, Rev. F. N. Knapp, Washington, D. C. Chief Assistant, J. B. Abbott.
Soldiers' Home, near Baltimore Railroad Depot, Washington, D. C.
Soldier's Lodge, 76 Kingston Street, Boston.
Lodge No. 4, H Street, between 13th and 14th Streets.
Lodge No. 5, Maryland Avenue, near Railroad Station.
Nurses' Home, Washington, D. C.
Soldiers' Home, Third Street, east of Broadway, Cincinnati, Ohio—Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill.—C. N. Shipman, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky.—James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn.—L. Crane, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio———, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio—Clark Warren, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn.—C.W. Christy, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Lodge, Vicksburg, Miss.—T. Way, Sup't.

AGENCY FOR PENSIONS.

William F. Bascom, Pension Agent, Washington, D. C

HOSPITAL CARS.

Between Washington and New York—Sol. Andrews, M. D., Surgeon in charge.
Between New York and Boston, via Springfield.
Between Louisville and Murfreesboro'—Dr. J. P. Barnum, Surgeon in charge.

SANITARY STEAMER.

Cumberland River—New Dunleith.

ARTICLES

THAT EVERY

GOOD HOUSEKEEPER SHOULD USE

AND EVERY

GOOD GROCER SHOULD SELL,

Made from the best materials; always uniform in quality, and SIXTEEN OUNCES to the Pound.

Pyle's Dietetic Saleratus,

A pure and wholesome article, which has no superior for making Biscuit, Cake and Pastry light and rich. In the New England States, where the best articles are required, it takes the lead of all others.

Pyle's Baking Cream Tartar,

Put up solely for cooking purposes, and warranted to suit. Most cooks know the difficulty in getting good Cream Tartar, but they have only to ask for Pyle's and be suited.

Pyle's Baking Soda,

Full strength, pure, and suitable for Culinary or Medical use.

Pyle's Yeast Powder,

Put up in Tin Cans and Paper, and warranted equal to any in use, at reduced prices, never fails to make good Biscuit, Cake, or Pastry, without Cream Tartar and Soda. Any one can use it with success. All the above articles are put up GOOD WEIGHT.

Pyle's O. K. Soap,

The best and most economical Washing Soap now in use. It is the Washerwoman's Favorite, and sells in preference to the common soaps, wherever known.

Pyle's Bluing Powder,

The most complete Washing Blue yet known, both for cheapness and efficacy. It also makes a beautiful blue Writing Ink. It is, indeed, the Ladies' Favorite.

Pyle's Enamel Blacking,

A splendid Boot Polish that never gets hard nor injures the leather.

Pyle's Stove Polish

Makes a beautiful Polish on Cast or Wrought Iron, and prevents rust.

Pyle's Navy Black Ink

Writes jet black and flows smoothly.

Pyle's Shaving Soap

Makes a rich permanent lather. Competent judges call it the best they have tried.

These articles are all first class, and need only to be tested.

COUNTRY MERCHANTS

Will find a full supply of Commercial **Cream Tartar** and **Saleratus, Bi-Carb. Soda, Sal Soda, Soap Powder, etc.** of every quality and style required by the trade, at the lowest market prices.

TEA CADDIES of all sizes always on hand.

Address, JAMES PYLE, Manufacturer,
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Nos. 350, 352, 354, & 356 Washington St. & 204 Franklin St.

ANNUAL STATEMENT

OF THE

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON

FIRE AND LIFE

INSURANCE COMPANY,

45 William Street, New York.

Capital and accumulations,	$7,832,171.06
Net profits added to Capital in 1863,	743,128.98
Premiums received in 1863,	
Fire,	$2,610,510.43
Life,	719,703.35
Losses paid in 1863,	
Fire,	$1,494,592.35
Life,	347,903.39
Total losses paid from 1836 to 1863,	
Fire,	$11,331,697.98
Life,	3,362,685.52
Dividend paid, 1863, free of income tax,	40 per cent.

ALL THE ABOVE SUMS ARE GOLD.

No portion either of the capital or of the income of the "Globe Insurance Company," now in course of amalgamation with the "Liverpool and London," is included in this statement.

The Stockholders are personally responsible for all engagements of the Company.

March 19th, 1864.

DIRECTORS IN NEW YORK.

FRANCIS COTTENET, Esq., Chairman.
HENRY GRINNELL, Esq., Dep. Ch'n.
E. M. ARCHIBALD, H.B.M. Consul.
JOS. GAILLARD, JR., Esq.
ALEX. HAMILTON, JR., Esq.
E. F. SANDERSON, Esq.
Counsel, ALEX. HAMILTON, JR., Esq.
Resident Sec'y, ALFRED PELL, Esq.

OFFICE OF THE

Columbian (Marine) Insurance COMPANY,

CORNER OF WALL AND NASSAU STREETS.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - $1,000,000.

From Statement for the Sixth Fiscal Year, ending December 31, 1863.

Total Amount of Assets, January 1, 1864	$3,140,930 80
Total Amount of Premiums	3,252,256 76
Excess of Earned Premiums over Losses, &c.	1,137,063 33
Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies	441,206 49
Guaranteed Cash Dividend to Dealers, (holding certificates of same) on Paid Premiums Earned during the Year, whether Loss has Accrued or not	269,614 80
Scrip Dividend to Dealers, on Earned Premiums	15 per cent.
Dividend for the Year to Stockholders	26 per cent.

LOSSES PAID IN GOLD upon Risks on which the Premium is paid in like Currency.

DEALERS WITH THIS COMPANY will be allowed the option (to be signified at the time of application for insurance) of receiving in lieu of scrip, at the end of each year, RETURNS IN CASH, (guaranteed by certificate) of premiums paid and earned during the year, whether loss accrues or not, upon all new risks under the NEW YORK FORM OF POLICY, as follows:

1st. Upon all VOYAGE Risks upon CARGO, a return of TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT.

2d. Upon VOYAGE Risks upon FREIGHT, a return of TWENTY PER CENT.

3d. Upon TIME Risks upon FREIGHT, and upon VOYAGE and TIME Risks upon HULLS, a return of TEN PER CENT.

Such privilege, however, being confined to persons and firms, the aggregate of whose premiums upon such policies earned and paid during the year, shall amount to the sum of one hundred dollars.

DIRECTORS.

EDWARD ROWE,	M. F. MERICK,	MOSES MERICK,
DANIEL W. LORD,	WM. B. OGDEN,	DAVID J. ELY,
GEORGE MILN,	JOHN ARMSTRONG,	JOSEPH MORRISON,
JOHN ATKINSON,	B. C. MORRIS,	WM. H. POPHAM,
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GEORGE P. DESHON,	LAWRENCE MYERS,	J. B. GRIFFIN.
O. L. NIMS,	S. N. DERRICK,	

THOS. LORD, Vice-President. **B. C. MORRIS, President.**

WM. M. WHITNEY 2d Vice-President and Secretary.

PARTICIPATION

FIRE INSURANCE.

NORTH AMERICAN

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

Of the City of New York,

OFFICE, No. 114 BROADWAY.

INCORPORATED 1823.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - - - - $500,000 00
ASSETS, - - - - - - - 604,535 59

NO CLAIMS FOR LOSSES.

Abstract of the EIGHTY-THIRD Semi-Annual Statement, showing the Condition of the Company on the 31st day of December, 1863.

ASSETS:

Loans on Bond and Mortgage, being first lien on Real Estate, worth over Fifty per cent. above the amount loaned	$157,360 00
Stocks, Bonds, and other Securities owned by the Company, market value	364,385 00
Cash in Bank and Office	6,603 11
Loans on demand with collateral	46,000 00
Premiums due and outstanding	5,384 00
Cash in Agents' hands in course of transmission, (business of December since received,)	10,220 39
Interest accrued on Securities	13,788 83
Other Property of Company	793 75
	$604,535 59

Losses unpaid, none.

Insures Property against Loss by Fire at usual rates, at the Office of the Company, or through their Agents in the principal Cities and Villages of the United States; adjusting and paying Claims with the liberality and promptness that has characterized their business during the past *Forty-one Years.*

The Customers receive **Three-Fourths** of the Net Profits of the business each year, without incurring any liability whatever.

R. W. BLEECKER, Sec'y. **JAMES W. OTIS, Pres't.**

R. F. MASON, Superintendent of Agencies.

STEINWAY & SONS'

GOLD MEDAL,

Grand, Square and Upright

PIANOFORTES,

are now acknowledged the best instruments in America, as well as in Europe, having taken

TWENTY-SIX FIRST PREMIUMS, GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS,

at the Principal Fairs held in this country within the last seven years; and in addition thereto, they were awarded a

FIRST PRIZE MEDAL

AT THE

Great International Exhibition

IN LONDON, 1862,

FOR

Powerful, Clear, Brilliant and Sympathetic Tone,

WITH EXCELLENCE OF WORKMANSHIP AS SHOWN IN GRAND AND SQUARE

PIANOS.

There were 269 Pianos, from all parts of the world, entered for competition, and the special correspondent of the *Times* says:

"Messrs. STEINWAY's endorsement by the Jurors is emphatic, and stronger, and more to the point, than that of any European maker.

"This greatest triumph of American Pianofortes in England has caused a sensation in musical circles throughout the continent, and as a result the Messrs. STEINWAY are in constant receipt of orders from Europe, thus inaugurating a new phase in the history of American Pianofortes, by creating in them an article of export."

Every Pianoforte Warranted for Five Years.

WAREROOMS,

71 & 73 East 14th Street,

Between Union Square and Irving Place,

NEW YORK.

FRED'C S. COZZENS,

WINE MERCHANT,

73 Warren Street, New York,

(Opposite Hudson River R. R. Depot,)

AND

PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, Washington, D. C.,

(Two doors from Willard's.)

Imported Wines, Brandies, &c.,

OF THE PUREST QUALITY, FOR

MEDICINAL AND SANITARY PURPOSES,

Such as are extensively used in the

UNITED STATES HOSPITALS

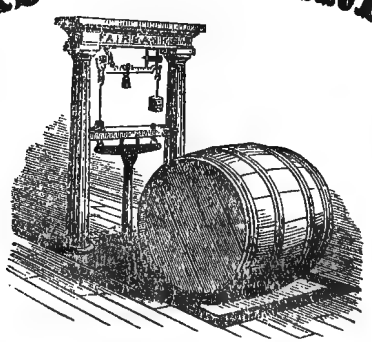
And by the SANITARY COMMISSION.

ALSO, AMERICAN WINES OF THE HIGHEST GRADES.

Sole Agent in New York and Washington for

Longworth's Sparkling and Still Catawba Wine,
Brandies, etc., etc.

FAIRBANKS' STANDARD SCALES.



Adapted to every branch of business.

MANUFACTURED ONLY BY THE ORIGINAL INVENTORS,

E. & T. FAIRBANKS & CO., St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

PRINCIPAL WAREHOUSES:

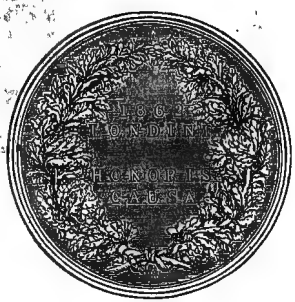
FAIRBANKS & CO., No. 252 Broadway, New York.
FAIRBANKS & BROWN, No. 118 Milk Street, Boston.
FAIRBANKS, GREENLEAF & CO., No. 172 Lake Street, Chicago.
FAIRBANKS & EWING, Masonic Hall, Philadelphia.
FAIRBANKS & CO., No. 246 Baltimore Street, Baltimore.

Descriptive circulars furnished or mailed to any address, on application to either of the above.

DURYEA'S MAIZENA

RECEIVED

TWO PRIZE MEDALS





(FROM JURIES 3 AND 4)

AT THE

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION,

LONDON, 1862.

Being Sole Awards gained by anything of the kind. It also received Superlative Report of

"EXCEEDING EXCELLENT FOR FOOD."

MAIZENA,

At the GREAT INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION at HAMBURG, July, 1863, received the highest Prize Medal for its great delicacy as an article of food.

MAIZENA,

At the FAIR of the NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, at Utica, N. Y., September, 1863, received both DIPLOMA and MEDAL.

MAIZENA,

AT THE

Pennsylvania State Fair at Norristown,

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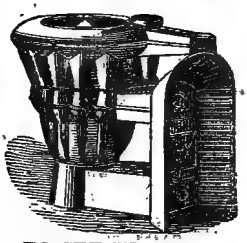
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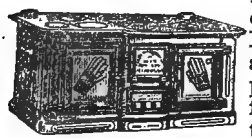


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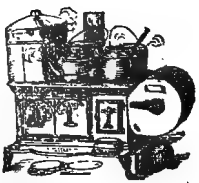


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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. NEW YORK, APRIL 15, 1864. No. 12.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall Street, or No.* 823 *Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

THE SANITARY MOVEMENT IN EUROPEAN ARMIES.

We have already more than once endeavored to impress upon our readers, that the Sanitary Commission has not been called for by the existence of any peculiar defects in the Medical Department of our Army. In so far as the Medical Department fails to meet all the demands upon it, it fails in common with that of every other large Army in the world, and with more and better excuses for failing than those of other armies usually have, owing to the nature of the country, and the immensity of the distances on the theatre of our military operations.

In the minds of large numbers of well meaning people, the strongest objection to the Commisson lies in its novelty. They have never heard of any thing of the kind in any other war, and conclude that it is either not called for in this war, or that our medical service is grossly and singularly inefficient. We wish now to take this opportunity of repeating what we said on this same subject in No. 8, of the BULLETIN, that the real reason for the attempt, which we are now making, to afford voluntary aid to the sick and wounded soldiers, is not by any means the fact that our sick and wounded are worse off than those of other armies; but the fact that the Christian public either in this or any other country, will not now allow men to suffer and perish, as in all previous wars they have suffered and perished, without making an effort to relieve them.

The number of sick and wounded who have ever been properly taken care of, in any war, by the regular medical organization, has always been a shockingly small propor-

tion of the whole, not from want of will, but for want of means. This was the case previous to the French Revolution, when movements were slow, sieges numerous, and winter quarters the rule. Since the introduction of Napoleon's strategy, with its rapid marches, frequent bivouacking, winter campaigns, swift concentration of forces, and sanguinary engagements, the disproportion between the capacity of the Medical Staff and the demands on it, has, in spite of the prodigious advance made in Sanitary science in the last fifty years, remained undiminished.

The public, however, will not allow soldiers to perish before their eyes as they did fifty years ago; first, because we are all more sensible to suffering than our fathers were; and, secondly, because our means of relieving it are greater. The telegraph, and railroad, and steamboat, have placed the soldier in the field, for the first time, within the reach of his friends at home, and therefore his friends, for the first time, are making an organized effort to reach him, and succor him; and they make a stronger and more vigorous effort, for exactly the same reason that we have more hospitals, more charitable institutions, better prisons, than we ever had before; or, in other words, because the world is more easily moved by the spectacle of human misery than it has ever been.

We receive from Europe, by nearly every mail, proofs of the correctness of this theory of the origin of our Sanitary Commission. The same sacred impulse which has called it into existence, is, we are glad to say, stirring the hearts of all those in other countries, who find themselves brought face to face with the horrors of the battle-field. A Sanitary Association has just been formed in Prussia; and we beg to remind our readers, that Prussia is a country in which the best modes of fitting armies for active service, has for a century and a half engaged, what may be fairly called, an inordinate share of the attention of the Government. The following explains the nature and objects of the Association; the *italics* are ours:

Berlin Sanitary Association.

In all wars of modern times it has been clearly proven that the best organization of the Medical Department fails to do all that is necessary for sick and wounded, unless supplemented by voluntary charity and private offerings. This well-established axiom brought together a number of experienced persons from different parts of Europe, who met mainly with the authority of their respective Governments, in Geneva, last fall, to advise together, and to ascertain the best way of supplying help and of organizing to do good. Acting on their suggestions, the undersigned have associated under the patronage of the King and Queen of Prussia, in order to put in practice the rules adopted at Geneva, and to give the greatest possible extent to that patriotic voluntary activity, which in other days, and most of all in our own, is excited by the wants of our national defenders, by the largest field of labor, by general participation in it, by a well-organized scheme, by a unity of purpose, to reach the necessities of the immediate present, and to establish a permanent charity for all future contingencies.

In appealing to all friends and lovers of our country and its cause, we think it only necessary to give the subjoined sketch of our plan:

Dr. Largenbeck, *Med. Dir. 4th Corps.*
Prof. Magnus.
Mendelssohn, *Councillor.*
Dr. Pelldram, *Chaplain.*
Prince Radzivill.
Otto, Count Stolberg Wernigernde.
Thielen, *Chaplain.*
Wagner, *Bookseller.*
Dr. Wendt, *Chief City Physician.*
Henry the 13th, Prince Reuss.
Abetans, *Privy Councillor.*
Count Arnim Brytzenburg.
Dr. Bruggeman, *High Privy Councillor.*
V. Derenthall, *Lieutenant-General.*
Baron von Haber.
Hedemans, *Mayor.*
Dr. Hoffman, *General Superintendent.*
Dr. Housselle, *Chief Medical Director.*

Appeal.

The Crimean War and the Italian Campaigns prove that in the present system of carrying on War, even well-organised Army Medical Departments cannot meet the wants of sick and wounded in the field. In October there met, at Geneva, a number of persons who had practical experience, and who represented Baden, Bavaria, England, France, Holland, Austria, Prussia, Russia, Saxony, Sweden, Switzerland, Spain, Wurtemberg, and other governments, to confer and ascertain and determine "How best to help the medical staff of every army to provide for their sanitary duties, and to give them the means of supplying their wants." This conference adopted the following general regulations:

1st. In every state there should be a

commission, prepared to anticipate and supply the inevitable wants of its army.

2d. Each commission should organize its own local subdivisions.

3d. Every such division should be duly established by (and with the consent of) the local authorities.

4th. In time of peace, the members prepare and collect material for use in war, and learn thoroughly the duty of nurses.

5th. In time of war, each commission helps freely its own soldiers with a supply of nurses, by preparing quarters for sick and wounded, and by getting help from their associates in neutral states.

6th. Nurses and help of all kinds to be furnished at the call of the regular medical authorities, and to be directed by them.

7th. Voluntary nurses to be fully supplied by the locality whence they are sent, and to draw all articles from one source.

8th. The universal insignia to be a white band with red cross.

9th. The commissions and local committees to unite in an International Congress for discussion, improvement and advice.

10th. For the present the Geneva Commission to be the common channel for all correspondence between different countries.

The following are its officers: General Dufour, Gustav Moynier, Dr. Mannoir, Dr. Appia, Henry Dunan.

The Conference also make public the following requests:

A. That the Government, in every case, give to Sanitary Commissions authority, sanction, and protection.

B. That, in time of war, the privilege of neutrality be extended to official sanitary individuals, voluntary nurses, people who receive the wounded in their own houses, and the wounded themselves.

C. That common insignia of persons doing sanitary duty, and a common flag for hospitals, be adopted in all armies. *Although Prussia is universally acknowledged to be in the very furthest advance on all matters relating to military hospitals, and the care of sick and wounded soldiers, yet there is still room for a useful activity and a patriotic organization.* The undersigned are therefore agreed to form associations for the care of sick and wounded soldiers in the field. The King and Queen have promised help and assistance.

1st. *The task of the associations is to supply nursing and care to the hospitals now organized, and to encourage the production of all kinds of articles that may be useful or necessary.*

2d. The Central Bureau is established in Berlin.

3d. Provincial and Local Bureaus shall be begun in all parts of Germany.

4th. The duties of the Association are to provide for active work.

(1.) In time of peace:
- *a. To collect money.*
- *b. To prepare supplies.*
- c. To train nurses.
- *d.* To connect all organized charitable associations, clerical or lay, to the Sanitary Association.

(2.) In time of war:
- *a.* To establish hospitals in the field.
- *b.* To supply nurses.
- *c.* To have trained persons to give help on the field.
- *d. To forward all the articles needed for the sick and wounded.*

5th. The Central Bureau shall consist of twenty-five active members.

6th. The duties of the Central Bureau shall be—

To organize Provincial and Local Bureaus.

To be intermediary between these subordinate associations and the official authorities, by pointing out to the former the services required of them, and by supplying the latter with the means furnished for their use.

To establish hospitals, and to supervise those already established.

To make collections for them through the local sub-divisions.

To maintain an intimate correspondence with all branch and international associations, and to keep the public, as well as the members of the Commission, thoroughly acquainted with all of its workings and results, by frequent reports.

7th. The Central Bureau in Berlin shall be sub-divided into as many bureaus as there may be special duties.

8th. Admission shall be free to all persons, and members of the Association shall be—

a. All who take an active personal share in its operations.

b. All who subscribe yearly, at least 10 silbergroscher—$1.00.

Patrons of the Association are those whose gifts are frequent and large.

The provincial and local associations shall make their own rules.

9th. The Central Bureau shall correspond with other national associations, and with the International Committee of Geneva.

10th. The Association affirms the resolutions adopted at Geneva, and announces its purpose to put them in practice as soon and as far as may be possible. The patriotism of the Prussian nation is appealed to, not only on the ground of the sacrifices and duties of the present hour, not only for the sake of diminishing the sickness and suffering of our fellow-citizens in the field, the victims as well as the heroes of the existing war, but on the high authority of those practiced and experienced men of all na-

tions, who have joined unanimously in declaring the pressing necessity and the large usefulness of a Sanitary Association.

(Signed,)

THE COMMITTEE.

BERLIN, *February* 17, 1864.

The Prussian "Bureau of Military Economy" publishes the following notice, by order of the Minister of War—(Feb 16)

BERLIN, *Feb.* 16, '64.

The gifts from private persons and associations, for the benefit of the wounded Prussian soldiers, are supplied to an extent, and with a steadiness, that renew the largest pledges of the patriotic sympathy of the whole nation, and its warm love for the army. Most of these gifts consist of articles that are very useful for the sick, and particularly for the wounded; but not unfrequently they show that the generous giver is misled, by the exaggeration of newspapers, to believe that the valiant defenders of the country suffer from extreme want, and, even in the hospitals, are without the commonest necessities. This makes it necessary to declare publicly, especially to soothe the many families whose anxieties are kept alive to the sufferings of their sons and brothers, in an active winter campaign, that there never has been any real, continuous want; although, owing to the rapid movement of the different columns of troops, there has been an occasional deficiency of certain articles; and in spite of the largest and most careful anticipation of all kinds of supplies, it is not possible to avoid the accidental, and therefore bearable, deprivation of some things. There never has been any unreasonable delay in the care of the sick a d wounded, or any want of preparation for them in the field. In the Prussian army, there are always four light field hospitals for 200 men each, which follow the troops into action, even, and three hospitals for 600 men each, established a little in the rear. At *Kiel* there is an hospital for 1,000 men, and all of the hospitals in Prussia are ready to receive the patients sent here. For all of these hospitals, before the war began, there was a full supply of bedsteads, hospital vessels, food of all kinds that could be carried, medicines, bandages, lint, &c. The necessary additions of lint and bandages have been forwarded from Berlin on every train, and there is always on hand a reserve of 50 *cwts.* of lint alone.

This announcement will assuage the fear of any want of a proper preparation for the wounded, and may serve to point out to all patriotic persons, who put their sympathy for the Prussian soldiers into practice, that their labors may be directed to a supply of those articles not usually supplied, or absolutely necessary, but none the less grateful to the sick and suffering. There is, however, no limit prescribed to the army surgeons; they are authorized to obtain, at the expense of the Government, any articles of food or comfort they may want. But in the country where an army is operating, it is not easy to lay hands on anything, and what can be had is not always to be preferred. Hence, supplies of soup, wine, preserved and fresh fruits, cigars, and other luxuries, are always useful and welcome. There are, also, articles for comfort, such as mattresses and pillows, flannels, shirts, and under clothing of all kinds, which cannot be too abundant. The War Department will gladly receive helps in the shape of gifts as these, and will be responsible for their careful distribution, besides publicly acknowledging, as usual, the name of every giver.

The noble generosity of the nation has also been exhibited, in handsome supplies of money, to be used in supporting wounded men discharged from hospitals, and the families of those who have fallen.

The Government has made full provision for invalided soldiers, and for the children of its soldiers, yet this field is open to the help of private generosity; all moneys for this purpose will be gladly received, and properly disposed of.

With patriotic feeling, there have been numerous offers of help in the field, from both clergy and laity, as nurses; and so many volunteers for this purpose, are already with the army, that it is requested that all who desire to go, or to send fit and proper persons for this work, will report to the War Department, in order to be assigned to places where their services are really required.

War Office,

Department of Military Economy,

HENRIG KNEVIES.

The *Dresden News*, however, prints the following extract from the letter of a regimental surgeon. It serves as a commentary on the above.

RENDSBURG, *Feb.* 6.—Although we Saxons have not been in action yet, and are not likely to be, I have worked as hard as if I was under the heaviest fire. At 11 P. M. of the 3rd, there arrived the first ambulance train of wounded Austrians and Prussians, from the battle-field; and, just think of it, there were no bandages, no beds, no covering, no hospital accommodations—not even an empty house—and, worst of all, not even an Austrian surgeon. What could we three Saxon surgeons do, with 230 severely wounded men, many of

whom could not speak a word of German, and not another doctor could be found in the place. We did all that was possible, and by 10 o'clock on the morning of the 4th, every patient was cared for. The Danish balls which we cut out, are twice as heavy and as big as the Austrian. The wounds were often fearful, frequently in the upper part of the body, because their weight gives the balls a larger arc, and they strike the men in the breast and lodge under the shoulders. In spite of the want of all preparation, we soon got help, and to-day every one of the 423 wounded men here has a bed, with a straw mattress, because we have set all our soldiers at work, and the women fetch in lint, old linen, bandages, and, what was most of all wanted, food of all kinds, in plenty. Last night there were eight deaths. All our Saxon surgeons off duty have their hands full at the hospitals.

—

The total receipts up to the 31st January, for the benefit of the Schleswig Holstein sufferers, is put at 283,490 fl.—$150,000.

—

The "Diakonissen haus (Society of Deaconesses) Bethanien," of Berlin, has published the following call:

The war has begun. When it will end, and how long it will last, God only knows. We are ready to care for the sick and wounded. The Order of St. John has prepared a hospital for fifty beds at Altona, and has assigned the charge of it to us. We have accepted the work, but our power is already exhausted; and we appeal to all Prussian, to all German women and widows, who are free from family cares, to share our sacred calling, and pray for their help. All whose hearts respond to this appeal, and who can join us, will report to me. It is desirable that every application, besides a brief statement of the personal relations of each individual, be accompanied by a copy of the certificate of baptism, the consent of parents, a testimony of good moral conduct, signed by the pastor, and a physician's certificate.

(Signed,)

ANNA, COUNTESS STOLBERG,

Superintendent.

BERLIN, BETHANY, *Feb. 5.*

—

The Count and Countess Stolberg reached Altona, on the day of the 1st February, accompanied by the Superintendent of the Diaconate, Bethany, from Berlin, and two deaconesses, to take part in the care of the hospital established at that place, by the Order of St. John.

THINGS TO BE DONE.

Complaints are frequently made by the inspectors and relief agents of the Commission, that great loss occurs in the transportation of sanitary stores from BAD PACKING.

Preserved fruits are often so badly put up in bottles or jars, that the corks come out, and the contents are spoiled or spilled.

It is *useless* to pack sanitary stores in *poor barrels*, or thin, *badly coopered boxes.* If you expect your contributions of food to reach the needy sufferers, over the hard roads of military transportation, you must pack in *strong barrels, well strapped* and *nailed, or in boxes secured by careful nailing*, and either hickory, raw hide, or strap iron straps.

Dried fruits, for many reasons, are preferable to those put up in the moist state with sugar syrup; still the latter, when carefully packed, are of great value.

WILL NOT EVERY HOUSEWIFE IN THE COUNTRY PREPARE, AT LEAST, TWO BUSHELS OF DRIED APPLES, PLUMS, OR PEACHES, THIS YEAR, AND SEND THEM TO THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION, THROUGH THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD SOCIETY, OR BRANCH? BY SO DOING, HUNDREDS AND THOUSANDS OF BRAVE MEN MAY BE SAVED FROM WASTING SCURVY AND PERMANENT DISABILITY.

THE CALL FROM THE HIGHEST MILITARY AND MEDICAL AUTHORITIES IN THE FIELD IS CONSTANT AND LOUD FOR *onions*, *pickles*, and *potatoes.* Cannot EVERY LOYAL FARMER put in half an acre of ONIONS and POTATOES, THE BEST PREVENTIVES OF, OR REMEDIES FOR SCURVY, THAT TERRIBLE ENEMY OF ARMIES?

In this way a great blessing will be conferred upon the National Army, and the health and lives of the brave men derive due protection through the intelligent solicitude of the homes of the land.

LETTERS IN OUR DRAWER.

Dr. Steiner, our Chief Inspector in the Armies of Eastern Virginia and Maryland, has sent in his report for the past three months; but as they have been unusually quiet months, little of special interest has occurred. The Relief Corps with the Army of Virginia consists, at present, of one

superintendent, one assistant superintendent, five relief agents, a storekeeper and assistant. Dr. Steiner says:

There has been but one active engagement in the Army of the Potomac since the last report, which is known technically as the battle of Morton's Ford. This engagement arose during a reconnoisance made by the Second Corps. It resulted in some two hundred wounded men being thrown into the hospitals of this corps. Our agents report that they were on hand, and furnished such warm under-clothing as was needed by the men, as also the requisite amount of stimulants and farinaceous food. It was fortunate that the stores, that a wise forethought of the superintendent had collected at Brandy Station, were sufficient to meet the demands of the occasion. Dr. Isaac Fairchild, one of the inspectors, was on the ground, and afforded the medical officers such aid as they needed in attending to the wounded.

* * * * *

The work of distribution has been carried on from three foci—the main storehouse at Brandy Station, (headquarters of Field Relief Corps,) the storehouse at Culpepper Court House, and at Catlett's Station. The stores have all been *issued on receipted requisitions from medical officers, or their accredited representatives, except where individual cases, requiring assistance, came directly under the agent's observation.* Reports have been rendered weekly of the work of each officer of the corps, and whenever these contained matters of public interest, extracts have been made, and forwarded for insertion in the BULLETIN. That these extracts have been comparatively few in number, can be accounted for simply from the fact, that there is but little of incident in the routine of winter-life in camp. Still, sufficient have been furnished, I trust, to show that the corps is fully alive to the work entrusted to it, and that this work has been cheerfully undertaken and unweariedly performed.

In consequence of the necessity of a resting and feeding place for soldiers and officers, arriving in a weak and prostrate condition at Brandy Station, an arrangement was made at Brandy Station for a species of field lodge, in connection with our headquarters. This has enabled the agents to give a comfortable bed and suitable food to a large number, who would otherwise have suffered for the want of such attentions, at a merely nominal expense.

* * * * *

As regards our work in Major General Kelly's command, heretofore we have depended upon occasional visits of inspectors to ascertain wants, which have then been supplied by issues from Washington. I am now about perfecting arrangements for the location of a permanent agent in Harper's Ferry, who shall have this work under his eye. The difficulty of securing agents has been so great, that I have preferred to train them for the purpose, in the Field Relief Corps of the Army of the Potomac.

During the stay of Mr. E. B. Fairchild, as special examiner in vital statistics, at Point Lookout, he was also delegated as relief agent. He issued such stores as were needed for the hospital, and occasionally supplied some of the more urgent needs of the prisoners in the immense prisoners' camp, established there. Among other articles forwarded, I may mention two hundred and twenty-five pounds of sulphur, with a view of stopping the ravages of the itch, which was largely prevalent there at one time.

During the past two months, in addition to the numerous duties resting upon me in conducting the machinery of this department, I have been enabled to make visits of inspection to the Army of the Potomac and the Army of Virginia, and to satisfy myself, by personal examination, of the practical execution of the plans that had been matured by me at the headquarters of the department.

The demand for supplies from the West still continues unabated. The negroes and contrabands from the enemy's lines are bringing the small pox with them as they flock in, and are filling our hospitals, and infecting our own men. Our agent at Memphis, Mr. Carpenter, reports to Dr. Newberry, (March 11)—

I have the honor to report the number of sick in General Hospitals, not quite 2,500. The prevailing diseases, pneumonia and small pox, very much on the increase.

The small pox increasing fearfully among the refugees and contrabands. I wish attention might be called forcibly to the dangerous character of the vaccine virus issued to Surgeons.

A great number of the troops here are suffering seriously from the effects of inoculation.

We received a very seasonable supply of sanitary stores yesterday from Cairo. We received no whisky or wines, which we are in need of, for Regimental Hospitals. We are entirely out of bedding, also; it is needed badly; wool under-clothing, socks and drawers, cotton shirts, we have a supply of for the present; towels and handkerchiefs, much needed. I have succeeded in making arrangements with Capt. Tigh, A. Q. M., by which the effects and mementoes of deceased soldiers in General Hospitals, for which he is not obliged to account, may be turned over to the U. S. Sanitary Commission, registered and preserved, until they can be returned to their friends. Under the present system, I have found it impossible to find or secure any thing, of that description, after the effects have once gone into the hands of the Quarter-Master.

I have also been trying to have the authorities open a mill, to grind corn, but have not succeeded in any thing yet.

I don't know but it may be best for the U. S. Sanitary Commission to do something about it, if we can succeed in no other way.

It seems indispensable to the colored troops and refugees, to have corn meal, and in hot weather, it will be very apt to sour, in bringing it from the North. Government would make a decided saving in using corn, if they would see it so, and take the trouble to provide it.

Dr. Lewis Cox, arrived here from Philadelphia, February 27th, as Medical Inspector of the Valley of the Mississippi.

I have just received (since I commenced this letter,) a requisition from Helena, for Sanitary supplies. The amount of supplies, of all the leading articles, with which we are furnished at this point, is entirely inadequate for the supply

of all that are dependent upon this post—Helena, Goodrich Landing, Fort Pillow, and the gun-boat supplies.

Helena reports to-day, 238 sick in hospitals.

* * * * * *

The Commission has followed up the expedition to Texas, and established agencies and stores at the leading points occupied by our troops. Mr. Mitchell, one of the Relief Agents there, writes, (January 20) from Decron's Point—

On the 15th instant, through Dr. White's courtesy, I secured a hospital tent for our stores, and an office. The substantial casks of cabbage, in currie and vinegar, the goodly row of potato barrels, and the flag of the Commission, more conspicuous, though not less useful in its way, fully attest that even on this "ultima thule," the volunteer soldier shall not be forgotten, or neglected by those who owe to him their present security and prosperity, and for whose present and future welfare, he has left a home and all its comforts, as dear to him as theirs. Even before the tent poles were well in the ground, there were several Surgeons at hand asking for those ordinary necessities, not to be obtained elsewhere at present.

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As I have already mentioned to you, symptoms of scurvy are said to exist among the men, and many of the Surgeons are desirous of obtaining prepared lemonade, as a preventive. If you have any in New Orleans, it cannot be made of more use elsewhere in the Department than here.

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And he adds, writing from Indianola, (February 11)---

The cabbage in currie is tasted with a smack of the lips, a grunt of satisfaction; then a more modest expression of the taste's appreciation of the article follows.

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The monographs of the Commission are highly prized here by the Surgeons, and are in great demand. I believe that I have already requested that complete sets be sent here. I would like to have at least thirty. The BULLETINS are also received here with pleasure, by both officers and men—an allowance of 100 per number can be well distributed. Please to send as large a supply of other reading as you can spare, for this command; it is impossible to obtain any thing but "trash" here, from any other source.

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The following furnishes a fresh illustration of the folly and absurdity of supposing that the condition of Government storehouses, in the cities of the North, has any necessary bearing on the condition of the troops at distant points in the field. The great difficulty with which the Government has to contend is not the accumulation of stores, but their distribution at the places where they are most needed. It is certainly strange that, at this stage in the war, attention should have to be so often drawn to this point.

Mr. Edgerly, one of our relief agents, writes from Brownsville, Texas, (January 30:)

* * * * *

General Herron stated that his men in hospital were greatly suffering for want of sanitary stores, and that he had already written to you, requesting a donation of supplies from the stores of the Commission. He further stated, that any stores that the Commission could spare for the benefit of the sick in his command, would be most thankfully received; and that he should be most happy to give us every facility in his power for carrying out the plans and objects of the Commission. He has already given orders to have a good storehouse immediately fitted up for the use of the Commission at this point.

* * * * *

The Post Hospital is in one of the best buildings in town. The wards look clean and tidy, but are entirely destitute of pillows, sheets, and hospital clothing; while the patients are supplied only with such diet as can be prepared from army rations, which consist mostly of bread, beef, flour, rice, and coffee. The prevailing diseases are said to be fever, diarrhea, and small-pox, of the latter of which there are some thirty cases.

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Mr. Furness writes to Dr. Blake, Chief Inspector at New Orleans, February 26.

NEW ORLEANS, *February* 26, 1864.

In accordance with your instructions, I left New Orleans on the 6th February, on board the "Laurel Hill," with 117 sick and furloughed soldiers, having spent the previous five days in fixing up berths, dining tables, storeroom, &c., to the satisfaction of Dr. Stipp, Medical Inspector, department of the Gulf, who went with us as far as Baton Rouge.

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We arrived at Baton Rouge early on Sunday morning, when we took on board twenty men, making a total of 137: of course, they could not all be accommodated in staterooms, as there were but twenty-eight available, twenty of which had two berths each, and eight would accommodate three men each. I suggested a plan to Dr. Stipp, by which we could gain eighty-eight additional berths; he told me to go ahead and fix up the boat as I thought best. A row of berths was built in the centre of the saloon, eleven feet in length, two in width, and four in height. As the staterooms are accessible from the saloon and from the deck, it was thought advisable to run the dining table the whole length of the boat, fastening it to the framework of the staterooms, thus closing all the doors from the saloon into the state-rooms, on one side of the boat. A good bed, clean bedding, and a seat at the table was provided for every man.

* * * * * *

We still continue to receive very gratifying acknowledgments of the value of our labors, from the surgeons in the field.

HOSPITAL, 3D DIVISION, 2D A. C.
March 12th, 1864.

DR. GORDON WINSLOW:

It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge the many obligations I am under, for benefits rendered this hospital by the U. S. S. Commission, through their energetic and obliging representative, Mr. Holbrook. Through this agency, this hospital has been abundantly supplied with sheets, blankets, quilts, pillows, underclothing, of all kinds; milk, farina, corn starch, jellies, reading matter, and other materials, which were obtainable from no other source. They have also been of great service, in taking charge of disabled and discharged soldiers, who were not able to care for themselves, on their way home.

I am, also, under personal obligations to their several agents, for the kind and courteous manner in which these services have been rendered, and sincerely hope they may prosper in the good work in which they are engaged.

I have the honor to be
Your most obedient servant,
FRED'K A. DUDLEY,
14th C. V., in charge of Hospital.

HEADQUARTERS, 2D DIV. 2D CORPS HOSPITAL,
March 12th, 1864.

DR. WINSLOW:

It is with great pleasure that I improve the present opportunity, to acknowledge the efficiency of, and benefits arising from your philanthropic and benevolent body, the Sanitary Commission. It is impossible to enumerate the many, very many, good results arising from its energetic endeavors to benefit the sick and wounded, who are under my charge.

We have received, through your agent, Mr. Holbrook, who, I am glad to say, is a young man every way worthy of, and competent to fill, the responsible position which he occupies, a bountiful supply of sheets, blankets, pillow-cases, underclothing, and *many other* necessaries, and luxuries, which have enabled us to make the sick and wounded comfortable and contented, much more than is generally the case in a field hospital.

I feel grateful for the uniform kindness shown, not only to the suffering, but to us all who are concerned in their restoration to health. I must, also, acknowledge the favors shown to our men, going to and from their homes.

That you may be blessed in your labors of love, and that the medical staff of the army may never be deprived of so powerful an auxilliary for good, is the wish of

Yours truly,
JOHN AIKIN,
Surgeon 71st Pa. Vol., and in charge of hospital.

Mrs. Stephen Barker, who is acting as Hospital Visitor at Washington, furnishes an interesting report of her labors during the past month:

During the month of February, my visits have continued in the three hospitals for the Invalid Corps, (Martindale, Cliffburn and Sheeburn,) the stone hospital, (for deserters,) the post hospitals, for the Massachusetts 1st Heavy Artillery, at Forts De Kalb and Albany, and for the New York 2nd Heavy Artillery, at Fort Corcoran.

Within the last week I have been introduced to two new hospitals; one at Camp Barry, (for artillery instruction) the other at Fort Sumner, garrisoned by the Maine 1st Heavy Artillery.

In most of these visits I have directed my attention principally to cultivating an acquaintance with hospital stewards, wardmasters, nurses, cooks, and attendants, in order to ascertain their fitness for their responsible places.

There is so much opportunity for dishonesty and neglect in these departments, which may escape the notice of even a conscientious surgeon, that it is not safe to infer from his integrity, a similar fidelity in his employes.

I have known a pious class-leading Methodist wardmaster, to hide as much stewed fruit as he distributed for supper, in order to regale himself and the whole kitchen corps, at luncheon the next day.

Sometimes the patients fare even worse, by getting not even a share of the luxuries intended for them. Whenever there is reason to suspect such a state of things I have found it best to ask special permission from the surgeon, to distribute a certain delicacy, then to *tell the patients* what they are to receive, and when I go the next time, to ask how they enjoyed it. If they never had it, they are very ready to tell me, and I can then find out the reason, by general questions, which imply no particular suspicions, and which wound nobody's pride. When a wardmaster or steward discovers that he is looked after, he is sure to be very careful. So, without any disturbance in our friendly relations, a power is exerted, whereby the rights of patients are protected, and the Hospital Corps become responsible for the maintenance of their own reputation and dignity. In all the hospitals I have visited, the pleasantest relations have been established between the attendants and myself, and everywhere I hear most gratifying acknowledgements of the benefits received from the Sanitary Commission. I have found the employés in all these hospitals, as I think, conscientious and reliable. The only hospital about which I have had some doubts, has now come under a new surgeon, and I will make no comment until I have further opportunity to study its management.

On my daily rounds, I have carried a variety of articles in my wagon, which have been eagerly welcomed, especially fresh cranberries, canned fruit and tomatoes, catsup, &c.

The thread bags (containing the letters) the brushes, combs, cologne and national songs, together with an admirable selection of books and magazines, lately received from Massachusetts, have given more pleasure than one would imagine, who did not witness the effect of their introduction into a ward.

Among the amusements connected with the hospital labor of this month, has been the writing of a few stories for the "Drum Beat" at the request, and *solely* for the gratification of our own distinguished Secretary.

Besides these, I have spent several hours in the study of anatomy, as illustrated by some government drawers, to which my attention was mournfully called by a conscientious wardmaster, who pronounced them unfit for use, though nearly new, owing to their entire dismemberment. Really I think even Professor Agassiz would have been puzzled to decide at a glance for what race of animals they were intended. But by additions

and subtractions according to accepted standards, we, the ladies of the house, shall redeem the condemned garments, and "return them to their regiments."

WORK OF RELIEF IN THE EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

So far as known, all wants of sick or wounded soldiers in this Department, not provided for by the ordinary Government Agencies, have been met by the Commission.

The amount of supplies distributed in Washington and vicinity, including the Army of the Potomac, has been less than in some previous months—the number of inmates of General Hospitals being at present small.

At Newbern, early in the month, at the time of the advance of the Rebels upon the town, and the engagement which followed, Dr. Page, Inspector of the Sanitary Commission, exhibited to advantage the system, efficiency and wise provision made by the Commission, although there was but little call for only battle-field service. A large amount of most timely aid was rendered to the regiments, whose supplies had been destroyed, and many stores judiciously distributed.

At Beaufort, S. C., the good work has continued, as has already been shown by the published reports of Dr. Marsh. Our agents were present, with supplies, at the battles in Florida—Dr. Marsh having loaded a brig of 350 tons, with Sanitary supplies, which accompanied the expedition to the Florida coast. The supplies furnished by the Commission, after the battle near Olustee, were, for a time, almost the only stores for the relief of the wounded there. The public have ere this seen the order of Gen. Seymour, acknowledging the value of the services of the Commission.

At New Orleans, the General Relief work has gone on satisfactorily. Mr. Abbott, recently returned from New Orleans, gives very gratifying accounts of the energy and faithfulness of our agents there, and of the acknowledged good which the Commission is doing in that Department in General relief work.

The General Relief work in the Army of the Potomac, has been faithfully and acceptably performed—under the immediate direction of Dr. Steiner, Chief Inspector of the Commission in that Army.

The store houses in Washington are accumulating supplies in anticipation of large and sudden demands upon them in the spring—supplies in quantity are being shipped to the Relief Stations on the coast.

At New Orleans, the "Home" has increased facilities, and increased demands upon it. Mr. NUTE, the former Superintendent, has returned to his regiment; and Mr. WEEVER, sent from the Washington office, is now Superintendent.

The office for pensions, back pay and bounties, at New Orleans, has been opened under the charge of Mr. SEATON—an efficient man from the Pension Office in Washington. Mr. SEATON reports that there were 150 cases waiting his arrival.

Arrangements for a new Lodge, for Special Relief Service, have been made at Portsmouth, Va. A large and conveniently located building has been assigned to the Commission at Portsmouth, by the military authorities, and all desired facilities secured to our agents there. It is likely to be a post of importance in the way of rendering relief.

A distinct Board of Special Relief has been found necessary at the office in Washington; and a person has accordingly been appointed, whose entire time is devoted to attending to the claims which come from the Navy—including the claims for "prize money." This is in accordance with a desire expressed at the Fourth Auditor's office, where these claims are presented.

Of the Hospital Directory, with its constantly enlarging beneficence, you have a report from Mr. BOWNE.

The Fresh Hospital Supply Agency continues rendering good service. According to the instructions of the Board a letter was sent to each Surgeon in charge of a General Hospital—thus supplied by the Commission—asking his opinion of the value of this agency. Most of the hospitals have replied, and the answers indicate, in general, satisfaction and appreciation of the service rendered. Some modifications may, however, be desirable.

There has been no oportunity during the past month for rendering aid to the Richmond prisoners through the Commission.

As soon as the exchanges are recommenced, the flag-of-truce boats will be supplied by our agents.

During the month there have been no changes of importance in the working corps —excepting the addition of three agents in the Special Relief work before referred to. Mr. Bascom, the faithful Pension Agent of the Commission, has resigned his place—his business at home demanding his presence there. Through the kindness and interest of the "Commissioner of Pensions," Mr. Barrett, another man of large experience and much ability, Mr. Barry, from the Pension Office, has been appointed in Mr. Bascom's place. From him back pay and bounties will be collected, as well as pensions, at Lodge No. 4, Washington.—*Mr. Knapp's Report.*

HOSPITALS IN THE WEST.

The hospital room in Louisville and vicinity has remained about the same for many months, but there have been a great many changes in the buildings used. The number of patients for some time has not been greatly different, for the beds made vacant by transfers to other hospitals, and deaths, are filled by the ceaseless tide of sick from the gradual accumulation in the hospitals at the front. At present there are about two thousand patients here, leaving some thirteen hundred vacant beds; four hundred of these, however, are at the Jefferson General Hospital, which is not yet complete in its arrangements.

The names of the hospitals, as they are now arranged, are—Clay, (formerly Nos. 1 and 4,) having 350 beds; Crittenden, (formerly Nos. 3 and 18, and Officers' Hospital,) having 280 beds; Brown Hospital, (formerly No. 7,) having 700 beds; Jefferson, at Jeffersonville, having beds at present for 700 patients; No. 16, at Jeffersonville, with beds for 87; at New Albany, General Hospitals, Nos. 4, 5, 6, 8, and 11, with capacity for 840; and the Eruptive Hospital, (formerly Nos. 5, 15, 19, and 20,) having 250 beds.

I have been thus explicit in recording these changes, as the information may be of some importance to those who have now, or may hereafter have, friends in these hospitals. Other changes will probably occur within a short time, as soon as the large hospital at Jeffersonville is ready for patients to its full capacity.

Taylor General Hospital was in successful operation, till about two weeks ago, when the patients were transferred to Jefferson Hospital. This hospital had about six hundred beds, was pleasantly situated, and was a grand improvement from the "up stairs and down" of many of the hospitals in the city; and, besides this, it had ample grounds within and around it. When these buildings were erected, as was supposed for barracks, all who had been through the houses used for the purpose in the city, and sympathized with the convalescents, rejoiced at the thought of their change, crowded as they were into their three-story double bedsteads, some of which ought to have been condemned long ago, even as a place for so many prisoners. But the same ill-ventilated, dark rooms have been used to the present time for barracks. There is, however, the hope now, these buildings having been given up for hospital purposes, that the poor fellows on Main Street, who have broken out the windows, to get into their Calcutta-holes fresh air, will be able to walk under the open sky without a pass, and sleep in a well-ventilated building.

Of the hospitals that are still retained, I have spoken before, and would now only say a few words concerning them. Brown is about three miles from the city, composed of one-story buildings, and with extensive grounds. The Eruptive Hospital, with its separate buildings, is from one to four miles distant in another direction. The prevalence of the small-pox has made it necessary to occupy two of the largest of these buildings for those afflicted with this disease. The capacity of all these hospitals, however, is, as I have mentioned, only for two hundred and fifty patients. The other two buildings are used for measles and erysipelas cases. As to Hospital No. 18, if it were only on account of the awkward arrangement of the rooms, I could hope it would soon be given up, for other and better places, that are being prepared. There is nothing "ship shape" about it.

Hospitals No. 3 and 4 (old numbers,) are detached from other buildings, and, having windows upon all sides, can, with care, be easily ventilated; and one, No. 3, has quite a large space around it. Hospital No. 1 is near the Nashville depot, and this is about all that can be said in favor of it. The very sick and wounded men, who are feeble after a long railroad journey, can be moved to this hospital, with less discomfort than to any other; and yet they must be carried up to the second story by a narrow flight of stairs. There are no grounds about this hospital, and in summer the dust from the street, upon which the windows open, and through which hundreds of vehicles pass every day, going to and from the depot, and the sun beating in at the same window, make some rooms unbearable. The kitchens to this hospital are not half as large as they should be, and they are suffering there now for the want of a good

range. It is certainly desirable to have some place near the depot for receiving patients, who may possibly arrive late at night, or are very feeble; and it would be an unnecessary cruelty, after they had endured so much, to give them a long ride through the city; but it seems to me some more comfortable arrangement could be made for this emergency, and that the time for the change has fully arrived. Lest, however, I should have given a wrong impression of the care and comfort of the soldiers in this hospital, I will give here the opinion of a father, whose son had been in this hospital a week at the time of his making the statement, and had been in continual attendance upon him. His son had been wounded at the battle of Chickamauga, in the right thigh, and had been lying ill in hospitals ever since. He was an intelligent, fine-looking boy, pale from his wound, which was still a running sore. The father, who exhibited many indications of the tenderness and anxiety of a mother's love for his son, said he had learned of his severe illness, and he could not stay away from him longer. He found him in Nashville, remained with him a while in hospital there, and finally, upon a cot in one of the hospital cars of the Commission, he had gotten him to Louisville. His son "had brightened up a good deal," and he believed his going after him had saved his life. When he arrived at Louisville, he found that the descriptive roll of his son had not been forwarded with him, and, as he then hoped to obtain his discharge immediately, he was in great trouble, learning that this would delay him. Some one told him of the aid he might obtain from the Commission, and he went to the Directory and made known his distress. A telegraph was sent to Nashville, the descriptive roll hunted up, and the next day, or the day following, was forwarded to Louisville. But now he found that, from the condition of the wound, his son could not be discharged immediately; and he was almost in despair, for his heart was set upon getting him home. I told him I could probably get a furlough for him; but at first he did not know how to listen to any thing so unsatisfactory. Ultimately, however, he was very glad to take any favor that would allow him to take his son home, no matter for how short the time. The surgeon was very busy, and I filled up the form myself, and, upon the surgeon's signing it, took it to the Medical Director; and on account of some informality, by reason of a new order, was obliged to take it back to the hospital for correction. This was immediately done, and it was forwarded to headquarters at Lexington, and in a few days there came, what was then considered a very great boon—the furlough. During this time I often came in contact with the father; he told me he had witnessed from day to day the food and attentions given to the patients, and he believed they were as comfortable as they would be if they were at home, and many of them more so; he had written home that very day saying so; and he added, "So far as he had observed, there was plenty to eat, and a variety." Of the surgeon who was there going through the ward, he remarked: "He is a devoted man. He was in the ward last night at nine o'clock, and again about twelve o'clock, and is in the hospital all night, if there is any need." He was very grateful for the aid the Commission rendered him, and said, "It had, indeed, been the greatest comfort and assistance to him, in his efforts to get his son home." He was particularly grateful for the bed for his son in the hospital car of the Commission from Nashville. "Without it he could not have moved him."

From this long digression, I would turn to conclude what I have further to say in description of the hospitals.

At present, there are five hospitals in New Albany, where formerly there were eleven. The number of beds being in all 840, and the number of patients 450. The public school buildings, formerly used for hospitals, have been given up there, as well as at Louisville. Two of those remaining, have grounds around them of considerable extent, and in many other respects are better adapted for hospitals than any others. One, No. 6, has a fine reading room, for papers, periodicals, and books; and lately, they have procured a small hand press from which they print notices, and have issued one edition of a monthly paper, much to the amusement of the soldiers. They furnish the original matter and set up the type.

Hospital No. 16, at Jeffersonville, has some eighty-seven beds; it is near the depot, and has, to some little extent, ministered to the wants of sick soldiers who were waiting for some train, or were too feeble to go any farther without attaining more rest; and many a poor fellow on his way home, has lain down upon a bed in this hospital, just for a little refreshment, before he should commence his weary journey again to reach his family, and has gone in a few days, to his long home, and his poor, shattered body placed under the sod, far from his wife and little ones. I remember one that was brought in speechless; no one could tell where the home was, which he had thus vainly struggled to reach, or who would mourn over the long silence, and in coming years wonder, with tearful eyes, where his life closed, and where his poor body was lying.

There ought, it seems to me, to be a home established at this point; it has been

a subject of consideration for some time, and what has been done here, has been, I believe, through the influence of the Commission; but there was never more need than now, for Jefferson Hospital, about a mile from the depot, having capacity for fifteen hundred patients, would, of itself, make it necessary. This hospital is altogether the largest in this vicinity. It has now some two or three hundred patients, but is in a crippled condition, because all of its arrangements are not completed. This is the grand idea of a hospital. Every thing that could well be imagined, every thing that experience could suggest, or money procure, is here combined in the way of conveniences, for the care, and comfort, and recovery of the sick soldier. The wards are separate buildings for about sixty patients, with a room for washing dishes, a dining-room, a wash-room, bath-room, wardmaster's room, and water-closets, and with warm and cold water supplied to every ward. A steam-engine forces the water from a well connected with the river, into a large reservoir, and from thence it is conveyed to all the buildings. There is to be a steam laundry, and by steam the wood is to be sawed, the kettle boiled, and sundry other useful and necessary things accomplished. The great change from the miserable rooms now used as barracks, where, upon the first opening of hospitals in this city, the sick were crowded together, depending, in great measure, upon voluntary assistance. This magnificent hospital must rejoice the heart of every philanthropist, and what is of more importance, the hearts of all those who have sons and brothers in the army.

The patients generally in our hospitals, have been well cared for, and the only real cause for complaint, it seems to me, has arisen from mismanagement, bad cooking, and in one or two instances, purloining. I attempted to show in a former report, from statistics, that if a hospital is economically managed, there will be money enough, generally, from the hospital fund for all the luxuries needed for the very sick. I am still of the opinion, where there is good management, very little is required beyond what the Government supplies. I have visited the hospitals, generally, in connection with cases of special relief, and this work has been a ceaseless call upon my time. I could not mention the almost numberless instances, in which I have rendered assistance and relief. Not a day passes, without having some of this work to do. Since my last report I have collected, for discharged men in hospital, and those too sick to attend to their own papers, $1,790 37; and since this month, last year, $11,309 40. The present location of the paymaster at the Soldiers Home, is of very great comfort to the feeble soldier going there for his pay, and this diminishes the number of those who desire attention to their papers in the hospitals.

I have alluded in other reports, to the great distress to soldiers and their families, from criminal carelessness and neglect in forwarding to the hospitals, with the men, their descriptive rolls. I have obtained lately, returns from nearly all the hospitals of the city, and of 1,400 men, 400 were without their descriptive rolls. There can be no good excuse offered for this disobedience to orders and distress of families. Two or three days since a surgeon was written to by the Secretary of the "Soldier's Aid Society," that was supporting the man's family, asking "why private ——— did not send money to his family,' and the answer was, "that he had no descriptive roll," and had not been able to get it for nineteen months. He is in the Invalid Corps. At the headquarters of this post, in the discharging office, are now lying over 750 certificates of disability. Three-fourths of them have been there over a year, awaiting the descriptive rolls, which are necessary to make out the final statements for a discharge, and settlement with Government. The amount of distress represented by these papers can scarcely be estimated. Three days since I received a letter from a man in great distress. He is fast losing his sight. He left with me power of attorney to collect his pay; but his certificate of disability is among the 750 mentioned above, and without his descriptive roll, his final settlement cannot be made out. Much more care is now used in the hospitals than ever before, with reference to these important papers, but so much distress continually arises, that a new order should, without doubt, be issued, or some definite punishment attached to the old one. I have visited the companies of the invalid corps stationed across the river, from time to time, and in their need extended to them the aid of the Commission.—*Mr. Bushnell's Report.*

THE WORK OF INSPECTION.

On the 5th of March, Dr. Douglas, Associate Secretary and chief of inspection, reported the following inspectors of the Commission as at work in their respective fields:

Inspector Crane, having first completed a sanitary inspection of the army of occupation in Texas, and reporting a very high health rate.

Inspector Marsh, in the Department of the South, as engaged in the duties consequent upon the Florida campaign.

Inspector Page, engaged in his usual duties of superintending the operations of the Commission in North Carolina, and

meeting the emergency springing out of the rebel attack upon Newbern.

Inspectors Winslow and Fairchild, having first completed the records relative to the battle of Gettysburg, and sent them to the actuary of the Commission for tabulation.

Inspector Nichols is busy in a minute inspection of the sanitary condition of the troops in his circuit.

Inspector Castleman is engaged in a second inspection of the forces in Western Virginia.

Inspector Swalm is engaged in sanitary labors in the Army of the Ohio.

Inspector Read is with the Army of the Cumberland.

Dr. N. S. Warren goes immediately to the aid of the latter.

Inspector Coxe reports from Memphis.

THE RETURNED PRISONERS.

Mr. F. N. Knapp, Assistant S ecretary, reports, March 17th, "That General Butler has issued a special order, giving the agents of the U. S. Sanitary Commission authority to perform relief work upon the flag of truce boats.

"General Butler is most cordial in his readiness to afford facilities for the Commission to do its work in his department."

* * * * *

Mr. Knapp continues:

"About 6 P. M., Tuesday, (we arrived at Fortress Monroe, Tuesday morning,) the flag of truce of boat from City Point reached Fortress Monroe, with some five hundred of our returned prisoners. Mr. Abbott and I went on board, and accompanied them to Annapolis. On account of some delay at Fortress Monroe, and the heavy wind in the night making it very rough for the boat, (City of New York,) we did not reach Annapolis until 1½ P. M., Wednesday, (yesterday.) Thence, on our way to Washington, we visited Camp Peroli.

"The condition of the prisoners on the flag of truce boat indicated the terrible sufferings they have had, upon Belle Isle especially—exceedingly weak and emaciated. Of the four hundred and fifty privates, some seventy-five were in the so-called hospital of the boat, too weak to sit up without pain and exertion. Yet *none* of these were from the *hospitals* at Richmond; all were considered well men, from Belle Isle. One died from City Point to Fortress Monroe, during the night, as we came up; and some eight or ten more cannot live long—all apparently the result, simply or chiefly, of lack of food.

"The provisions made upon the boat for the comfort of the returned prisoners are considerable. The surgeon in charge, Dr. Elliot, seems humane, and desirous of performing his duty. He has a hospital, which will be improved by a wind-sail he purposes to put in. I have sent down to-day for him to draw from a stock of 'supplementary supplies,' deposited at Fortress Monroe with the quartermaster, on the wharf buildings.

"Mr. Abbott, or some one else, will go to Fort Monroe to come up with the next boatload; after which, probably, some agent of the Commission will be constantly on the boat in its trips, to render such service as he may, which, I think, will amount to considerable. The arrangements at Annapolis are good for receiving the prisoners.

"Mail compels me to close here.

"Truly yours, &c.,

"F. N. KNAPP,

"Assistant Secretary."

HOW SANITARY STORES ARE DISTRIBUTED IN THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

They are placed in store-rooms as convenient as possible to the hospitals and camps, in charge of a competent store-keeper, and are given out by him, first and principally on the written request of the surgeon in charge, who in this request states the number for whom he desires to procure stores, and the special wants.

Secondly. The store-keeper issues stores on the application of the ladies in charge of what is called the "light-diet kitchen," in hospitals. Those drawn by the surgeon are, as a general rule, placed in charge of those ladies, when the hospitals are so fortunate as to have such help. These ladies cook and distribute them to the sick.

Thirdly. The stores are given to "Hospital Visitors"—agents who go to hospitals and camps, seeking out from every possible source any special cases of want, and supplying them. Such visits are made as often as possible.

Fourthly. The store-keepers fill all orders given by State agents, for any soldier they may find to be needy, or who apply to them for relief. They also furnish to individual soldiers, who may apply to any of the agents for relief, as soon as it can be ascertained they are really needy. Under a general order from the Secretary of the Department, they extend to the agents of the Christian Commission the same privileges as are enjoyed by our own relief agents, distributing to them to supply any individual cases of neglect or suffering which they may discover.

Fifthly. They furnish goods to the "Soldiers' Homes" and to the "Hospital Trains." When application is made by the surgeons or the soldiers for such articles as the Government has for distribution, effort is made by the agents of the Commission to have them supplied from Government stores.—*Sanitary Reporter.*

LETTER OF CHARLES BUTLER, Esq.

[The letter given below was written by Charles Butler, Esq., of Franklin, Butler Co., O., a gentleman well and widely known in the region in which he resides, as a man of large business experience, and a conscientious and earnest Christian. He went to Nashville, Chattanooga, and Knoxville, in behalf of the Cincinnati Branch Commission, to examine into the wants of the Army, and the character and efficiency of our work:]

CHATTANOOGA, TENN.,
February 22d, 1864.

MR. EDITOR,—As I promised, I write you, giving a few items of the workings of the Sanitary Commission, that the "home folks" may be encouraged to work on in the good cause, and particularly that they may be assured that their efforts to reach the suffering soldiers are successful.

The great difficulty that the regiments in the front have to contend with at present, is a tendency to scurvy; and in their utter inability to procure any thing in the shape of vegetables, there will be seen the necessity of sending any thing and every thing in that line to these men. And they not only need such articles of diet, but they greatly want them. One Colonel said, my men will gladly pay twenty-five cents for a potato, and ten cents for an apple. The potatoes are eaten raw, scraped or sliced in vinegar, and much relished by the men.

I conversed with at least ten Surgeons, and the universal opinion was, that raw onions and potatoes, served up as a salad, was the best preventative known for scurvy.

I find almost all the regiments here, and around this place, have lately received potatoes, onions, sour krout, pickles, etc., that have been sent from the Cincinnati Branch Sanitary Commission—some 500 barrels having been sent to this place. I found one regiment that had received ten barrels of potatoes, six of onions, two of krout, and two of pickles. This regiment had thirty cases marked scurvy, and upwards of one hundred with decided symptoms of it. In two weeks it had almost disappeared, and the Surgeons said if he could get one more such supply his men would be well. He used the vegetables raw.

Could the people at the North see the soldiers as they receive their rations of vegetables, read the satisfaction in their countenances, and notice the care with which they dispose of, say a dozen potatoes in a choice place, eating one at a meal, they would feel doubly paid for their pains in sending to them these luxuries.

It was a matter of special interest to visit the Soldiers' Home, and as the men came in to their meals, see them reach out and take two or three potatoes each, as children often do. I have never heard the Sanitary Commission lauded more than on this trip.

Said one young man who had lost his leg, "Had it not been for the Sanitary Commission I should have died." Said an old man from Illinois, who was bringing away his own son and the sons of two neighbors, "I have worked for the Sanitary Commission always, but I shall go home and work with ten-fold the energy I have done formerly. I see what good it has done in ministering comfort to the sick and wounded, and saving life."

Said one, who had been in the hospital three months, "We had supplies from the Commission every day, and, but for that, it seems to me the men would have starved, being so weak and feeble we could not eat the Government rations."

Wrote a fine young man, who had lost one leg, "I cannot feel that I can leave these scenes that have so long surrounded me, without expressing my gratitude to the Sanitary Commission. I had heard that there was such an institution in the Army, but now I feel it; for I believe it has been the means of saving my life. I am an officer, (Captain, 100th Ill. Vol.,) and was in the same hospital as the privates, and we all alike received daily supplies from the Sanitary Commission. Wounded men need nutritious food, and it seems to me that many of the men must have died but for the timely aid they thus received."

I found one man not a member of the Sanitary Commission, but whose whole soul is in the good work of helping the soldier, who had gotten three bales of blankets from the Commission, just before the "cold spell" in January last, and who says: "I distributed those blankets singly, and gave them all to soldiers who had neither blanket nor overcoat. Some of the men shed tears of joy and gratitude as they left me."

Allow me to add my testimony, after visiting some twenty or thirty hospitals, and seeing hundreds of men, and talking with them; and my time, for two weeks, with one single day's exception, has been spent in constant inspection, and efforts to ascertain the efficiency of the Commission.

I fully believe that the waste or misapplication of goods sent to the Army by the U. S. Sanitary Commission does not amount to the one hundredth part of the whole. All hospitals are not exactly alike, but at the Field Hospital, in Nashville, in charge of Dr. M'Dermott, where some 2,000 patients now are, I believe not as

much waste occurs as in many of our large families at home. We, at the North, hear of the misapplication of a few articles, while the thousands that go directly to the men are not heard from.

The people at home may rest in the assurance that they are relieving multitudes of their sons and neighbors, and rather than relax in the least, when called on again, they should double their energies. CHAS. BUTLER.

HOMES AND LODGES.

Reports for the month, from the following "Homes" and "Lodges," have reached us:

WASHINGTON.

The number admitted to the "Home" during the month of February, was 623; number lodged, 3,096; number of meals given, 7,224—to men from twenty different States.

At the "Lodge," the number of applicants for collection of pay, was 180; and the amount collected, was $21,006.66—the applicants were from fifteen different States. The number of meals furnished, was 6,926; and the number of lodgings, 1,299.

At the "Home for Soldiers' Wives and Mothers," from December 26th to March 1st, there have been admitted 93 women and 31 children, from thirteen States. These women were entire strangers in the city, and in nearly every case without money.

ALEXANDRIA.

The number of meals furnished at the "Lodge" in Alexandria during the month, was 1,450; number of lodgings, 239.

BRASHER CITY.

At the "Home" in Brasher City, the number of men admitted during the two weeks, from the 1st to the 15th of February, was 257; number of meals furnished, 797; number of lodgings, 197.

NASHVILLE.

At the Soldier's Home in Nashville, during the four weeks ending Feb. 27th, 7,406 meals and 3,581 lodgings were furnished to soldiers, from twenty-one different States. The average number cared for per day, was 929; transportation was procured for 1,859; pay drawn for 95; and the amount collected and paid over was $12,195.42.

MEMPHIS.

At the Soldiers' Home in Memphis during the same time, 4,639 meals and 1,340 lodgings were furnished to soldiers, from seventeen different States. The average number cared for per day, was 1,625, and pay was drawn for 15.

PENSION AGENCY.

The following is the report received from the above office, during the months of January and February:

Number of applications for pensions made out, 145; number of letters written, 681.

BACK PAY.

The report of the Agent for procuring certificates for the back pay of invalid soldiers, in the Hospitals of Washington and vicinity, during the past month, shows the number of cases taken and completed, was 134; the number of letters written during the month, was 175, and the amount represented by the cases completed $6,766.24.

We find the following in the *Elmira Daily Advertiser* of March 7th:

It is not at all surprising that as activity and interest on behalf of the Sanitary Commission increases, slander and detraction should also multiply, and the faith of many be shaken in the good accomplished by the efforts of the Commission. Under these circumstances a letter was written to Surgeon May, Hospital No. 1, Nashville, Tenn., by a friend of his, asking for his experience and observation in the matter. The answer was a detailed account of all the Commission had done for him, and for those to whom his observation had extended. For the sake of the doubtful public we are requested to publish a condensed statement of the facts contained in his letter:

"The very important matter concerning which you ask me my experience and observation, interests me very much, and I wish I could *tell* you all I feel, for the pen is too slow and dumb a tongue to do justice to this most noble, benevolent and comprehensive charity; and although I could grow eloquent on the Sanitary Commission—its aims, purposes, and expansiveness are too well known by every intelligent American to need my feeble encomiums—and I should be surprised, indeed, that any soldiers, for whose welfare alone the Commission was organized, should underrate its excellencies, were I not conscious that there are fault-finders and grumblers every where—the army being no exception.

"On the 13th of June, 1862, I arrived at the 'White House,' from the Chickahominy swamps, sick with fever, as helpless as a child, and was carried on a stretcher into the cabin of the Sanitary boat—the 'Elgin.' My aching head was bathed with bay rum, one lady placed an orange to my fevered lips, while another prepared a cup of tea and plate of toast; every attention and kindness was shown me by all—oh! I prayed in my heart that God would bless the Sanitary Commission. But at Gettysburg we learned to appreciate its great excellencies and wonderful resources. Within a few hours after the battle, stores of the Commission began to reach us; blankets, shirts, bandages, sponges, jellies, crackers, fruits and fresh bread were dealt out by ladies, to the wounded and the most needy. At the General Hospital, Camp Letterman, where there were one thousand eight hundred wounded men, we saw the more perfect working of the Commission. Here they had several large tents for storage of their supplies, Dr. Winslow, once rector of the Elmira Episcopal church, having them in charge. His aim was to carefully and economically distribute the goods intrusted to him—jellies, fruits, preserved meats, woolen and cotton goods, lint, bandages, sponges, splints, fans, crutches, canes, straw hats, dressing gowns, ap-

ples, oranges, lemons, and vegetables by the barrel, were poured out like water—not to surgeons and attendants—but to the wounded. Ladies drew these things, and a surgeon's order was always honored, and hundreds of poor sufferers were made comfortable by the thousand things lavished upon them by the kind hearts at home, through the Sanitary Commission.

"There were two surgeons' messes there, and at different times more than thirty surgeons on duty. Their tables were furnished from the Government kitchen, but they were taxed $3 per week, which went into the 'Hospital Fund,' to furnish luxuries for the sick. I have sat down many a time, tired and weary, to a meal of tough meat, cold coffee and dry bread, but would not for the world have gone to the Sanitary Commission for a thing belonging to those wounded heroes. Here in Nashville, the greatest care is observed in distributing Sanitary stores. Rev. Mr. Ingraham, brother to the author of 'Pillar of Fire,' and other works, is in charge, and during my sickness the past week there came along a lot of well packed luxuries from the Commission, at the very moment when your letter reached me, and I was reading what the defamers of the Commission were saying of it at home.

"We are proud of our loyal, patriotic North, for these great, spontaneous, successful Sanitary Fairs, and trust that you will not be discouraged, because a few crumbs may be spilled from your bountiful boxes and barrels, but rejoice that the bushels, and barrels, and baskets full go to cheer the hearts and heal the wounds of those noble boys who bare their breasts to the shock of battle to save our homes and country.

"SURGEON HENRY MAY,
"Nashville."

GEN. MEADE ON THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

THE WOUNDED AT THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG.

HEAD-QUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Friday, April 8, 1864.

L. MONTGOMERY BOND, ESQ.:

DEAR SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 6th instant, enclosing circulars of the "Committee on Labor, Incomes and Revenues" of the Great Central Fair for the United States Sanitary Commission. I feel very much flattered and complimented at the honor conferred on me, by placing my name as one of the honorary members of this important Committee.

It is hardly necessary for me to assure you, that I am with you heart and soul, in the great work of benevolence and charity, which you have entered on.

It has been my duty to make inquiry as to the practical working and benefit of the United States Sanitary Commission, and it affords me great pleasure to bear testimony, so far as this Army is concerned, to the inestimable benefits and blessings conferred by this noble Association on the suffering sick, and wounded soldiers.

A few facts in connection with this point may be of use to you.

At the battle of Gettysburgh, the number of wounded of our own Army alone amounted, by official reports, to thirteen thousand seven hundred and thirteen (13,713); those of the enemy left on the field, were estimated by our medical officers, as amounting to eight thousand. This would make in all, nearly twenty-two thousand suffering beings, requiring immediate care and attention to save life.

Few people can realize such large numbers, but if you tell them, that should they fill and pack your Academy of Music in Philadelphia, (which holds, I believe, some thirty-five hundred people,) *six times*, and then imagine every soul in this immense crowd wounded, they will have a chance idea of the great work for humanity on the field of Gettysburgh.

Now, although the Government is most liberal and generous in all its provisions for the sick and wounded, yet it is impossible to keep *constantly on hand* either the *personnel* or supplies required in an emergency of this kind.

In addition to this difficulty at Gettysburgh, I was compelled to pursue the retreating foe, and, as I expected, in a few days, to have another battle a some distant point, it was absolutely necessary that I should carry away the greater portion of my Surgeons and medical supplies, so that the wounded at Gettysburg were, in a measure, dependent upon such extra assistance as the Government could hastily collect, and upon the generous aid so cheerfully and promptly afforded by the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, and the various State and Soldiers' Aid Societies. All the additional aid from every source was here most urgently needed, and it gives me great pleasure to say that, from the reports of my medical officers, I am satified the United States Sanitary Commission, as well as the others above-named, were fully up to the work before them.

What has occurred in the past, may occur in the future. There is no nobler or holier work of Christian love or charity, and if the voices of the brave soldiers are of any influence, you may rest assured you have their hearty wishes and earnest prayers.

Most respectfully and truly yours,
GEORGE G. MEADE,
Major-General Commanding Army of the Potomac.

WESTERN SCENES.—No. 2.

WOMEN IN AHE HARVEST-FIELD.

Of late we have been called much into the country. Every week since the harvest commenced, we have been more or less into the great farming districts of our beautiful prairie land, and have seen for ourself how busy a time the harvest season is to the farmers. It has

seemed to us, as we have rushed along on the railroad for forty, sixty, a hundred or a hundred and fifty miles, let our course lie in whatever direction it might, that our way has always led through one continuous wheat field. Everywhere the golden grain was waving, and the two-horse reapers, cutting it down in a wholesale fashion, that would astonish a New England farmer, could be counted by hundreds in a ride of half a dozen hours. The crops are generally good, and in some instances heavy, and every man and boy are pressed into the service, to secure the abundant harvest.

More than this, we found women extensively in the field, driving the reapers, and binding, shocking and loading the grain—an unusual sight to our eyes. At first, we were displeased with it, and turned away in aversion. By and by, we came to observe how skillfully they drove the horses around and around the wheat field, diminishing more and more its periphery at every circuit, the glittering blades of the reaper cutting wide swathes with a crisp, craunching sound, that it was pleasant to hear. Then, also, we saw that when they followed the reapers, binding and shocking, although they did not keep up with the men, yet their work was done with more precision and nicety, and the sheaves had an artistic finish that the others lacked. So we said to ourself, "they are worthy women, and deserve praise; their husbands are probably too poor to hire help, and so like the helpmeets God designed them to be, they have girt themselves to the work of men, and *are* doing it famously. Good wives! good women!"

Sometimes in our journeys, our route has led off from the railroad, across the country, six, ten and twenty miles—and always, and ever, through the same fields of yellow grain, and green, waving corn. Now a river shimmered like silver through the gold of the wheat and the oats—and now a fine growth of young timber made a dark green back-ground for the harvest fields. And here, as everywhere, in greater or less numbers, women were busy at the harvesting. On one occasion, the carriage came to a halt opposite a field where some half a dozen women were harvesting with two men, and not a little curious to know what these female reapers were like, we walked over and accosted them.

"And so you are helping to gather the harvest," we said to a woman of forty-five, who sat on the reaper to drive, as she stopped her horses for a brief rest. Her face was pleasant and comely, although sun-burned, with honest, straight-forward eyes, a broad brow, and a mouth of more sweetness than firmness. Her dress, a dark calico, without hoops, strong shoes and a shaker.

"Yes, ma'am," she said; "the men have all gone to the war, so that my man can't hire help, and I told my girls, we must turn to, and give him a lift with the harvestin'."

"Have you sons in the army?"

"Yes, ma'am," and a shadow fell over the motherly face; "all three of 'em 'listed, and Neddy, the youngest was killed at Stone River, the last day of last year. We've money enough to hire help, if it could be had, and my man don't like for me and the girls to be workin' out o' doors; but there don't seem no help for it now."

We stepped over where the "girls" were binding the fallen grain. They were fine lassies, with the sweet eyes and honest mouth of the mother, but brown like her, and clad in the same sensible costume.

"Well, it seems that you, like your mother, are not afraid to lend a hand at the harvesting?"

"No, we're willing to help out doors in these times. My three brothers are in the army, my cousins, and most of the men we used to hire—so that there's no help to be got but women's, and the crops must be got in, you know, all the same."

"I tell mother," said another of the girls, "as long as the country can't get along without grain, nor the army fight without food, that we're serving the country just as much here in the harvest-field, as our boys are in the battle-field, and that sort o' takes the edge off from this business of doing men's work, you know," and a hearty laugh followed this statement.

Another was the wife of one of the soldier sons, with a three year old boy toddling beside her, tumbling among the sheaves, getting into mischief every five minutes, and "causing more plague than profit," as his mother declared. From her came the same hearty assent to this new work which the strait of the country had imposed upon her, and she added, with a kind of homely pride, that "she was considered as good a binder as a man, and could keep up with the best of 'em. I, for my part," she continued, "am willing to do anything to help along in these war times."

We would have talked longer with these women, who were now invested with a new and heroic interest—but the driver calling out that he had mended the broken harness, and was ready to go on, we could only assure them "that they were worthy of the days of the Revolution, and that we were proud to have met them," and bade them "good-by."

Now we saw things with different eyes. No

longer were the women of the harvest-field an unwelcome sight. Patriotism inspired them to the unusual work, and each brown, hard-handed, toiling woman was a heroine. Their husbands and sons had left the plow in the furrow, and the reaper in the grain, at the anguished call of the country, and these noble women had loyally bidden them "God-speed!" and without weak murmuring or complaint had put their own shoulders to the hard, rough farm-work, feeling that thus they also served the common cause. Yes, and amid all this weary labor, these women find time for the manufacture of hospital supplies, which come, box after box, filled with shirts and drawers, dried apples and pickles, currant wine and blackberry jam, to be forwarded to the poor fellows languishing in far-off Southern hospitals. All honor to the farmers' wives and daughters of the great Northwest! "Many women have done virtuously, but these excel them all!"—*Mrs. Livermore.*

PLAN FOR THE FORMATION OF SOLDIER'S AID SOCIETIES.

We publish, by request, the following plan for the formation of Soldier's Aid Societies, prepared by the Woman's Central Association of Relief, Branch of the U. S. Sanitary Commission in New York. It has been in successful operation for the past nine months in parts of Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and the State of New York:

SOLDIER'S AID SOCIETIES.

Individual and desultory labor accomplishes but little, compared with that which is systematized and concentrated. One earnest woman, whose heart responds to the appeals made in behalf of our sick and wounded soldiers, can do more for them by enlisting the active sympathy and co-operation of her friends and neighbors than by days and nights of unassisted toil.

Let her call together three or four of the most patriotic and energetic women in the village, and consult with them as to the feasibility of forming a *Soldier's Aid Society.* Let them determine upon a day and place for public meeting, to which all the women and young girls of the neighborhood shall be invited. The Pastors of every church should be requested to give this invitation from their pulpits on the ensuing Sunday; a short notice should be put up at the Post-Office, and, if possible, in the county paper.

It may be well to ask a gentleman, conversant with the ordinary rules of conducting meetings, to preside on this occasion. His advice in regard to the forms by which the officers of the society should be elected, order of business, &c., will be valuable for those who are unaccustomed to it. This formality, which may appear unnecessary to some, is, in reality, important to any efficient action on the part of a society. Every Soldier's Aid Society, however small, should have its regular "order of business," and go through with it at every meeting.

The following is suggested as a

Plan of Organization for Country Societies:

The name of this Society shall be the Soldier's Aid Society of ———.

Its object is to provide supplies for the aid and comfort of the sick and wounded soldiers of the United States Army.

Its officers shall consist of a
President,
Five Vice-Presidents,
Secretary and Treasurer (the same person),
Committee on Cutting (five members),
Committee on Packing (five members),

There shall be an annual election for officers. All vacancies occurring during the year shall be filled by the *President.*

The *President* shall preside at the meetings, and have the general interests of the Society in charge. She shall purchase all materials, and, at every monthly meeting, after consultation with the Vice-Presidents and the Treasurer, present a plan of work for the ensuing month.

The *Vice-Presidents* shall (one of them,) preside in the absence of the President. They, in connection with the President and Secretary, shall devise ways and means for improving and increasing the usefulness and efficiency of the Society. At the meetings the Vice-Presidents shall distribute the work, have the general supervision of it, and collect it again. It shall be the duty of the Vice-Presidents to canvass the village and neighborhood, for the purpose of obtaining as many members as possible. A division into districts, will facilitate the work, They should explain the objects of the Society, and endeavor to enlist the sympathies of all in its behalf. The names and Post-office address of all members are to be recorded in a book, kept for that purpose, by the Secretary. No membership fee shall be required.

The *Secretary* and *Treasurer* shall keep all the books of the Society, conduct the correspondence with that Branch of the Sanitary Commission to which the supplies may be sent, and attend to any other writing which may be necessary, such as serving notices, etc. She shall write to the Commission for any information which may be desired by any one member of the Society. She shall give a receipt, keep an account, and be responsible for all moneys received by her; shall pay all bills marked "correct," and signed by the President or any one of the Vice-Presidents; make a statement at every monthly meeting, of the condition of the treasury, and, at the end of every three months, present a quarterly report, giving in detail the amount of work accomplished and where sent, money received and expended, number of members, average attendance, and any other information which may be desired and interesting. At every meeting the Secretary shall record the names of those members present.

The *Cutting Committee* shall cut out all material according to approved patterns, and shall have a sufficient quantity of work prepared for every meeting.

The *Packing Committee* shall elect its own Chairman, who is to make a detailed and accurate list of the contents of each box *while it is being packed.* The list should have the name of the Society written upon it, with the name and Post-office address of the Secretary, and should be placed just under the cover of the box or

barrel. A duplicate of this invoice must be sent without delay to the Secretary, who will notify the Sanitary Commission, by letter, of every consignment, enclosing a list of the contents of each package. Every box or package should be clearly directed and *marked on the outside with the name of the town or village from which it is sent.*

Directions in regard to packing may be found in the circulars of all the branches of the sanitary Commission. (When sending to New York, the freight charges will be paid upon delivery at No. 10, Cooper Union.)

Meetings shall be held once a fortnight, or once a week, at the option of the Society. It is better, when practicable, to have them held in some regular place of assembling—the town hall, court-house, public school-house, the vestry of a church, &c.

MEETINGS.

Order of Business.

I. After the work has been distributed, the President shall call the meeting to order, and open it by calling the roll of all the members of the Society, made out alphabetically—those present answering to their names.

II. The President shall read the names of those members present at the previous meeting.

III. Report of Secretary and Treasurer.

IV. Report of Cutting Committee, (number of garments cut).

V. Report of Packing Committee.

VI. The President, or any member deputed by her, shall read any letters or printed matter lately received from the Sanitary Commission.

VII. At monthly meetings the President shall present a plan of work for the ensuing month.

VIII. Miscellaneous business.

HOW IS THE TREASURY TO BE SUPPLIED?

The following plan for supplying the Treasury of Village Societies has been in successful operation for the past two years, in parts of the State of New York and elsewhere:

It depends for its efficiency upon the zeal and activity of the *young people*, who form themselves into an association having for its object the *collection of funds*. We want the little girls, and older ones, too, who often ask us "if there is any thing *they* can do for the soldiers," to feel that we are now answering their questions and speaking directly to them.

As the "Alert Club," composed of the little girls and young people of Norwalk, Ohio, has been one of the most active and successful of these associations—collecting $560.12 in seven months, from a little village of only about two thousand inhabitants, and no really wealthy men among them—it is proposed that their name should be adopted for all similar organizations.

The following plan is taken almost entirely from a newspaper article, published by the Soldier's Aid Society of Northern Ohio, Branch of the U. S. Sanitary Commission:

ALERT CLUB.

The object of the Alert Club is to furnish the Soldier's Aid Society with funds to carry on its operations, and all moneys collected for this purpose are to be unconditionally paid into the Treasury of the Parent Society.

The Club should have a President, Secretary, two Treasurers, and forty Collectors.

The Club appoints its own Collectors, who hold office for one year, unless re-elected. There is also an annual election for President, Secretary, and Treasurers. The President shall fill all vacancies which may occur during the year.

The President shall preside at the meetings, call the roll of the members—those present answering to their names—and shall read aloud the names of those members present at the previous meeting. She shall also read any letters or printed matter which may have been received from the Secretary of the Parent Society.

The Secretary of the Club shall record the names and address of all members, and at every meeting register the names of those present. The Secretary shall make an annual report to the President of the Soldier's Aid Society, at the annual meeting of the Society.

The President is to divide the village and neighborhood into ten districts. Four collectors are then appointed for each district—two for the "ladies' monthly," and two for the "gentlemen's monthly." They are to obtain subscriptions of twenty cents per month among the ladies, and from the gentlemen a monthly subscription of as much as each subscriber is willing to place against his name. The collectors are to call at every house in their respective districts. Every two collectors will be furnished with a little book, in which the names of their subscribers and the sums collected will be entered. The President of the Club will receive books and pencils for this purpose from the Treasurer of the Soldier's Aid Society, who will gladly give the Club any assistance it may need, and whose interest, aid, and encouragement may always be relied upon.

The collectors are to go with their books to every subscriber immediately after the first Monday of every month, and on the following Saturday render their accounts to the Treasurers of the Club, who shall examine them, record the result in each case, in a book kept for the purpose, and pay over the sums collected to the Treasurer of the Parent Society—not later than the following Monday.

The Alert Club shall hold its monthly meetings on those Saturdays when the collectors make their returns. If desired, meetings may be held every fortnight. At their meetings they make slippers, piece quilts and quilt them, and perform such other services as their officers or the Parent Society may suggest. But the main object of the Association being *the collection of funds*, they are not expected to burden themselves by other labor.

Where Clubs have been particularly "on the alert," they have interested themselves in getting up entertainments, concerts, tableaux, strawberry parties, etc., besides the monthly subscriptions, and have materially increased the funds of the Society in this way.

L. L. S.

June 8th, 1863.

At the formation of an Alert Club, it has been found best for the officers of the Club to make the first call at every house, for the purpose of explaining the object of it, and to obtain the names of subscribers. This is only necessary to be done once. The collectors will immediately after make their first round.

THE VITAL AND SANITARY STATISTICS OF THE BRITISH ARMY IN INDIA, COMPARED WITH THOSE OF THE FRENCH TROOPS, UNDER LIKE CONDITIONS OF CLIMATE AND LOCALITY.

(Continued from page 309.)

The Sanitary Ameliorations of the Sickness and Mortality effected of late Years.

I find, in regard to the health of the British Army at home, exclusive of the Horse Artillery, that for fifteen years, previous to 1854, the average death-rate was 14.7, and that of invaliding, 32.3 per 1,000; but that in 1860, and since the practical application of sanitary measures, adapted to climate and locality, these rates have respectively fallen to 7.32 and 21.30,* indicating a gain to the effective strength of 18.38 per 1,000. The proportion admitted for enthetic (or syphilitic) diseases, and constantly in hospital, was 23.69 per 1,000. In the hot climates of Jamaica, Ceylon, and Mauritius, where, from the 1st of January, 1830, to the 31st March, 1837, the death-rates were 91.49 and 34.6 respectively; these had fallen, in the year 1860, to 20.2, 19.6, and 23.8 per 1,000.

With the introduction into India of improved sanitary improvements, adapted to climate and localities, with restraints on vice and intemperance, corresponding decreasing rates, to indicate augmented health among our troops, must follow as natural results. The present army medical statistics, in reference to India, as I stated in my evidence, are not of any value in determining the question of how much reduction in the rates of mortality may be ultimately effected for that country; for, when uncombined with meteorological and medical observations, on the physiological and pathological effects of localities and climate, and classified arrangement of the prevailing endemic diseases, they are but relative proofs of hitherto unremoved sources of such diseases. The first right step in this direction was the organization of a statistical branch of the medical department of the army, with the introduction of new forms of returns, after the report of the Sanitary Commission of 1858; but a sufficient period has not yet elapsed for the production of those accurate and trustworthy statistical data, which we may confidently look for in the course of time.

Nevertheless well marked reductions in the death-rates of English troops, serving abroad, have been effected. During the period anterior to 1836, the rates for the Mediterranean stood as follows:

Gibraltar	22.0	deaths per 1,000 men.
Malta	18.7	"
Ionian Islands	23.3	"
Mean death-rate	23.5	

*See pp. 16 and 141 of the "Army Sanitary Report," 1860.

During the period from 1844 to March, 1846, the mortality had fallen to the following numbers:

	Effective Mean Strength.	Mortality. 1844.	1845.	Total.	Death rate per 1,000 men.
Gibraltar	3,371	41	41	82	12.2
Malta	1,858	36	31	67	18.
Ionian Islands	2,537	35	33	68	13.4
Total for the Mediterranean	7,766	112	105	217	14.5

For the period again, 1859 and 1860, the diminution stood thus:

	Effective Mean Strength.	Mortality. 1859.	1860.	Death rate per 1,000 men.
Gibraltar	5,381	40	62	9.41
Malta	5,630	101	63	18.8
Ionian Islands	3,875	46	29	9.8
Mediterranean	14,886	187	154	12.6

The results of these two last periods present in their favor, when compared with 1836, the following diminution of the mortality:

Gibraltar	11.2	deaths per 1,000
Malta	0.3	"
The Ionian Islands	11.2	"
Mean for Mediterranean	7.5	"

The annual mean difference being a gain of 16 men per 1,000 of the effective strength in our healthy colonial commands.

Turning to British possessions, reputed the most unhealthy, we find according to Sir A. Tulloch's statistical investigations, and the Army Report, 1860, that the results of sanitary ameliorations there have been yet more striking and satisfactory; and have followed measures for abandoning low, undrained, and filthy stations, and occupying the higher ground as the sites of well constructed barracks and hospitals, with attention to all other sanitary precautions, that have of late years been deemed necessary for securing the health of our soldiers abroad. The colonies, in which such improvements have been carried out, are Mauritius, Jamaica, the Antilles, with British Guiana, and Ceylon. Previous to 1836, the mean mortality of our forces occupying these colonies, was 84.2 per 1,000; which, during the period of 1844-45, on an effective strength of 7,194 men, had been reduced to 42.1 per 1,000; and in the last year, 1860, for which we have authentic returns, the mean mortality, including invalid deaths of the four stations, was only 17.57 per 1,000 of the effective mean strength. In applying the mortality-rate, before 1836, to an effective strength of 7,194 men, it will be found that we permitted 1,212 of these to die annually; but from

1844 to 1845, only 606 died; and in 1860 less than 303, being more than an annual saving of life of 1,000 men for every effective force of 7,194 soldiers. In proof of the mortality-rate for 1860, it may be well to here append, from the "Army Statistical Report," the particulars of these four colonies:

	Effective Mean Strength.	Mortality. 1860.	Death-rate per 1,000. Mean.
Mauritius.....	1,886	45	23.86
Jamaica.....	594	12	20.20
Antilles and Guiana	1,255	7	5.58
Ceylon.....	916	18	19.65
Total.....	4,651	82	17.17

With regard to India it is, as M. Boudin remarks, that part of the English Army over which military authority has not hitherto exercised any control, regarding the choice of places of encampment, or the duration of residence in certain insalubrious localities, and the relief of the troops. I would speak, says he, of the East Indian Army, as that part of the British Army, which is far from having gone through those sanitary ameliorations, which have comparatively followed the rules of *hygiène*. The following table epitomizes, for the years 1845 and 1846, the effective strength of European troops, and the rate of mortality, in each of the three presidencies of Bombay, Madras, and Bengal:

		Effective.	Deaths.
Bombay,	1845.....	6,324	824
"	'46.....	4,710	337
Madras,	1845.....	7,850	276
"	'46.....	7,535	351
Bengal,	1844.....	11,003	1,028
"	'45.....	11,280	984
	Total.....	48,702	3,800

According to this document it follows that from an effective force of 24,351 men, 1,000 are lost annually by death, or 78 men per 1,000. Now, though M. Boudin is perfectly correct as to the rate per 1,000 during those years, yet they formed the period of the Sikh War, and 27 or 28 for casualties of wounds, and war service in climates not Indian, ought to have been deducted therefrom, leaving the mortality, from natural causes, at 50 per 1,000. This is a further illustration of the necessity of avoiding all sweeping conclusions, as to the mortality-rate, without perfect records and knowledge of all contingencies influencing the results. Still the mortality-rate of 50 per 1,000, as caused by preventible causes, is much beyond what it ought to be for India. The Commissioners' Sanitary Report of 1863 presents, on this subject, an overwhelming amount of evidence, and without exaggeration shows that in India there has been a fatal neglect of the conditions which injure the health of soldiers and increase the mortality; and that the Indian Government have not hitherto carried out what was essential to improve the sanitary military state and well-being of their soldiers.

It is but just to say, however, that no inconsiderable ameliorations of their sanitary state have been effected of late years, as the following statistical data indicate. The death-rate for five years, 1850-54, stood as follows for the three presidencies:

Bombay.....	26.09 deaths per 1,000 men.
Madras.....	39.76 "
Bengal.....	55.56 "
Mean.....	40.4 "

In 1860, these proportions for the British Army, including invalids, were considerably reduced, giving a mean diminution of 9.3 per 1,000 of our soldiers. The admissions and deaths occurred in the following proportions, the mean mortality ratio per 1,000 being less than that in Table VI for 1861:

	Average Strength.	Admissions into Hospit'l	Deaths.			Ratio per 1,000 of Mean Strength.	
			In India.	Of Invalids.	Total.	Admitted.	Died.
Bombay	11,388	22,013	332	29	361	1,933	31.70
Madras.	10,696	15,901	193	49	242	1,487	22.63
Bengal.	42,371	85,693	1,569	99	1,668	2,023	39.37
Total....	64,455	123,607	2,094	197	2,271	5,643	31.1

In thus reviewing the rates of Indian mortality, and the sanitary ameliorations effected of late years for the British Army, let us turn for a moment to consider the statistics of French military mortality under like conditions of climate and locality. I have already noticed that, for their tropical settlements of America and Africa, Table II sets down their mean mortality for ten years, 1838 to 1847, at 69.5 per 1,000. While the mean mortality of the civil population of France, at the soldier's age, is 12 per 1,000, that of the infantry of the line rises to 22.3. From 1819 to 1838, this in Senegal became 123.8, in Guadaloupe 101.3, in Martinique 102.8, in French Guiana 32.3, and in Bourbon 25.6 per 1,000. In Algeria, on an effective strength of 108,000 men for ten years, from 1837 to 1846, the mean death-rate was 75.8 per 1,000; from which probably the average casualty-rate for war and service ought to be deducted. This would reduce the mortality to nearly the same standard as for India; but whether such reduction is allowable, I know not, being altogether ignorant of the contingencies of that period. M. Boudin, however, adds that the simple comparison of the results, with those among English troops, proves better than all reasoning how much of the way is yet open for the

French to accomplish in regard to military *hygiéne*. In Table VII, which I have copied from him, regarding the losses of the French troops in Algeria, 1846, it would appear that from an effective of 99,700 men, the deaths in the African Hospitals were 6.88 per 1,000; and that the other casualties of discharged and sent to France, killed in battle, deaths in the hospitals of France, pensioned and invalided, amounted to 28.3; and would raise the total decrements of the troops to 97.1 per 1,000.

TABLE VII.—*Of the Losses of the French Troops in Algeria, for* 1846, *on a Mean Effective Strength of* 99,700 *Men.*

	Numbers.	Ratio per 1,000 Strength.
Admitted into the African Hospitals	121,138	..
Number of days under treatment in Africa	2,497,181	..
Discharged and sent to France.	2,089	20.9
Deaths in the African Hospitals	6,862	68.8
Killed in battle	116	1.1
Deaths in the Hospit's of France	246	2.4
Pensioned	130	1.5
Invalided	267	2.6

The Sanitary Measures still necessary for English Troops in India.

My great object by the preceding observations has been to show "that the present death-rate for the whole of India," instead of being 69 per 1,000, as assumed in the Sanitary Commissioners' Report, has been, for many years past, little more than half this rate of death from ordinary and natural causes; inasmuch as the above-mentioned high rate is not simply the *mortality*, but includes other rates of *decrement* from the effective strength, as those of *invaliding*, and of *extraordinary war-service*, in climates and localities not Indian. The high death-rate given is that of Bengal European troops, rather than that of soldiers serving at Madras and Bombay. It was chiefly caused by extraordinary war-service of the former, during the Cabul Massacre and Afghan War, and in the Burmese and Chinese Campaigns. A comparison, then, of the death-rate of troops, so employed out of India, with the death-rate of troops more comfortably housed, and adequately provided in the garrisons and stations of India, is manifestly a vague representation of Indian mortality, and must necessarily mislead as to what that rate is. At the commencement of the report the death-rate among the Company's troops, including invalids, from 1800 to 1856, is stated at 69 per 1,000; but while recapitulating this statement, at p. 165, it is said:

"*The annual death-rate for the whole of India has hitherto been about* 69 *per* 1,000. *The proposed European establishment is* 73,000 *men, and will, at the present rate of mortality, require* 5,037 *recruits per annum, to fill up the vacancies caused by death alone.*"

This rate of decrement, for both *mortality* and *invaliding*, might be certainly taken as a basis for correctly estimating the number of recruits hitherto necessary to fill up vacancies, but is not so far the mortality alone. Indeed, there is good reason to believe that 2,518, or half the Commissioners' figures, would be sufficient to make good the annual losses by death; and are yet further susceptible of great reduction, by the introduction into India of improved sanitary appliances, adapted to climate, locality, and seasons, and with restraints on vice and intemperance. By the latest return of the British Army in India, exclusive of the late Company's troops, the death-rate had sunk to 35.3 per 1,000; and the invaliding, with deaths on the passage home, caused a further loss of 33.3 per 1,000; being altogether a decrement of the whole strength of 68.6 per 1,000. Invaliding, even at home, has hitherto caused a decrement of 32.3 per 1,000, so that this cause of loss in India is not greatly in excess.

While I have thus fairly stated my objections to the manner in which the Commissioners' Report has brought forward the death-rate of India, as hitherto, 69 per 1,000, I cannot help noticing the inconsistency of this assumption with the facts set forth in other tables, appended to the report; Table IV of which shows that, for all India, 1847-56, it was only 51 per 1,000. This was seven years ago; and from which time the ameliorations have been progressive.

In regard to the other matters of the report, the causes of sickness and mortality, and the means of preventing them, I entirely agree with the view taken by the Commissioners. 1st. That by far the larger proportion of the mortality and inefficiency of the Indian Army has arisen from *endemic diseases*, and notably from fevers, diarrhea, dysentery, cholera, and from diseases of the liver. 2d. That the predisposition to these diseases is, in part, attributable to *malaria*, in conjunction with extremes of temperance, moisture, and variability. 3d. But that there are other causes of a very active kind in India, connected with *stations*, *barracks*, *hospitals*, and the *habits* of the men, of the same nature as those which are known, in colder climates, to occasion attacks of these very diseases, from which the Indian Army suffers so severely. In examining into these causes, we find, say they that the stations, generally have been selected without reference to health, and mainly from accidental circumstances, or for political and military reasons. Many of them are situated at low, damp, unhealthy positions, deficient in means of natural drainage, or on river banks, close to unwholesome native cities or towns. Both barracks and hospitals are built at, or close to, the level of the ground, without any thorough draught between the floors and

the ground. And the men, both in barrack rooms and sick wards, are exposed to damp and malaria from this cause, as well as from want of drainage. The ventilation is generally imperfect, and from the arrangement of doors and windows, men are exposed to hurtful draughts. Many of the rooms are too high, and, as a consequence, there is much *surface overcrowding* both in barracks and hospitals, *although with large cubic space.**

The greater or less *sickness and mortality* of all races in India are in proportion to the bad or good sanitary conditions, with moderate elevation of the site and localities where they live; and, in the present state of Indian drainage and agriculture, the Commissioners truly say, "that for all practical purposes, heat, moisture, and malaria are constantly present, and everywhere influencing the sanitary condition of the country, aided by filthiness of the stations, impurity of the air in certain stagnant states of the atmosphere, by surface overcrowding and want of ventilation in a barrack, by impurity of the water supplied, and occasionally unsuitable diet."

No stronger evidence can be given in support of the truth of the above conclusions, that those are the chief causes of disease among European soldiers in India; that the statistical data which show the rates of sickness and mortality, *from miasmic diseases*, are greater or less in proportion to the *unimproved* or *improved* sanitary condition of places and localities. In the Bengal and Northwest presidencies, the most malarious districts of India, the mortality for Dum Dum and Calcutta is cited at 77 per 1,000; at Hazareebaugh, 1,900 feet above the sea, during two years, 34 in 1,000; at Meerut, for nineteen years, 32 per 1,000, and Jullunder, 37 per 1,000.

The most frequent cause of epidemic outbreaks of Indian cholera and fever will, I believe, be found in certain stagnant conditions of the atmosphere, which favor the *accumulation of putrid animal matter* in the air of barracks and of stations, rendering it impure. When, in addition to this cause, bad food and bad water are allowed to contribute their share in, impairing the nutrition of the system, and sapping the foundation of bodily strength among troops, the very worst features of sickness and mortality among them become manifest. These facts are prominently set forth in Dr. Hathway's Punjaub Sanitary Report, lately published; where he judiciously recommends that all barracks should be provided with flues, and that the barrack air should be, at all times, tested by an instrument invented by Dr. Angus Smith.

The great defect, in most Indian barracks, is that the *superficial area* per bed by no means corresponds with the cubic contents, and is sure to be followed by all the disastrous effects of *surface overcrowding*, when larger numbers of European soldiers are assembled at stations, than can be conveniently accommodated in the barracks and hospitals.

European troops are exposed to other causes of disease than those before enumerated; such as *intemperance* and *syphilitic* diseases. And while both greatly increase the numbers on the sick list, they ultimately tend to swell the rates of *mortality* and *invaliding*. They are not, indeed, the more *immediate* and *chief causes* of Indian mortality, though contributing largely to it, and should never be allowed to withdraw sanitary attention from those more general and prominent causes of sickness and mortality that require special measures of prevention.

With a view of removing all preventible causes of disease in India, the Commissioners' recommendations are embodied in thirty-nine suggestions, which are set down without any order as to the importance or priority of either. Having endeavored to point out, in the preceding observations, that diseases of miasmatic origin are the main causes of the mortality, I may enumerate in abstract the more prominent of these suggestions, and in their relative order of importance.

First. As to *morbid causes*, associated with *season*, *localities*, and *barracks*, the Commissioners recommend—

That no recruit be sent to India under twenty-one years of age, nor until he has completed his drill at home; and that recruits be sent direct from home to India so as to land there early in November.

That the strategical points of the country which must be occupied, be now fixed, with special reference to reducing, as far as possible, the number of unhealthy stations to be occupied.

That hill stations, or stations on elevated ground, be provided; and that a third part of the force be there located in rotation.

That the period of service be only ten years in India.

And, That the sanitary regulations, now in force in England, be applied to India, along with the extension, to all Indian stations, of the present system of army statistics, and a code of sanitary regulations issued under authority.

In connection with this part of the subject there are also recommendations for remedying defective drainage, for supplying pure water, for erecting barracks and hospitals on raised basements, with air circulating under the floors; that the ventilation of barracks and hospitals be sufficiently secured, independently of doors and windows; and that ablution and bath accom-

* "Report of the Commissioners, with Précis of Evidence," 8vo., pp. 160—162.

modation be provided for both these classes of buildings.

Second. In regard to *dietetic errors* and *clothing*, they recommend—

That no spirits be issued to troops on board ship, except on the recommendation of the medical officer in charge.

That the sale of spirits at canteens be discontinued, except in specific cases, on the recommendation of the medical officer, and only malt liquor or light wines allowed.

That the rations be modified to suit the season; and that flannel be introduced as under-clothing, and a better system of supplying boots introduced.

That the hospital diet tables, in use at home stations, be adopted in India, as far as practicable, and the hospitals supplied with properly-trained cooks.

Third. In regard to *exercise* and *recreation*, it is recommended—

That the means of instruction and recreation be extended to meet the requirements of each station. That covered sheds for exercise and gymnastics be provided, and that such gymnastic exercises be made a parade. That reading-rooms, with books and periodicals, be provided, and lighted at night. That only coffee, tea and other non-intoxicating drinks be sold to the men at those rooms. And that workshops and soldiers' gardens be established, in connection with the stations, wherever practicable. And lastly, that soldiers of good character should be selected and educated for subordinate offices of the administrative departments.

Fourthly. That, with the most reasonable hope of *lessening intemperance*, and *diminishing* the *prevalence of syphilitic diseases*, the soldiers' condition in the way of occupation, instruction, and recreation be improved, as the most moral and rational means of leading men away from the canteen and vice. They also recommend that additional means of cleanliness should be provided for the men in all barrack lavatories; and that the *reorganization of repressive measures of police*, formerly adopted in the three presidencies, for lessening the scourge of syphilitic diseases, should be carried out, according to the necessities of each locality. Although police supervision of prostitution for the large cities of Europe has proved an entire failure, yet the condition of native society in India is such as to promise better and less embarrassing expectations of success.

Fifthly. That, in order to secure the gradual introduction of the above-mentioned sanitary improvements for barracks, hospitals, and stations, whether at the seats of Government, or throughout towns in proximity to military stations, "*Commissions of Public Health*" should be appointed, and that they should be so constituted as to represent the various elements of civil, military, engineering, medical and sanitary knowledge.

Sir Hugh Rose, the Commander-in-Chief in India, by issuing orders, in July last, headed "Sanitary and Conservancy Regulations," has, in a great measure, anticipated the practical execution of this last recommendation for Bengal, where it was most needed, and will probably be followed by correspondingly successful results.

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Will find a full supply of Commercial **Cream Tartar** and **Saleratus, Bi-Carb. Soda, Sal Soda, Soap Powder, etc.** of every quality and style required by the trade, at the lowest market prices.

TEA CADDIES of all sizes always on hand.

Address, JAMES PYLE, Manufacturer,
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ANNUAL STATEMENT

OF THE

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON

FIRE AND LIFE

INSURANCE COMPANY,

45 William Street, New York.

Capital and accumulations,	$7,832,171.06
Net profits added to Capital in 1863,	743,128.98
Premiums received in 1863,	
Fire,	$2,610,510.43
Life,	719,703.35
Losses paid in 1863,	
Fire,	$1,494,592.35
Life,	347,903.30
Total losses paid from 1836 to 1863,	
Fire,	$11,331,697.98
Life,	3,362,685.52
Dividend paid, 1863, free of income tax,	40 per cent.

ALL THE ABOVE SUMS ARE GOLD.

No portion either of the capital or of the income of the "Globe Insurance Company," now in course of amalgamation with the "Liverpool and London," is included in this statement.

The Stockholders are personally responsible for all engagements of the Company.

March 19th, 1864.

DIRECTORS IN NEW YORK.

FRANCIS COTTENET, Esq., Chairman.
HENRY GRINNELL, Esq., Dep. Ch'n.
E. M. ARCHIBALD, H.B.M. Consul.
JOS. GAILLARD, JR., Esq.
ALEX. HAMILTON, JR., Esq.
E. F. SANDERSON, Esq.
Counsel, ALEX. HAMILTON, JR., Esq.
Resident Sec'y, ALFRED PELL, Esq.

OFFICE OF THE

Columbian (Marine) Insurance COMPANY,

CORNER OF WALL AND NASSAU STREETS.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - $1,000,000.

From Statement for the Sixth Fiscal Year, ending December 31, 1863.

Total Amount of Assets, January 1, 1864	$3,140,930 80
Total Amount of Premiums	3,252,256 76
Excess of Earned Premiums over Losses, &c.	1,137,063 33
Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies	441,206 49
Guaranteed Cash Dividend to Dealers, (holding certificates of same) on Paid Premiums Earned during the Year, whether Loss has Accrued or not	269,614 80
Scrip Dividend to Dealers, on Earned Premiums	15 per cent.
Dividend for the Year to Stockholders	26 per cent.

LOSSES PAID IN GOLD upon Risks on which the Premium is paid in like Currency.

DEALERS WITH THIS COMPANY will be allowed the option (to be signified at the time of application for insurance) of receiving in lieu of scrip, at the end of each year, RETURNS IN CASH, (guaranteed by certificate) of premiums paid and earned during the year, whether loss accrues or not, upon all new risks under the NEW YORK FORM OF POLICY, as follows:

1st. Upon all VOYAGE Risks upon CARGO, a return of TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT.

2d. Upon VOYAGE Risks upon FREIGHT, a return of TWENTY PER CENT.

3d. Upon TIME Risks upon FREIGHT, and upon VOYAGE and TIME Risks upon HULLS, a return of TEN PER CENT.

Such privilege, however, being confined to persons and firms, the aggregate of whose premiums upon such policies earned and paid during the year, shall amount to the sum of one hundred dollars.

DIRECTORS.

EDWARD ROWE,	M. F. MERICK,	MOSES MERICK,
DANIEL W. LORD,	WM. B. OGDEN,	DAVID J. ELY,
GEORGE MILN,	JOHN ARMSTRONG,	JOSEPH MORRISON,
JOHN ATKINSON,	B. C. MORRIS,	WM. H. POPHAM,
THOS. A. C. COCHRANE,	ANDREW J. RICH,	B. C. MORRIS, JR,
WM. H. HALSEY,	DAN'L W. TELLER,	EZRA NYE,
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ALBERT G. LEE,	ROBERT BOWNE,	ROBERT S. HOLT,
GEORGE P. DESHON,	LAWRENCE MYERS,	J. B. GRIFFIN.
O. L. NIMS,	S. N. DERRICK,	

THOS. LORD, Vice-President. **B. C. MORRIS, President.**

WM. M. WHITNEY 2d Vice-President and Secretary.

PARTICIPATION

FIRE INSURANCE.

NORTH AMERICAN

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

Of the City of New York,

OFFICE, No. 114 BROADWAY.

INCORPORATED 1823.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - - - - $500,000 00
ASSETS, - - - - - - - - 604,535 59

NO CLAIMS FOR LOSSES.

Abstract of the EIGHTY-THIRD Semi-Annual Statement, showing the Condition of the Company on the 31st day of December, 1863.

ASSETS:

Loans on Bond and Mortgage, being first lien on Real Estate, worth over Fifty per cent. above the amount loaned	$157,360 00
Stocks, Bonds, and other Securities owned by the Company, market value	364,385 00
Cash in Bank and Office	6,603 11
Loans on demand with collateral	46,000 00
Premiums due and outstanding	5,384 00
Cash in Agents' hands in course of transmission, (business of December since received,)	10,220 39
Interest accrued on Securities	13,788 83
Other Property of Company	793 75
	$604,535 59

Losses unpaid, none.

Insures Property against Loss by Fire at usual rates, at the Office of the Company, or through their Agents in the principal Cities and Villages of the United States; adjusting and paying Claims with the liberality and promptness that has characterized their business during the past *Forty-one Years.*

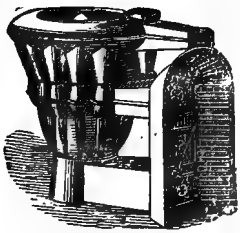
The Customers receive **Three-Fourths** of the Net Profits of the business each year, without incurring any liability whatever.

R. W. BLEECKER, Sec'y. **JAMES W. OTIS, Pres't.**

R. F. MASON, Superintendent of Agencies.

SANFORD'S CHALLENGE HEATERS,

TO SET IN BRICK, OR PORTABLE.



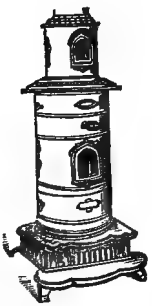
TO SET IN BRICK.

The most powerful HEATERS known for warming

DWELLINGS, CHURCHES,

Hospitals, Schools, Vessels, &c.

Send or call for a FULL DESCRIPTION, and an unparalleled mass of testimony from some of our first citizens.



PORTABLE.

SANFORD'S MAMMOTH

OR

GLOBE HEATERS,

Of great power and economy of fuel, for all places where great heat is wanted, as

Stores, Hotels, R. R. Depots, Vessels, &c.



These Heaters are used by the Hudson River and other RAILROADS, most of the *Ferries, Fire Engine Houses, &c.* Beware of imitations that are inferior.

Extensively used in Hospitals and Barracks.

GET SANFORD'S MAMMOTH.

THE COSMOPOLITE

PARLOR COAL STOVE,

With Radiator, Ventilator, and Gas Burning Attachment.

The Leading Stove for

PARLORS,

SITTING-ROOMS,

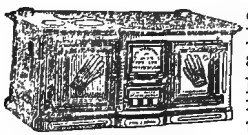


And all places where a SOFT, PLEASANT HEAT is desired. Fires kept all winter with an astonishingly small supply of coal.

THE

CHALLENGE AIR-TIGHT KITCHEN RANGES,

For Coal or Wood, set in fire-places without masonry, or out on feet; have the Largest Ovens of any in market; bake perfectly; never failing to brown at the bottom. Boil, Roast and Broil with great facility and dispatch, and ECONOMY OF FUEL. *A most desirable Range for Private Houses, Hotels, Hospitals, Barracks, &c.*

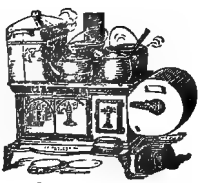


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SUMMER AND WINTER

PORTABLE RANGE.

A very popular Range, with Six Boiler Holes, one Large Oven that bakes perfectly, with an arrangement for Roasting, or Heating Irons, at the end.



☞ *A perfect apparatus for a few dollars, and well suited for families, restaurants, barracks, &c.*

Also, a great variety of COOKING AND HEATING APPARATUS, suited to every want. Also, the UNION STOVE POLISH. Get description of above, with references, from

SANFORD, TRUSLOW & CO.,

239 and 241 Water St., New York.

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WINE MERCHANT,

73 Warren Street, New York,

(Opposite Hudson River R. R. Depot,)

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PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, Washington, D. C.,

(Two doors from Willard's.)

Imported Wines, Brandies, &c.,

OF THE PUREST QUALITY, FOR

MEDICINAL AND SANITARY PURPOSES,

Such as are extensively used in the

UNITED STATES HOSPITALS

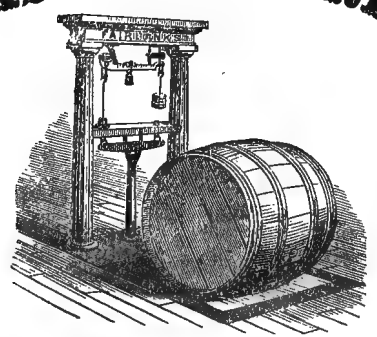
And by the SANITARY COMMISSION.

ALSO, AMERICAN WINES OF THE HIGHEST GRADES.

Sole Agent in New York and Washington for

Longworth's Sparkling and Still Catawba Wine,
Brandies, etc., etc.

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Adapted to every branch of business.

MANUFACTURED ONLY BY THE ORIGINAL INVENTORS,

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Descriptive circulars furnished or mailed to any address, on application to either of the above.

DURYEA'S MAIZENA

RECEIVED

TWO PRIZE MEDALS





(FROM JURIES 3 AND 4)

AT THE

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION,

LONDON, 1862.

Being Sole Awards gained by anything of the kind. It also received Superlative Report of

"EXCEEDING EXCELLENT FOR FOOD."

MAIZENA,

At the GREAT INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION at HAMBURG, July, 1863, received the highest Prize Medal for its great delicacy as an article of food.

MAIZENA,

At the FAIR of the NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, at Utica, N. Y., September, 1863, received both DIPLOMA and MEDAL.

MAIZENA,

AT THE

Pennsylvania State Fair at Norristown,

OCT. 3, 1863, TOOK GOLD MEDAL.

"MAIZENA" has also taken the first premium at the AMERICAN INSTITUTE, New York City; NEW JERSEY STATE FAIR at Trenton, and at other places—in every instance where it has been exhibited.

"MAIZENA" has never failed to receive the highest award when placed in competition with Corn Starch and all articles of like character, after a thorough Microscopical and Analytical Examination of disinterested judges. It therefore stands commended to the public as the best article of its kind in the world without any comments of the manufacturer.

MAIZENA,

For Puddings, Cakes, Custards, Blanc Mange, &c., without isinglass, with few or no eggs, at a cost astonishing the most economical. It is also excellent for thickening sweet sauces, gravies for fish and meat, soups, &c. For Ice Cream, nothing can compare with it. A little boiled in milk will produce rich cream for Coffee, Chocolate, Tea, &c.

Put up in one pound packages, under the trade mark "Maizena," with directions for use.

A most delicious article of food for children and invalids of all ages. For sale by Grocers and Druggists everywhere.

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WM. DURYEA, General Agent.

STEINWAY & SONS'

GOLD MEDAL,

Grand, Square and Upright

PIANOFORTES,

are now acknowledged the best instruments in America, as well as in Europe, having taken

TWENTY-SIX FIRST PREMIUMS, GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS,

at the Principal Fairs held in this country within the last seven years; and in addition thereto, they were awarded a

FIRST PRIZE MEDAL

AT THE

Great International Exhibition

IN LONDON, 1862,

FOR

Powerful, Clear, Brilliant and Sympathetic Tone,

WITH EXCELLENCE OF WORKMANSHIP AS SHOWN IN GRAND AND SQUARE

PIANOS.

There were 269 Pianos, from all parts of the world, entered for competition, and the special correspondent of the *Times* says:

"Messrs. STEINWAY'S endorsement by the Jurors is emphatic, and stronger, and more to the point, than that of any European maker.

"This greatest triumph of American Pianofortes in England has caused a sensation in musical circles throughout the continent, and as a result the Messrs. STEINWAY are in constant receipt of orders from Europe, thus inaugurating a new phase in the history of American Pianofortes, by creating in them an article of export."

Every Pianoforte Warranted for Five Years.

WAREROOMS,

71 & 73 East 14th Street,

Between Union Square and Irving Place,

NEW YORK.

THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. NEW YORK, MAY 1, 1864. No. 13.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall Street, or No.* 823 *Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

THE WAY IN WHICH FALSE IMPRESSIONS GET AFLOAT.

THE STATE OF OHIO,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
COLUMBUS, *April* 2, 1864.

To the Sanitary Associations of Ohio:

I invite your attention to the following communication* from our very intelligent and active Agent at Memphis. In a former letter Mr. Brigham says: "The Sanitary Commission here has always shown a readiness to supply our wants, but the Branch here has received little or no supplies for the last six months." Our Agent wants help at Memphis, and he very clearly designates the most desirables articles. Will our local societies assist our soldiers under this call? If so, they will report their contributions to the Quartermaster-General; I will provide transportation, and send a citizen of the State in charge of them to Memphis, so as to ensure their safe transit and prompt delivery. Prominent citizens are constantly offering to perform this kind of service, without compensation for time or labor. So that, in like manner, and by payment of expenses only, I can send similar contributions to other points whenever desired. I ask the co-operation of our Sanitary Associations.

Very respectfully,
JOHN BROUGH.

To the Editors of the Cincinnati Commercial:

SANITARY COMMISSION.

LOUISVILLE, *April* 5, 1864.

I observe in your issue of yesterday, a letter from Gov. Brough, on the want of Sanitary supplies at Memphis, and containing an appeal to the "Sanitary Associations of Ohio," to send stores to the Ohio Military Agent at that point.

* The purport of the communication referred to can be gleaned from the Governor's letter.

As the Sanitary Commission has been made the almoner of the bounty of the people of Ohio, and has become responsible for the just and equitable distribution of their gifts, since the efficiency of its administration has been called into question, it is but proper that some report of its work at Memphis should be made, in order that it may be seen, whether it has, or has not sustained the responsibilities it has assumed.

With your permission, therefore, I will crave space in your columns for a brief statement of what the Commission has done, and is doing for the relief of the wants of the soldier at this point. Since the occupation of Memphis by our troops, an agency of the U. S. Sanitary Commission has been maintained there, including a Soldiers' Lodge, and a depot of supplies, with a varying number of agents, under the general supervision of Dr. H. A. Warriner, Chief Inspector of the Mississippi Department. During the time of its continuance, the distributing depot has issued a large amount of hospital stores to hospitals, regiments, and gunboats; of all of which, accurate reports are on record at this office, and will be cheerfully furnished, if desired.

It will be remembered that Memphis was for a short time, a great military centre—was surrounded by a large army, and held several thousand sick and wounded in its hospitals. At that time the issues from the depot of the Commission were very large.

With the advance of the army to Vicksburg, this in turn became the centre of military activity, and the Sanitary Commission work in that Department and Memphis lost its relative importance, never to regain it. After the fall of Vicksburg, came the battle of Chickamauga—the withdrawal of a large part of the army of Gen. Grant from the Mississippi—the battle of Chattanooga, and all the exciting scenes of that memorable campaign. The terrible battles fought by our troops, the unparalleled hardships and privations they bore, as well as the great concentration of force near Chattanooga, turned the tide of benevolence for a time, all in that direction—and this was as it should be.

None of our men at Chattanooga, had any thing like the comforts which the Government furnished to those at Memphis. The issues of sanitary stores made by the Commission—great as they were—have never kept pace with the demand, and both justice and humanity have compelled us to give most liberally to the most needy, wherever found.

For this reason, much was sent to Chattanooga, and comparatively little to Memphis. That comparatively little, however, was not exactly "almost nothing," as reported in the letter of the Ohio Agent, as will appear from the following statement taken from our books of the disbursements from our depot at Memphis, during the six months alluded to by the Ohio State Agent:

34 blankets, 322 bed-ticks, 2,545 sheets, 9,405 shirts, 427 dressing-gowns, 7,724 towels and hdkfs., 50 night-caps, 35 eye-shades, 6,090 cushions and pads, 212 pin-cushions, 1,634 lbs. corned beef, 7,679 lbs. crackers, 736 comforters, 2,501 pillows, 3,832 pillow-cases, 5,631 pairs of drawers, 158 coats and vests, 1,194 pairs of socks, 460 pairs of slippers, 63 pairs of mittens, 9,627 lbs. compresses, 1,868 lbs. condensed milk, 1710 lbs. dried beef, 482½ lbs. tea, 3,384 lbs. sugar, 23,420 lbs. dried fruit, 85 bush. fresh fruit, 1,589 lbs. light groceries, 5,271 lbs. codfish, 52 lbs. cheese, 1,769 lbs. butter, 1,200 doz. eggs, 1,455 bot. wine and spirits, 33 galls. apple butter, 2,474 galls. pickles, 515 galls. sour kraut, 4,476 bush. potatoes, 1,317 do. onions, 928 gallons ale and cider, 643 lbs. farina and barley, 875 fans, 10 boxes of lemons, 3,156 cans fruit.

In addition to previous shipments made to Memphis by the Sanitary Commission, by Government transports—on the 10th of February, the Navigator, chartered for the purpose, went down the Ohio with a load of stores for the Mississippi Department—three-fourths of which were furnished by the Cincinnati Branch Commission—and of this load a fair share was left at Memphis; and on the 23d of March, the Dunleith was sent with another full load, from which Dr. Warriner—who was in charge—reports as follows:

MEMPHIS, *April* 1, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Secretary, &c.

We are putting off the last of the lot assigned to this place, viz:

330 barrels of potatoes, 200 do. onions, 100 do. sour kraut, 150 do. apples, 2,000 shirts, 1,000 pairs of drawers, and a fair proportion of whatever else we have on board. There are —— troops here, and 2,100 in General Hospital. I have our store room *thoroughly stuffed.*

Yours, &c.,

H. A. WARRINER.

From this it would seem that there are now sufficient Sanitary stores at Memphis to supply the want at that point. It only remains to show that they are available for the supply of wants of Ohio men.

The reports of our Agents at Memphis, and the letters of Judge Brigham, the State Military Agent there, all indicate that perfect harmony and concert of action have prevailed between them, and that whatever our depot contained, was subject to the draft of the State Agent for the supply of any wants of Ohio men, which he might discover, and that he has been in the habit of drawing from the depot since he has occupied his present position.

Learning, however, that he had reported a want of stores for distribution, I, last month, sent him a special authorization, which should make him feel free to draw from our agency of the abundance of stores which I knew had been sent there. My letter is as follows:

LOUISVILLE, KY., March 14, 1864.

F. W. BRIGHAM, ESQ.:

DEAR SIR—Mrs. Rouse has shown me a copy of your letter to the Governor, in regard to your experience with the Sanitary Commission at Memphis. I am gratified to learn that you have been able to derive assistance from our resources in supplying the wants of Ohio men, and I trust the pleasant relations that have subsisted between yourself and our agents, may be uninterrupted; and that they may continue to be, as they have been, mutually profitable. I enclose a letter to Mr. Carpenter, our agent, which will enable you at all times to share any means of relieving suffering, which may be at our command.

Yours, very cordially,

J. S. NEWBERRY.

This letter contained the following enclosure:

MR. D. B. CARPENTER,

MEMPHIS, TENN.

DEAR SIR—This will be handed you by my friend, F. W. Brigham, Esq., Ohio Military Agent, who is doubtless already well known to you. Mr. B. is an acquaintance and friend of many years standing, and I take pleasure in commending him to your kind offices—unless greatly changed, he is in all things worthy of our respect, and I beg of you, so far as may be in your power, to co-operate with him, in the care of Ohio men.

Yours, respectfully,

J. S. NEWBERRY.

From this exhibit, it appears—

1st. That the supply of Sanitary stores received and issued at the depot of the U. S. Sanitary Commission at Memphis, during the six months referred to by the Ohio State Agent, was far from "almost nothing," but in fact was large, and always acceptable to Ohio men.

2nd. That the present supply at that point is *ample*, and that it has been by special authorization, made subject to the draft of the Ohio State Agent.

This, it seems to me, is all that is required to show that the Sanitary Commission has fully met its responsibilities at Memphis, both as regards efficiency of administration, and generosity of spirit.

Some better plea therefore, than that made by Governor Brough, would seem to be necessary to afford our auxiliaries good reason for departing from their present mode of working.

Should any persons or associations choose to send all, or part of their stores, to Judge Brigham, for distribution among Ohio men, I would not dissuade them from it, but let it not be on the plea that the Sanitary Commission has proved inadequate to their wants.

Very respectfully,

J. S. NEWBERRY.

HEADQUARTERS, MED. DEPT.,
108TH ILLS. INFANTRY,
MEMPHIS, TENN., *April* 20, 1864.

D. B. CARPENTER, ESQ.,
Agent U. S. Sanitar Commission:

SIR—I take great pleasure in complying with your request, and in answering so far as I may be able, the questions you were pleased to submit to me a few days since.

If, in any way, I can contribute to the removal of the erroneous impressions which evil disposed persons at the North—who, I greatly fear are strongly tinctured with treason—have persistently, and maliciously I think, endeavored to make upon the minds of those at home, whose duty to their country, humanity, and God, is to make the burden the soldier bears lighter. And when sickness and wounds come to him, away from home and friends, and all he holds so dear in life, to lend a tear of sympathy, to cool the fevered brow, and soothe the pain, I shall be amply repaid the little labor and less trouble, in giving my testimony in behalf of the noble men, women, and agents of the Sanitary Commission.

In answer to your first question I would say, that during my connection with the army, and at every point or station at which our regiment has been stationed, I have never failed to obtain a full supply of Sanitary stores as the Commission could furnish, when the goods were in store. I have uniformly found the agents of the Commission not only willing, but anxious to furnish them to the soldiers. My hospital has rarely been without such stores as were necessary, and frequently the well men in camp have had issued to them a plentiful supply.

To your second question. That the sick have undoubtedly been greatly benefited. The good done in the prevention of disease can never be computed.

To your third question. That never to any extent, or under any circumstances, have I known the supplies, appropriated in any other way than the one known to the donors.

To your fourth question. Every medical man knows the great importance of fresh vegetables in the prevention of scorbutic diseases, and to the supply furnished by the Commission, are we indebted for the immunity the army has enjoyed from such diseases.

Living as the soldier is upon the salt ration furnished by the Commissary, and the supply of fresh beef frequently limited, by the distance from the base of supply, and difficulties of transportation, without the aid of the Sanitary Commission, he would lose much of his vigor and efficiency.

Your fifth and sixth questions will be best answered together. The necessity for sanitary aid will continue so long as the war lasts. The circumstances which rendered the Sanitary Commission a necessity in this war, will continue to arise; as fast as their kindness may remove the call for it, some new call will be heard. The ministering angels of the Commission, the kind hearts that truly pulsate in response to their country's wants, must not cease their ministrations, nor withhold their kind words of cheer, or their indispensible donations. Let the brother at home not forget his brother in the army. Sister, your brother is sick in hospital, send to him some little delicacy. The assurance that he is kindly remembered will cheer him, will put new resolution in his weak frame. Feel no fear that it will not reach him. Your particular jar of jelly may not reach your particular brother or friend, but some one's will fill its place.

From the immense storehouse of the great free North, let our fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters send their potatoes, onions, pickles, kraut, fruits in their various preparations, through the Sanitary Commission. The agents will properly distribute whatever you send; and although the soldier, in the excitement of army life, may forget to thank you, or the amount of good done cannot be seen or computed, or the amount of disease prevented realized yet an efficient army, strong in the arms, free from disease, and acting in the holiest of all causes, will soon roll back the tide of treason and rebellion, and a great, free and peaceful nation bless the agents of its salvation.

Let the hands of the Sanitary Commission be upheld, the consciousness of good done will be the reward in time, and eternity will complete the recompense.

Very respectfully,

R. A. Conover,

Surgeon 108th Illinois Infantry Volunteers.

Surgeon Conover's letter did not form part of the correspondence arising out of Governor Brough's appeal, but its bearing on the subject is plain.

THE SANITARY MOVEMENT IN EUROPE.

Mr. Bowles, the Secretary of the "European Branch" of the Commission, continues to distribute our documents and reports amongst the savans and philanthropists, who have been instrumental in setting on foot the sanitary movement for European armies, of which we have already more than once spoken. He has received very gratifying replies, copies of which he has forwarded us—thanking him for the documents, asking for a continuance of their transmission, and expressing warm interest in the operations of our Commission—from M. de Preval, Sous-intendant Militaire of the French Army; M. Cochin, the distinguished author of the "Results of Emancipation;" Dr. Basting, Surgeon Major of the "Regiment d'Elite of the King of Holland; Dr. Sanda, Surgeon Major representing the "Sanitary Corps of the Spanish Army;" and from M. Capello, the Italian Consul at Geneva.

The work of establishing a vast International Sanitary Commission for European armies, with branches in every country, which was planned at the Conference at Geneva, of which we have already given some account, continues to progress favorably, and has received a great impulse, as might have been expected, from the outbreak of the war in Schleswig Holstein. M. Henri Dunant, the author of the little work entitled *Un Souvenir de Solferino*, to whose humane zeal the movement is in the main due, has received the following letter from the Emperor Napoleon:

SIR—The Emperor has considered the requests made by the International Conference, which took place at Geneva, under the presidency of General Dufour, for the study of the question of supplying international relief to the wounded soldiers on the field of battle.

His Majesty highly approves of the object of the Conference, and of the suggestions made for its attainment. He desires to assist you in your work, by favoring the formation of a Committee of Relief in Paris, and cheerfully authorizes you to make known his sympathy with your undertaking.

The Emperor has also desired me to write to the Minister of War, directing him to authorize some general officers to join the committee which you are organizing.

Receive, &c.,

FAVE,
Aide-de-Camp.

Shortly after the Conference held at Geneva, in the month of October, M. Moynier, President of the Society of Public Utility, who had presided at the Conference, published an account of the deliberations; and an official circular was then sent to the different European Governments, containing the following inquiries:

1. Is the Government disposed to accord its protection to the Committee of Relief for the wounded, which is being formed within its jurisdiction, as the result of the resolutions of the Genevan Conference, and to aid as much as possible the accomplishment of its designs?

2. Will the Government take part in an international convention, having for its object:

(*a.*) The conferring neutrality in time of war upon ambulances and military hospitals, the personnel of the sanitary official service, the volunteer nurses, &c., recruited by the Committee of Relief, the inhabitants of the country who shall go to aid the wounded, and the wounded soldiers.

(*b.*) The adoption of a uniform, or of a distinctive sign for the persons attached to the service, and for a flag which shall be the same for ambulances and hospitals.

If this last proposition should be favorably received, would there be any objection to a badge on the arm, and a white flag with a red cross?

Several Governments have already sent official answers. The Swiss Federal Council authorizes the War Department to carry out the wishes expressed in the circular, on condition that the States nearest Switzerland shall also agree to the proposition. Favorable answers were also received from Wurtemberg, Prussia, France, and Denmark. At Stuttgard an important committee has been formed, under the direction of Dr. Hahn, with an auxiliary branch of ladies, from among the highest nobility of Wurtemberg, and appeals have been published and widely circulated in the country. The King of Prussia has expressed his lively sympathy for the work, and has taken it under his protection. The Danish Minister of War has signified the desire of Denmark to adhere to the propositions of the committee, and associations have been formed in Denmark, in Sweden and in Norway. The ladies have also formed themselves into associations, and have begun by making and sending to the Danish soldiers, woolen socks and other warm garments; and they have also prepared lint, bandages, compresses, and have gathered all kinds of medicines and refreshments for the army.

Mr. Bowles reports, as the pecuniary

result of the labors of the "European Branch" of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, the collection up to March 1st of $18,843 75, and the branch, it must be remembered, is not over three months old.

In connection with the foregoing, we have received the following letter from Mr. Upton, the United States Consul at Geneva:

U. S. CONSULATE,
GENEVA, *April 6th*, 1864.

REV. AND DEAR SIR—It struck me, on reading the subjoined paragraphs in to-day's *Journal de Genevé*, relative to the war in Denmark, that they might interest your Committee; I have therefore copied and translated them.

"The delegate of the International Committee for the Relief of the Wounded of the Austro-Prussian Army, Dr. Appia, has been for some time past upon the theatre of the war, where every thing concurs to assure the success of his mission. Received with the greatest kindness by the military authorities, and especially by Marshal Wrangle, he has obtained all desirable facilities for passing freely over the territory occupied by the allied army. Wearing the white badge with a red cross, adopted by the Conference of Geneva, he has had access wherever his mission required his presence, and has procured some relief to the wounded in the name of the Geneva Committee.

"The work of the Conference meets on all sides the greatest sympathy, and its resolutions are generally recognized as very acceptable. A certain number of volunteer nurses (*d'infirmiers*,) have already had experience in Schleswig, and their services have been much appreciated; they have, in particular, triumphantly solved the great question of ascertaining whether their intervention might not be troublesome on the field of battle.

"At the latest date, (1st of April,) M. Appia was at the advanced post, at the moment when a brisk cannonade was about to open from both sides."

Very truly yours,
In the bonds of the Union,
CHAS. H. UPTON.

REV. H. W. BELLOWS,
New York.

WORK OF RELIEF IN THE ARMIES OF EASTERN VIRGINIA AND MARYLAND.

Dr. Steiner, our Chief Inspector of Relief, reports as follows:

Since my assignment to duty, (December 8, 1863,) as "Chief Inspector for the Commission in the armies of Eastern Virginia and Maryland, (excepting those connected with the defences of Washington, and those stationed at Baltimore and Annapolis,) "I have been endeavoring to organize my corps of agents, so as to command the whole of this field, and to bring the relief work of the Commission within the reach of all who might be entitled to it. The duties of a chief inspector, as laid down in the executive organization of the Commission, are "*to direct the work of the Commission*" in the Military department to which he has been assigned. Feeling the full responsibility which these duties impose on an officer, no labor has been spared in the organization of the work, which has been effected by the establishment of three distinct districts. *The Middle*, (comprising the Army of the Potomac;) *The Lower*, (comprising as much of the Eighteenth Corps as is stationed in Virginia and Maryland;) and *The Upper*, (comprising the forces in and near Cumberland, and eastward to the Monocacy Junction.) The first of these has always been employed as a species of school of instruction for the relief agents that have been afterwards employed in the other two. The results of nearly three years' relief work are thus made available in quickly training men for work, in accordance with the best plans practicable.

THE MIDDLE DISTRICT.—*Field Relief Corps, Army of the Potomac.*—The reorganization of this army has required a reorganization of the Relief Corps. It consists of the same agents that were reported at the first of last month, with slight changes in their assignments. The direction during the past month has been entirely under the care of Capt. Isaac Harris, whose active business habits have given a special *verve* to everything done by the corps. Its present constitution is as follows:

J. Warner Johnson, *Superintendent.*
Captain Isaac Harris, *Assistant Superintendent.*
George E. Holbrook, *Relief Agent 2d Corps.*
E. M. Barton, Col. G. A. Muhleck, } " *5th Corps.*
S. M. Blazier, C. M. Betts, } " *6th Corps.*
H. K. Wilcox, *Relief Agent, Cavalry Corps.*
Charles S. Clampitt, W. F. Dubosq, } *Field Store Keepers.*
W. C. Whittelsey, H. C. Freeman, } *Messengers.*

The size of the corps of this army being so large, it will be necessary to have two agents assigned to each, and therefore the present arrangement is not as complete as I hope to have it in a short time.

The arrangements for the spring campaign are now being made by the corps. The wagons are being repaired, and put into condition for active employment. Most of the agents have undergone a training, which will make them most useful in their work of charity; and there is reason to believe that our machinery will be such as the recent indications of confidence in the Commission, from the loyal people of the country, has a right to demand. While the industrious zeal of the women of America is being so enthusiastically exhibited all over the land, it is felt, by those who represent them in the field, that every exertion is required to prevent misappropriation of

stores, and to aid the medical officers in their ministrations to the sick and suffering. Constant visitations of hospitals and associations with those having in charge the various departments of the army, are required, in order to give them intelligent command of the relief work entrusted to them. With the view of showing the nature of their work, I ask attention to the accompanying reports—in some instances, diaries—of the agents, furnished me weekly as required by the rules of the corps.

1. Report of W. F. Dubosq, Relief Agent, 1st Corps, January 2, 1864.
2. Report of W. F. Dubosq, Relief Agent, 1st Corps, January 6, 1864.
3. Report of W. F. Dubosq, Relief Agent, 1st Corps, January 9, 1864.
4. Report of W. F. Dubosq, Relief Agent, 1st Corps, January 17, 1864.
5. Report of Colonel George A. Muhleck, Relief Agent, 1st Corps, February 7, 1864.
6. Report of Colonel George A. Muhleck, Relief Agent, 1st Corps, February 14, 1864.
7. Report of Colonel George A. Muhleck, Relief Agent, 1st Corps, February 21, 1864.
8. Report of Colonel George A. Muhleck, Relief Agent, 1st Corps, February 28, 1864.
9. Report of Colonel George A. Muhleck, Relief Agent, 1st Corps, February 29, 1864.
10. Report of Colonel George A. Muhleck, Relief Agent, 1st Corps, March 7, 1864.
11. Report of Colonel George A. Muhleck, Relief Agent, 1st Corps, March 17, 1864.
12. Report of Colonel George A. Muhleck, Relief Agent, 1st Corps, March 20, 1864.
13. Report of Colonel George A. Muhleck, Relief Agent, 1st Corps, March, 23d, 1864.
14. Report of George E. Holbrook, Relief Agent, 2d Corps, January 4, 1864.
15. Report of George E. Holbrook, Relief Agent, 2d Corps, January 9, 1864.
16. Report of George E. Holbrook, Relief Agent, 2d Corps, January 16, 1864.
17. Report of George E. Holbrook, Relief Agent, 2d Corps, January 24, 1864.
18. Report of George E. Holbrook, Relief Agent, 2d Corps, January 30, 1864.
19. Report of George E. Holbrook, Relief Agent, 2d Corps, February 6, 1864.
20. Report of George E. Holbrook, Relief Agent, 2d Corps, February 13, 1864.
21. Report of George E. Holbrook, Relief Agent, 2d Corps, February 20, 1864.
22. Report of George E. Holbrook, Relief Agent, 2d Corps, February 27, 1864.
23. Report of George E. Holbrook, Relief Agent, 2d Corps, March 6th, 1864.
24. Report of George E. Holbrook, Relief Agent, 2d Corps, March 13, 1864.
25. Report of George E. Holbrook, Relief Agent, 2d Corps, March 19, 1864.
26. Report of George E. Holbrook, Relief Agent, 2d Corps, March 26, 1864.
27. Report of S. M. Blazier, Relief Agent, 3d Corps, January 4, 1864.
28. Report of S. M. Blazier, Relief Agent, 3d Corps, January 11, 1864.
29. Report of S. M. Blazier, Relief Agent, 3d Corps, January 17, 1864.
30. Report of S. M. Blazier, Relief Agent, 3d Corps, January 25, 1864.
31. Report of S. M. Blazier, Relief Agent, 3d Corps, January 31, 1864.
32. Report of S. M. Blazier, Relief Agent, 3d Corps, February 7, 1864.
33. Report of S. M. Blazier, Relief Agent, 3d Corps, February 15, 1864.
34. Report of S. M. Blazier, Relief Agent, 3d Corps, March 14, 1864.
35. Report of S. M. Blazier, Relief Agent, 3d Corps, March 21, 1864.
36. Report of S. M. Blazier, Relief Agent, 3d Corps, March 27, 1864.
37. Report of Charles C. Harris, Acting Relief Agent, 5th Corps, January 3, 1864.
38. Report of Charles C. Harris, Acting Relief Agent, 5th Corps, January 9, 1864.
39. Report of Charles C. Harris, Acting Relief Agent, 5th Corps, January 16th, 1864.
40. Report of Charles C. Harris, Acting Relief Agent, 5th Corps, January 23, 1864.
41. Report of Charles C. Harris, Acting Relief Agent, 5th Corps, January 30, 1864.
42. Report of Charles C. Harris, Acting Relief Agent, 5th Corps, February 6, 1864.
43. Report of Charles C. Harris, Acting Relief Agent, 5th Corps, February 14, 1864.
44. Report of Charles C. Harris, Acting Relief Agent, 5th Corps, February 15, 1864.
45. Report of Charles C. Harris, Acting Relief Agent, 5th Corps, February 27, 1864.
46. Report of Charles C. Harris, Acting Relief Agent, 5th Corps, March 6th, 1864.
47. Report of E. M. Barton, Relief Agent, 5th Corps, March 14, 1864.
48. Report of E. M. Barton, Relief Agent, 5th Corps, March 20, 1864.
49. Report of E. M. Barton, Relief Agent, 5th, Corps, March 28, 1864.
50. Report of E. M. Barton, Relief Agent, on 140th N.Y.V., March 21, 1864.
51. Report of David S. Pope, Relief Agent, 6th Corps, January 17, 1864.
52. Report of David S. Pope, Relief Agent, 6th Corps, January 25, 1864.
53. Report of David S. Pope, Relief Agent, 6th Corps, January 31, 1864.
54. Report of Charles M. Betts, Relief Agent, 6th Corps, February 15, 1864.
55. Report of Charles M. Betts, Relief Agent, 6th Corps, February 22, 1864.
56. Report of Charles M. Betts, Relief Agent, 6th Corps, February 27, 1864.
57. Report of Charles M. Betts, Relief Agent, 6th Corps, March 7, 1864.
58. Report of Charles M. Betts, Relief Agent, 6th Corps, March 14th, 1864.
59. Report of Charles M. Betts, Relief Agent, 6th Corps, March 21, 1864.
60. Report of Charles M. Betts, Relief Agent, 6th Corps, March 26, 1864.
61. Report of Captain Isaac Harris, Assistant Superintendent, Field Relief Corps, January 14, 1864.
62. Report of J. W. Johnson, Superintendent, Field Relief Corps, February 10, 1864.
63. Report of J. W. Johnson, Superintendent, Field Relief Corps, February 12, 1864.
64. Report of J. W. Johnson, Superintendent, Field Relief Corps, February 28, 1864.
65 Report of Captain Isaac Harris, Assistant Superintendent, Field Relief Corps, March 24 and 25, 1864.

[We have published some of these reports, and now give the list, as an index of the system in vogue to ensure accurate records of labor done.]

These reports will give a detailed account of the work of the agents, and include the work done at the engagement at Morton's Ford, as well as that at the Field Lodge, kept at Brandy Station.

The field quarters of the Corps at Brandy Station consists of a storehouse and a number of tents, occupied for lodging the agents, the sick and needy who may be detained at the station, and such friends of the soldiers as may from time to time visit the army. The red flag of the Commission, floating from the top of the house, can be seen for miles.

With the view of showing the issues made by the Field Relief Corps, since the first of January, I ask your attention to the accompanying abstract, (No. 66.) The files of the corps exhibit weekly abstracts of issues; and the receipted requisitions are contained in the archives of our work in the Army of the Potomac. These requisitions are mostly signed by medical officers—save such issues as have been made by

the agents to individual cases of need, for the time not under any special control, and which have always been accounted for as individual relief. An effort has been made to secure these receipted requisitions wherever possible, so that we might have in our archives written testimony as to the disposal of our stores, always ready for those who are curious and ready for such investigations.

THE LOWER DISTRICT.—*Major General Butler's command in Virginia and Maryland.*—During the past month, David S. Pope has acted as relief agent in charge of our work in and near Norfolk, and throughout the district. As he has expressed a desire for another field of labor, I detailed R. C. Nevin, on the 29th ult., to relieve him. Mr. Pope, after making Mr. N. acquainted with the nature of our operations in this district, will report for duty in the Army of the Potomac.

Our relief work has been so systematized by the plans of the relief agents lately in charge, that the greatest possible amount of good has been accomplished. A large warehouse, No. 15 Wide Water Street, was assigned to the use of the Sanitary Commission, by command of Brig. Gen. E. A. Wild, on the 3d of March, 1864. This is occupied by the relief agent and the storekeeper, (Samuel Bacon,) and is the depot for sanitary stores.

An abstract of the stores, forwarded from the central storehouse for the use of this portion of my department, accompanying this report, (No. 67,) will show the nature of the supplies which have been required.

The agent has been instructed to adopt the same plan of weekly reports which has obtained in the Potomac Army Relief Corps. These reports, with the receipted requisitions, have always been forwarded, on the first of the week, to the Chief Inspector. You will find the following reports among the accompanying documents:

68. Report of James Gall, Jr., Relief Agent, January 17, 1864.
69. Report of James Gall, Jr., Relief Agent, January 26, 1864.
70. Report of James Gall, Jr., Relief Agent, January 31, 1864.
71. Report of James Gall, Jr., Relief Agent, February 7, 1864.
72. Report of David S. Pope, Relief Agent, February 14, 1864.
73. Report of David S. Pope, Relief Agent, March 5, 1864.
74. Report of David S. Pope, Relief Agent, March 12, 1864.
75. Report of David S. Pope, Relief Agent, March 13, 1864.
76. Report of David S. Pope, Relief Agent, March 20, 1864.

POINT LOOKOUT.—During the stay of Mr. E. B. Fairchild, as examiner in vital statistics, among the rebel prisoners at Point Lookout, Maryland, he acted also as relief agent, distributing stores to the needy in the General Hospital, and to such extreme cases among the sick prisoners as claimed his attention. His report will show the nature of the work, and how acceptable it must have been to the sick. The transference of Mr. F. to the West, deprives us of his services at Point Lookout. It is desirable that occasional communication be had with this point, by means of special visits, so as to ensure our supplying whatever may be needed. (No. 77.)

At the present time a force is said, by the newspapers, to be collecting at Annapolis, for offensive operations, under Major Gen. Burnside. It may possibly be that this force shall operate in Eastern Virginia. In this case, it will be necessary to organize some plan to meet the relief work that will be unavoidable, when the campaign is once entered upon. I shall take care to see that some proper persons be ready to undertake the work, and that the Sanitary Commission be fitly represented.

Indeed, in any plan of operations that may be adopted for Eastern Virginia, it is evident that hard-fought battles will result. Both sides are nerving themselves for a severe contest. The rest of the winter has enabled them to gather strength, and it would seem now as though the final struggle was near at hand. A wise providence as regards the accumulation of stores at depots, and the perfection of all arrangements for relief work, is required at the hands of the officers of the Commission. We have experience now in the work, and that experience should be made to tell in the way of improved plans and enlarged preparations.

THE UPPER DISTRICT—*Major General Sigel's command, from Cumberland eastwards.*—The relief work in this district has been very irregularly perfofmed until lately. Reliance was placed on occasional visits from the inspectors of the Commission to the regiments and hospitals of the command, and on applications made directly on our Washington storehouse for stores. In this way, quite a large amount of stores was issued. (No. 78.) The arrangements now entered into will enable us to work this field as well as that embraced in the other two districts. On the 19th ult., Mr. Charles C. Harris went to Harper's Ferry, and, through the kindness of the military authorities, was supplied with proper accommodations for a storehouse. Since that time, a full supply of stores has been forwarded to him, and it is intended that this storehouse shall be the depot of supplies for the Upper District of my Department. Mr. Harris writes of the courteous reception he has met at the hands of the officers; and how wide a field for active philanthropic labors has been opened before him. I refer you to his report for a fuller statement of the nature of his arrangements in Harper's Ferry. (No. 79.)

I intend that Mr. H. shall remain at the

Ferry, in the capacity of local relief agent and storekeeper. His time can be profitably spent in visiting the regiments in his neighborhood, finding out their wants and supplying them from the storehouse. His past experience in the Army of the Potomac, pre-eminently fits him for the duties.

The work of the Commission in this Upper District I have placed in charge of Col. Poten, lately of the Veteran Reserve Corps. Col. Poten has served with distinction in several Missouri regiments, having, as Major, led one of them in the famous engagement at Pea Ridge. In order to fit himself specially for his work, he spent some time with the Relief Corps of the Army of the Potomac. From his experience of army life, knowledge of men and sound common sense, and his acquaintance with the nature of the Commission's work, I have every reason to expect that he will prove to be one of our most valuable officers. My past experience as regards the value of army officers in the service of the Commission, is so favorable, that I feel the importance of securing such officers as have had a good record during their term of service in the army.

Since sending in my report, on the 1st of March, I have made a visit to the Army of the Potomac, and found that our agents have carried on the duties assigned them faithfully, and to the decided benefit of the soldier as well as the credit and good reputation of the Commission. It has been my pleasure to bear testimony to their faithfulness in previous reports. I do not wish to change the record in their favor one iota. They are firm and true, shrink from no labor, and avoid no necessary responsibility. The same testimony I must bear to my faithful clerk, E. R. Cornwall, to Mr. Hoag, (the city storekeeper,) and to Mr. L. V. Beebe, whose energy has enabled me in so many cases to get stores off with dispatch, when they were sadly needed at the front. Nor have the officers connected with the transportation department been at all indisposed to assist us, but have aided, as far as in their power, in all our work.

With the hope that the future record of this department may be even more satisfactory than its past, and that the relief work may remove much of the suffering of the war.

We annex, also, the report of Captain Harris, the Assistant Superintendent of Field Relief, (April 15:)

On the 27th of Feb'ry, on my return from furlough, I reported for duty to Mr. J. W. Johnson, at Brandy Station. The following Tuesday, Mr. Johnson left for Washington. Since which the superintendence of affairs in the field has devolved upon me.

Early in March, several reconnoissances were undertaken, by both cavalry and infantry; but as the troops went in the lightest possible marching order, unencumbered by trains of supply wagons, and accompanied by the fewest possible number of ambulances, it was deemed inexpedient to send out any of our wagons with supplies.

The most we could do was to collect from Washington a sufficient supply of stores to meet the emergency.

Happily these goods were not called into requisition—the infantry returning without a man less; and the cavalry, which accompanied them, with only a few cases of wounded, whose wants were easily supplied at the hospital.

The cavalry expedition under Kilpatrick, whatever may have been its losses, and the number of wounded rescued from the enemy, passed into another department, where I trust the wants of the sick and needy were not overlooked by the agents of the Commission stationed there.

Nothing beyond the ordinary routine of supplying the wants of the hospitals has characterized the work in this corps during the past six weeks, unless it is that of supplying the necessities of prisoners confined at the various Provost Marshal's quarters, who, on account of their peculiar situation, are not allowed to draw clothing or pay. To these men has the Commission, through the assiduity of its agents, been of great benefit. Most of the prisoners were held awaiting trial, or decisions of the Courts Marshal, which had for some reason been withheld. To these men were furnished underclothing and blankets, and frequently that panacea for all ills—tobacco. If the avidity with which they chewed it was an index of their thankfulness, then there is little danger of the Commission being styled a gigantic humbug, by those for whose welfare it claims its origin and existence.

The storehouse at this station, under the excellent management of Mr. C. S. Clampitt and his assistants, with one or two exceptions, and those owing to some delay on the railroad, has been able to supply the necessities of the hospitals, some of which have drawn quite heavily for clothing and articles of diet. The abstracts of issues which have, from week to week, been forwarded to the Central Office, will show you the amount of work done.

At Culpepper, the agency under Col. G. A. Mühleck, has been of great advantage to the sick of the 1st corps, as well as of one division of cavalry, whose illness would not warrant a removal to the Corps Hospital at this station, and were accordingly treated at their quarters, but who, nevertheless, urgently required those articles of diet, which it was happily the power of the Commission to supply.

The 5th corps, which since the 1st of January has been guarding the O. & A. R.

R., was so widely scattered, that it was deemed advisable to establish a store at Catlett's Station, which was accordingly done by Mr. Charles C. Harris, the Acting Relief Agent attached to the corps. For full particulars regarding his work, I am compelled to refer you to his weekly reports, his situation being such that I was unable to see him as frequently as I did the other agents.

On the 5th ultimo, the regular agent of the corps, Mr. E. M. Barton, relieved Mr. H., who reported at Washington for orders. It was soon after decided to discontinue the storehouse at Catlett's, and accordingly Mr. B. removed to Rappahannock Station, where he was able to make better arrangements for himself and horse, and from which point he was in easy communication by rail with the different regiments and brigade and division generals. The requisitions from the corps are now filled at this storehouse, which plan works very well—the stewards finding no difficulty in obtaining transportation for their stores by the cars.

Early in January, a Lodge for the accommodation of sick and benighted soldiers was established, there being no accommodation of any kind provided by the Government. Here, nearly one thousand men have found shelter and comfortable beds, whereas they would otherwise have been compelled, on many nights, to pass the dreary hours in cold, driving storms or freezing weather, without shelter.

Many a father and brother, yes, and mother, too, who had travelled hundreds of miles to visit some sick or dying relative, have had occasion to bless the tents, or rather the agency which placed them there, which provided them little comforts, which money can scarcely command in this inhospitable land.

More than three hundred meals have been furnished to soldiers who were without, and unable to obtain rations. Civilians in quest of sick friends, and wholly unacquainted with, and unprovided for a trip to the "front," have always been cordially received at our table.

On the 4th ultimo I received a communication from Gen. Patrick, Provost Marshal-General of this Army, and Dr. McParlin, Medical Director, recommending for charitable notice the family of Strother Jacobs, a refugee, formerly living near the Rapidan. Mr. Jacobs, who had been for some time in the Confederate service, was so unwell at times as to be confined to his bed during the day, and was little calculated to attend to the business of shipping his few household goods to Washington. They remained with us three weeks, during which they were rendered as comfortable as possible.

On the 27th ultimo, the ladies of the family were accompanied to Washington by E. G. Holbrook, Agent of the 2d corps—the husband having preceded thither a few days previous. The goods were safely transported under the charge of H. C. Freeman, messenger.

What the plan of operations for the coming season will be, it is impossible to foresee. All we can do is to prepare ourselves for the move, which must soon take place. The wagons, with their supplies, will all be stationed with their respective corps during the next week or ten days. Three of the wagons can go out on an hour's notice, should it be required. The hurry and liability of losing stores, should a move take place, has decided me to break up the storehouse at Culpepper within a few days, to be substituted by the corps wagons, which shall be placed there immediately on the return of Col. Mühleck.

It would be unnecessary for me to particularize any of the employees of the Commission under my charge, as having done his work well. All agents, storekeepers and teamsters, have at all times showed a willingness to carry out the objects of the Commission, which needs no special commendation.

All having had a furlough, and none having any special cause of grievance, it is to be hoped that the work of the Sanitary Commission in this army during the coming campaign will compare well with that in other departments.

* * * * *

On the 24th instant the more serious cases from the hospitals of the 2d and 3d corps, began to arrive at Brandy Station, for shipment to Alexandria and Washington.

The agents of the Sanitary Commission attached to the 1st, 2d, 3d and 6th corps, were present, and did good service in assisting the men from the ambulances to the cars.

We not having suitable apparatus for cooking food, in sufficient quantity, in a short time, the ladies representing Maine and New York, Mrs. Painter and Mrs. Husband, made application at the storehouse for beefstock, crackers, tea and sugar, which were furnished them, and, with the assistance of the Sanitary Commission, distributed.

Three long trains, loaded with sick and wounded men, were thereby provided with a substantial meal. The benefit which they derived may be estimated, when it is known that they had breakfasted before daybreak, and had been conveyed over corduroy roads to the station, and would not arrive at Alexandria until nearly dark. In addition to the above, a few bottles of stimulants were furnished to the surgeons who were to accompany them, on their requisitions, which no doubt proved very beneficial. I have every reason to believe from the

known character of these Surgeons, that the liquor was not misappropriated.

On the following day the sick of the 1st and 6th corps were removed, and they were supplied in the same manner, as far as lay in our power.

SANITARY AFFAIRS ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

We have published on another page a correspondence relative to the work performed by the Commission at Memphis, and intended to illustrate the way in which very erroneous impressions are constantly set afloat, often by the admission of a single unguarded expression in a letter or report. Mr. Carpenter, our agent at that point, with the view of shedding still further light on the general subject of the operations of the Commission in the West, addressed a circular to a number of surgeons in the department, asking for their opinion. We have annexed to Dr. Newberry's letter to the Cincinnati *Commercial*, the reply received from one of them, Surgeon Conover of the 108th Illinois. Those of the others will reach us in due course. Mr. Carpenter himself writes April 20th:

I have the honor to report affairs in this department in the same quiet and favorable condition as at my last report, and the number of patients in hospitals and sick in camps without material change; there is still an increase of small-pox, otherwise the classes of diseases remain the same.

I received on the 31st of March, of Dr. Warriner, per steamer Dunleith, 323 bbls. potatoes, 200 bbls. onions, 120 bbls. apples, 100 bbls. kraut, 36 boxes shirts, drawers, &c., and 3 boxes fruit, which were a very seasonable supply, and much needed. Owing to the pressing call from the different surgeons in camps for vegetables—as scorbutic tendencies were becoming generally manifest—I issued them immediately in the ratio of 10 bbls. potatoes, 5 bbls. onions, and 2 bbls. kraut per regiment, for general distribution in the regiments. Small as the supply was, its ameliorating effects are very marked.

I have delayed my report somewhat, in order to be able to give some expression as to the value of potatoes pickled in vinegar. I regret to say that it appears to be universally unfavorable, as the men cannot be induced to make sufficient use of them to derive any marked benefit from them; the onion is not subject to the same objection, as they would be eaten with avidity. I received yesterday per steamer St. Cloud, from Cincinnati, 7 bbls. onions, 2 bbls. dried fruit, 1 bbl. crackers, 49 boxes fruit, cordial, farina, &c.—from Cairo, 120 bbls. potatoes, 16 bbls. onions, 83 bbls. and kegs pickled potatoes, 86 boxes dry goods and fruit, which give us a very good assortment. We shall always need a large supply of "eatables" here, as our hospitals are situated so far from our markets, that they have not the same facilities for making a "fund" with which to supply needed delicacies, as those farther North, where articles can be purchased at far less cost, consequently will need to be supplemented quite extensively by the Commission. We need now especially a supply of rags, bandages, and more sheets; the great increase of small-pox cases, and the reception of wounded at this point, make a large supply indispensable.

We have also received a report from Dr. Warriner, written April 15th, at Louisville, after his return from a general tour of inspection. It will be seen that at that date, although the disaster to General Banks' expedition, of which we have since received the news, was not anticipated, every thing was ready at Vicksburg to follow it up with relief, whenever an emergency arose. Dr. Warriner says:

I have just returned from the expedition to Vicksburg and intermediate military posts in the Mississippi Department, whither I went in charge of a full cargo of sanitary stores. I distributed these according to need, to gunboats and garrisons, at all points occupied by Federal troops, leaving the great bulk of the cargo, of course, at the two points—Memphis and Vicksburg—where we still keep up our agencies. I have already informed you of the supplies left at Memphis. The quantities reserved at Vicksburg where somewhat larger in respect of all articles, except fresh apples. I found these were not likely to keep sufficiently well to justify their transportation beyond Memphis. I left at Vicksburg some 700 barrels of vegetables, 200 barrels kraut and pickled potatoes, 1,500 drawers, 2,500 shirts, 200 comforts, 150 sheets, 50 barrels dried fruit, and a goodly number of boxes of canned fruit, the quantity or condition of which I am not now able to give you with accuracy.

The vegetables will be issued promptly and freely, by Mr. Way, to regiments as well as hospitals. I left Vicksburg on the 5th inst. At that time the news from the Red River expedition was meagre and devoid of special interest, as also of definite indications respecting future movements.

The Red River was rising, and the gunboats were pushing on towards Shreveport.

No decided encounter with the enemy, and no marked incidents, had occurred by

land or water since the capture of Fort de Russey. Land forces were advancing simultaneously with the gunboats, a large sick list was reported, and the day of my arrival at Vicksburg, the painful rumor of the loss of the hospital steamer Woodford, by a snag, was received. The rumor was believed, although not made absolutely certain at the time I left. No supplies had been sent of any kind from Vicksburg up to that time. On that day the "Ike Harris," an ocean going steamer, was seized by the quartermaster, and sent to Fort de Russey to bring away contrabands. It only took the supplies necessary for the subsistence of these on the return voyage. There was understood to be a collection of 1,500 of them at that point. The Harris, from its structure, would be unable to go up higher than the Fort. There seemed to be no intention of sending supplies to the troops, either commissary or medical, without further orders. I considered the propriety of attempting to reach the expedition with the Dunleith, and a goodly portion of her cargo, but decided adversely to it. The boat itself was not adapted to such a trip. Its motive powers were feeble, and its capabilities of resistance and endurance, when assailed by rough weather, are shaky and uncertain.

But, aside from this, the trip itself, with the best of facilities therefor, was not yet advisable, as there was no information yet current or attainable that we would not meet the whole expedition on its return. Mr. Way, and his assistants at Vicksburg, have all needful vigilance, fidelity, and enterprise, and will go forward with stores whenever it becomes desirable and practicable to do so.

I found about 1,000 patients in general hospital at Vicksburg, and twice the number at Memphis. One half, or more, of the former are cases of small-pox. This is now the only disease displaying itself in an epidemic form in the army. It has been terribly prevalent for many months at all points on the river, where there are either troops or inhabitants. Yet there has been a surprisingly small number of deaths from it, taking this epidemic feature into account. It would seem as if the Beneficent Powers were determined that the whole army should have the disease, once for all, and so get through and beyond one great peril to its career, if not existence. One may almost believe that every man in the army has taken his turn, (who was susceptible of the disease,) during the winter. There seemed to be no decline to the epidemic up to the time of my leaving, but the advancing heat of the season will, of course, produce its accustomed results in checking it.

I found the affairs of the Commission, at both Memphis and Vicksburg, in a highly prosperous condition, and excellently well managed. After the Red River expedition, I imagine the sanitary work on the Mississippi, this side of New Orleans, will materially decline. That is, should that expedition prove a success, and no reverses be met with elsewhere on the river, of such magnitude as to call for the return of troops that have been removed to other departments.

We have received, though too late for insertion in this number, very full reports of the work performed by our agents in relieving the sick and wounded after the great battle. In the meantime, we find the following general statement on the subject in the correspondence of the *New York Herald*, from New Orleans:

Since the recent battles, Dr. Crane, of the Sanitary Commission; the Mayor, Capt. Hoyt, Mr. Tucker, General Banks' private secretary, and other gentlemen, have worked indefatigably day and night in gathering together and transporting stores to the sick and wounded.

Before the news of the engagement arrived, upwards of three hundred boxes and barrels of clothing, wines, and delicacies for the sick were forwarded; and within an hour after intelligence had reached this city of a battle having been fought at Mount Pleasant, fifty cases of lemons, wine, ice, &c., were shipped on a despatch boat for Alexandria; and since that time scarcely a boat has left this city for the front without taking up large quantities of all necessary hospital supplies, delicacies, &c., for the sick and wounded. Ten or twelve agents of the Commission are now with the army.

On Monday night last, a benefit was given at the Varieties Theatre, in behalf of the Sanitary Commission, and a subscription list opened at the box office. By this means upwards of two thousand dollars have already been subscribed.

THE CHRISTIAN COMMISSION AND THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

The following letters explain themselves:

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *April 1st*, 1864.

MR. WM. A. HOVEY,
U. S. Sanitary Commission.

MY DEAR SIR—I have just received your letter, and am exceedingly pained that the statement in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* of March 19th, should have arisen from any thing I had written to Philadelphia. So far from detracting from the good work of the Sanitary Commission at this point, and all others where I have labored during the war, I can say that they have done nobly, and promptly met the demands made upon them for stores in behalf of our soldiers.

The article in the *Inquirer*, I suppose, originated from what I may have written about the *presence* of *a member* of the Sanitary Commission in the Naval School Hospital. But, I assure you, I had no intention of conveying the impression that your noble organization was not at work here. I am well aware that you have your agents on the flag of truce boat, and that frequent visits are made to this point by members of your Commission. You have always had a storehouse at this hospital, which is always filled with goods; and at Camp Parole you have several ladies, who are representatives of your Commission. I trust that Mr. Knapp and yourself will not think that I intended to give the impression, that the Christian Commission was the only organization at this post. Far from it; a wrong impression was received.

Wherever I have been—on the Peninsula, at Antietam, Gettysburg, &c.—I have always found the Sanitary Commission at work. We are both laboring in the same noble cause; we should rather help each other, than seem to lessen the good influence which we would exert.

I am, very truly and respectfully yours,
J. O. SLOAN.

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U. S. CHRISTIAN COMMISSION,
No. 11, BANK STREET,
PHILADELPHIA, *April 7th*, 1864.

MISS H. D. WILLIAMS,
Agent U. S. San. Com., Camp Parole, Md.

It is with the greatest possible regret that I write, to correct a mistake into which we have been unfortunately led by information from Annapolis, to the effect that there was no agency of the Sanitary Commission in your place.

We have received from Rev. J. O. Sloan, our agent at Annapolis, in Naval School Hospital; also from Rev. G. R. Brent, of Camp Parole, letters which speak in the strongest possible terms of your "constant efforts to relieve the distressed;" and especially of your own labors, and those of Miss Phillips.

Rev. Mr. Sloan says: "There has, undoubtedly, been a wrong impression made at Philadelphia. I have corrected all, however."

I write to exonerate ourselves from the suspicion of having desired to cast even the slightest idea of disparagement upon the labors of the Sanitary Commission in Annapolis. The mistake on our part arose from entirely wrong information.

Will you pardon our mistake, and accept this poor apology, with our kindest regards and good wishes for your success.

W. E. BOARDMAN,
Sec. U. S. C. C.

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GENERAL HOSPITAL, TULLAHOMA, TENN.,
January 29, 1864.

MY DEAR DR. READ—It is farthest from my wish to array our two organizations, having a common good at heart, one against the other; but it seems to me that the public mind needs, in some respects, to be instructed as to the best means of doing *good in the army*. There are at present two great organizations in the country, having this great end in view, viz., "The U. S. Sanitary Commission," and the "Christian Commission." Having, as you know, had a somewhat extensive experience during the past twenty-eight months, the most of that time on the "front," where aid has been most needed, and having seen and felt the practical workings of both bodies, I trust I may be pardoned, if, in a spirit of kindness, I point out what appears to me "to be an error" in one, contrasted with the more instructed experience of the other. The Sanitary Commission was instituted to supply, in part, and as supplementary to the services of the Medical Corps, the wants of the sick and wounded of the army, which, from the nature of the case, the General Government could not always do. This it has done, and is doing, to an extent never before known in the history of war. All the patriotism and benevolence of the people has been aroused, and they have poured upon the army the full stream of their bounty, trusting to the integrity and wisdom of the U. S. Sanitary Commission to distribute it. And well has it fulfilled the trust. At the outbreak of the rebellion, there were misgivings among the people, on the one hand, and the army, on the other, lest these bounties should be misapplied; but the day of such evil forebodings has gone by. I am free to confess, that, on the part of the Medical Department of the army, there was a fear lest it and the Sanitary Commission should come in collision; but the Commission adopted the only true and safe course, which was "to issue their supplies on the requisition of surgeons, and leave them to use them as the exigencies of the case might demand." The wisdom of this course has been fully established, the Sanitary Commission acknowledging "that those having the immediate charge of the sick being the only proper judges of what was best for them to have," and the Medical Department, in "looking to the Sanitary Commission as a fountain whence the wants of the sick could be supplied." In this way a mutual esteem and confidence has been established, and the two now work together harmoniously. The Christian Commission, if I understand it, was instituted to supply the "religious and moral wants of the army." So far as it has confined itself to this work, the surgeons, whether of regiments or in charge of hospitals, have been ready to extend the hand of welcome, and aid the agents of the society in their "work and labor of love;" but when the agents

come into hospital, and propose to issue articles of diet to "this man," or "that man," it becomes the duty of the surgeons to be firm, and say, "No one is competent to judge as to what is fit and proper for the sick or convalescent to have, but the medical officer having them in especial charge." It is but a few days since that an agent of the Christian Commission, whom I can but esteem for his honesty of purpose, and his zeal for the welfare of soldiers, came to this hospital, and requested the privilege of giving to various individuals, sick in the hospital, articles of diet which had been confided to him. I was obliged to say to him, "Sir, we do not know one man from another; neither you nor I are competent to judge what is proper in any individual case. That must be left to the judgment of the medical officer in charge of the wards; he knows every individual case. Leave the things you have to distribute with the steward. They will then go into the commissaries' room, and the attending surgeon will order them on the diet table, day by day, as they are needed." He did not "see it in that light," and nothing was left. It should be understood "that no articles of diet for the sick can or should be distributed, any more than an outsider could come into a hospital and prescribe medicines." Let the people at home pour their benefactions into the general store, to be used as wisdom and experience shall dictate, and let them send their agents into the field to do their moral and spiritual work; then there will be no clashing, and the temporal and moral wants of the army will be supplied.

Yours truly,

BENJAMIN WOODWARD,
Surgeon in Charge.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF STORES.

STEVENSON, ALA., *Feb.* 25, 1864.

DR. A. N. REED:

DEAR SIR—Day before yesterday, when your letter came, I was absent at Lookout in search of relics, and yesterday there was no mail to Nashville, so my letter will not reach you as soon as expected. Late letters from Nashville are not as long in coming as others were two years since.

All the stores sent from Louisville for the Home and for me, also those from Mr. Jones, have come to hand in good condition. I would have been glad to receive a greater amount of stimulants, if you had had them to spare, as every requisition asks more or less. Wines especially are in demand, and at this season of the year the sour native wines are particularly suitable to the relaxed condition of the system.

Your remarks in regard to misapplication of sanitary stores, and the care desirable in their distribution, are very just and necessary. I will send out to all the hospitals, from which issues are made from this post, circulars similar to the one in pamphlet for the signatures of private soldiers, and will, as far as possible visit the hospitals myself, or send some person to collect the desired testimony. My own observations lead me to conclude—

1st. That the amount of sanitary stores consumed by sanitary agents, given by them in reciprocation of official courtesy, or directly misapplied, is infinitesimal.

2d. That the favors received by officers are very few, and the amount of stores consumed by officers so small as to be scarcely appreciable.

3d. That there is sometimes misapplication of stores by surgeons and hospital attendants, but by no means to the extent supposed, or to such a degree as to prevent the vast bulk of the stores from reaching the sick.

The first conclusion needs scarcely any explanation. The Sanitary Commission is dependent at every post for its successful operations upon the courtesy of the officers, and they have it in their power to render a thousand-fold for all the favors they receive. I think the course of proceeding of agents in such cases is uniform, but the amount of stores thus expended is too slight for mention. Few officers receive favors directly from the Commission, and never to the neglect of privates. At Kelly's Ferry I never accommodated well men to the neglect of the sick, or officers to the neglect of privates. Of the officers who stopped with me, I think I am safe in saying scarcely a dozen had ever received a meal at the expense of the Sanitary Commission, or who would be so situated as to receive a similar favor again. It shows a great disregard for truth to say that the Commission is a "good thing for the officer," when the aggregate of officers favored is so small.

I could have collected an abundance of the evidence from privates, which you desire, at the Ferry, but my opportunities now are not so good. Must close now as the train is coming. Will write more tomorrow. Cannot send, quite yet, amount and list of seeds.

Yours, very truly,

WM. A. SUTLIFFE.

VEGETABLES—VEGETABLES—VEGETABLES.

RINGGOLD, GA., *April* 4, 1864.

MR. D. BARTLETT,
Agent Sanitary Commission:

SIR—The 28 barrels of potatoes, 4 barrels of kraut, and 1 barrel of sliced potatoes, (in vinegar,) which you sent to be distributed to the men of the 1st Brigade, 3d Division, 14th A. C., have been received and distributed.

Permit me to express my thanks in behalf of the brigade for this liberal supply of vegetables.

No vegetables except those received from the Sanitary Commission, have been issued for several months.

In consequence of our brigade not being supplied with vegetables, we have had a good many cases of scurvy, and a scorbutic tendency in almost all of our diseases. For about a month before we left Chattanooga, we were supplied very liberally with vegetables by the Sanitary Commission, and the result was, a rapid improvement in almost every case of sickness. There were a good many cases of diarrhea, in which medicine would do no good, but which a few meals of kraut would cure—thus showing that it was change of diet rather than medicine, that was needed.

Our brigade is now in a very healthy condition, although there is some tendency to scurvy still manifest. I attribute in a great measure, the present healthy condition of the brigade, to the liberal supply of vegetables from the Sanitary Commission. We are now camped in a healthy location, with plenty of good water, and if we can have vegetables to issue with the rations now supplied by the Government, there is no reason why our brigade should not remain in healthy condition.

I hope, therefore, you will be able to supply us with vegetables, so that we can issue them to the men at least once a week. The old saying, "that an ounce of preventive is worth a pound of cure," is very applicable to the army, for it certainly is much better to supply the men with proper food, to prevent their getting sick, than it is to supply them with both food and medicine to cure them after becoming sick, and lose their services at the same time.

Yours, truly, JOSIAH D. COLTON,
Sur 92d Regt. O. V. I.,
. Act. Sur. 1st Bri. 3d Div., 14th A. C.

ONIONS FOR THE SOLDIERS.

A COUNTRY GIRL TO COUNTRY GIRLS AND BOYS.

Not long since I heard a soldier say that soldiers like onions; that he had, at one time, paid twenty-five cents for an onion. Onions are good for soldiers, and many of them crave them. You and I don't, maybe; we like them only a long way off; but the soldiers do. Down in a corner of our garden, behind the bushes, in what I recognize from surroundings as a long neglected corner—a spot unoccupied save by our dogs, who have considered it their own peculiar play-ground, and from which our boy has taken many a load of bones of their strewing—I see, in vision, the morning sun gleam brightly on rows of tiny green blades; and, as I look, the rows seem to form themselves into great characters, which presently I see are, FOR THE SOLDIERS. Henceforth, for this season, at least, that bone-strewed plot has a nobler destiny. The vision shall be realized. The dogs must seek another play-ground; this spot is to bear onions for the soldiers. Where now is stiff sod, shall indeed be mellow soil, where onions may take to themselves size and sap and odor. In due time the green tops may flavor soup for the Home Guard; but every bulb lying concealed in the dark mould shall be sacred to such as have seen actual service. Never, since exiled Israelites landed and sighed for the leeks and onions of Egypt, has there been so great a glorification of the odorous, tear-provoking bulb, as there shall be in this garden corner.

This sounds well, say you; but talking breaks no bones, and that frozen sod is not broken yet for those onion beds. You're right. When the barrel, (or shall it only be barrel?) containing them shall have been directed to the U. S. Sanitary Commission, will be a better time for talking of these onions of mine. But just one word to you, girls and boys. Have you a neglected corner in your garden, in your yard, or a place hitherto given to the cultivation of flowers only? That patch is not yours, I beg leave to inform you. The soldier has a mortgage on it. Waste soil is not to be tolerated about our homes, in these times, and the tulip, though a lovely ministrant, must give place to a root which may be put to nobler uses. Dear friends, can't you, won't you work these spots for the soldiers? Think! for any slight weariness we shall so suffer, they have known the hard endurance, the wear of long marches; for every drop of oozing sweat while bending at our toil, the crimson life-current streams from them for country, for home, that *we* may have them. Let us give freely what we can to those who are giving life, some of them, for us.

Glancing over a newspaper, my eye falls upon a statement that in the Army of the Cumberland there is much suffering for want of vegetables. In several regiments scurvy has broken out; and an urgent appeal is made to the Sanitary Commission for vegetables. Should each of us country girls and boys furnish a bushel, even, of vegetables—we won't insist upon the *onions* from all, if some of you prefer potatoes for your peculiar patch—and put them all together, those from each village sending their barrels—how the barrels would roll in? This seems humble work for some of us, does it? No work for country is mean; no work for its defenders is mean. Let us pledge ourselves, girls and boys, that we will do what we can, and that with the enthusiasm with which we pieced together, and flung out to the breeze, our first miniatures of the "Dear Old Flag," in the beginning of these strange times, when it is defended from these whom it has so long sheltered.—*The Independent.*

THE LEGISLATURE OF WISCONSIN AND THE COMMISSION.

Resolutions introduced by Mr. Hubbell were adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That the U. S. Sanitary Commission commends itself to the good will and hearty support of this Legislature, and that we hereby testify on behalf of the soldiers and people of Wisconsin, to the comprehensive benevolence of its principles, and the efficiency of its plans as a means of promoting the welfare of the army.

Resolved, That we especially value the nationality of its views, by which all our soldiers, without distinction of place or race, are regarded as U. S. soldiers, and treated as such in all respects.

Resolved, That the Ladies' Aid Societies of Wisconsin, acting as they do, in co-operation with the U. S. Sanitary Commission, are heartily commended to the continued support of our people, as the most suitable tributaries through which the contributions of Wisconsin may find their way to the hospitals and camps of the army.

Resolved, That the fidelity and generosity with which the efforts of the U. S. Sanitary Commission have been sustained by citizens of this State, and especially by its noble and patriotic women, is worthy of the highest commendation.

HOMES AND LODGES.

We have reports from the following Homes and Lodges:

Memphis.

At the Lodge at Memphis, during the four weeks ending April 3d, there have been admitted 1,833 men, from twenty-two States—making an average per day of 531. 1,660 lodgings have been provided, and 1,833 meals; transportation has been procured for 104.

Cairo.

The report from the Soldier's Home at Cairo, is as follows:

11,303 men have been admitted—making an average of 1,613 per day; 22,835 meals have been given, and 7,764 lodgings.

Nashville.

At the Soldier's Home in Nashville, during the month of March, 5,047 men have been admitted, from twenty-three States; 11,732 meals and 4,236 lodgings have been given; transportation has been procured for 3,742, and $20,225.22 have been drawn and paid over to 108 men.

Louisville.

The Relief Agent of the Kentucky Branch of the U. S. C., reports as follows:

From the Home at Louisville, number of rations served during the two first weeks of March, 31,982; number of lodgings during the same time, 7,182. The Agent says: the business of the Home, in the way of providing for, and accommodating soldiers, has increased steadily, and judging from the demands of the past week, bids fair to continue to increase.

Brashear City.

At the Home at Brashear City, during the two first weeks of March, 628 soldiers have been received; 1,641 meals and 415 lodgings, have been given.

Detroit.

The report for the month of February, of the Soldier's Rest, at Detroit, shows that—

639 soldiers have been admitted; and 3,374 meals and 740 lodgings, have been given.

Camp Nelson.

Mr. Butler, our Agent at Camp Nelson, reports for the fifteen days ending March 31:

March commenced exceedingly wintry, a heavy and continuous storm of snow came with it, making Camp Nelson, and I presume sundry other places, very miserable and dangerous, without a shelter.

The buildings were by this time so far completed, that when the bed-sacks arrived, which they did on the morning of March 1st, a large detail of energetic soldiers prepared the Home for the reception of 260 men, who would otherwise have had no shelter from the intensely inclement weather.

The Home would not have been opened so early, had not the sudden return of winter forced every door open, and filled most of the beds—for every portion of it was incomplete, and in the hands of the mechanics. The hasty opening was, however, a matter of necessity; for not only were the health and comfort of 260 men in jeopardy, but their very lives.

With the exception of a few days when the Home was being completed, the month has been full of interesting labors to us, and I have reason to know of much profit to the soldiers who have sojourned with us. During this month, April, I trust that the Home will be finished in every particular, and increase in facilities for the comfort and cleanliness of the soldiers.

During the last fifteen days of March, we furnished: lodgings, 1,849; meals, 5,628—comprising a total for the month of March, of lodgings, 3,657; meals, 16,995.

A great change has taken place in this Camp during the last month. The immense business and traffic which a month ago were so lively, and the daily influx of strangers, which once was so great, have departed, leaving Camp Nelson comparatively dull, and shorn of its importance. The long trains of wagons, transporting Government stores to the front, have almost entirely disappeared; also, a large proportion of multifarious employees of the Camp.

The change has been sudden and disastrous to several enterprises, both military and civil—leaving the future character of the Camp unsettled and unknown.

The hospitals are still in full operation. Disease in its most malignant shapes, is unusually rife; cases of small pox, measles and fevers prevail more than ever, and results are uncommonly fatal.

The hospitals through this district, notwithstanding what the Hospital Fund is expected to do, are very needy. Suffering, in a variety of characters, makes frequent calls upon us.

There is any amount of work. We need material.

WORK OF THE STATISTICAL BUREAU.

Immediately after the first battle of Bull Run, (July 21st, 1861,) a number of inspectors were sent out to ascertain the condition of the troops that took part therein, before, during, and after, the engagement; and to investigate the causes which gave rise to the sudden panic among the men, which, it is believed, resulted in their defeat. The facts thus collected were arranged and tabulated in this office, and a report of the results deduced therefrom published (see appendix Doc. 40).

CAMP INSPECTIONS.

About the end of July, 1861, the Commission adopted a system of Camp Inspections, for the duties of which a number of Inspectors were appointed.

Among the subjects into which they were directed to inquire, and to report thereon, were the character of camp sites as to elevation, and their liability to malarial influences; drainage and policing of camp; ventilation of tents and quarters; cleanliness of men; quality of food and water; system of cooking generally employed; quality and sufficiency of clothing of men; management of field hospitals; sufficiency of medical supplies; sickness and mortality of troops, &c., &c. In short everything that affected the health and discipline, and consequently the efficiency, of the men was to be noted, the attention of the officers directed thereto; and advice offered, and suggestions made, whenever in the opinion of the inspectors, the ignorance of the officers, medical or otherwise, of sanitary laws, rendered it necessary.

Of these inspections we have received up to date 1,463 (representing 860 organizations).

Number received in 1861			.555
"	"	" 1862	.547
"	"	" 1863	.361

These returns are subjected to *three* processes of tabulation. *First*, on preliminary sheets, for our own facility as office reference, and also to enable us to give such general information in regard to the location and military status of each regiment as may be proper.

Secondly, in a condensed form, where the condition, individually and collectively, of twelve regiments, in regard to the information required by inspectors, (Doc. 19 a,) is seen at a glance; and the information thus presented may be readily made use of as the Commission may see fit in correcting such abuses as come within the observation of the Inspectors, and in improving and ameliorating the condition of the soldier generally.

Thirdly, on a State register, where all the questions, embodied in Doc. 19 a, are arranged under their respective heads, so as to give a monthly summary of replies, obtained thereto by our Inspectors, of the regiments of each State, visited by them; these are again presented by groups of States; and finally, a grand aggregate, showing the total number of replies, or items of information, collected from all the organizations in the U. S. service, visited by our Inspectors during each month.

There have been recorded on the State register up to date about 700 returns, leaving still about 763 to be entered thereon.

The results to be obtained from the facts recorded in this register, will be of inestimable value in determining and reducing to a scientific basis, those general laws by which future military operations shall be governed, in regard to the economy of human life. Indeed this value has already been recognized, from the favor with which certain partial results, derived from facts collected in the inspection of the first 200 regiments, and embodied in Doc. 40, were received by statisticians and scientific men, not only in the United States, but also in France and England.

HOSPITAL STATISTICS.

In the summer of 1862, we copied from the records of the Surgeon-General's Office, the consolidated reports of hospitals (including those of a few general hospitals) of the different departments, as far as they had been received. They all possess more or less value, according to the accuracy and consistency of each monthly report, one with another, in determining the average duration of treatment; ratio of deaths to 100 cases treated; ratio of sickness to 1,000 mean strength, and numbers furloughed, discharged and deserted. The reports of hospitals in the West are a great deal more incomplete than those in the East. The value of this data will be of use in giving approximating estimates of the number of men treated, in all the hospitals of the United States, regimental and general or otherwise, since the commencement of the war.

GAIN AND LOSS, SICKNESS AND MORTALITY, FIRST FIFTEEN MONTHS OF THE WAR.

Another source for the collection of data is the Adjutant General's Office.

The facts obtained there are of the first value, whether we consider them with regard to their vastness, or to the gradually increasing regularity of their returns, by which previous error is readily detected, and a greater accuracy secured.

In the beginning of April, 1862, we set to work to determine the sickness and mortality of

the whole army, from the beginning of the war, to the time the last returns had been received in the Adjutant General's Office. The rolls from which these results were to be elicited, are the returns of gain and loss of each regiment, usually made out by the Adjutant, and supposed to be forwarded monthly to the Office of the Adjutant General. At first they were irregular and incomplete; but as time elapsed, and their length of service increased, the officers gradually awakened to a sense of their duties, and the returns came in more and more regularly; until now irregularity in their transmission is perhaps rather the exception than the rule.

Commencing with June, 1861, we exhausted all the rolls received in the office from that time up to, and including August, 1862—a period of fifteen months—and comprises over 2,400 reports from the different organizations in the service.

The collection of this vast quantity of facts; their arrangement by States, and by groups of States; and their classification by months and seasons; together with a large number of other combinations, which are always suggested to the inquiring mind of the statistician, required the constant services of one clerk for over six months. It has been estimated that the deductions thus obtained, involved over one million figures.

The results elicited from the above, in relation to the first nine months of the war, (June, 1861, to March, 1862,) have been published, with illustrative diagrams [Doc. 46].

In this pamphlet are given the annual mortality rates of the volunteer army by seasons and by rank, and by location whence recruited; the constant sickness rates of the army East and West; and also comparisons between the sickness and mortality of the troops in the East and those in the West. Elaborate comparisons are likewise instituted between the sickness and mortality of the present volunteer army, and our army at different other periods of our history—particularly that engaged in the Mexican campaign; and also with the British army at various periods—and more especially during the Peninsular and Crimean campaigns.

It has also elaborate calculations, based on these returns, showing the rate of recruiting necessary to supply *given losses* from mortality, discharges, desertions, and other causes; and also showing the number of men required to keep up a *given constant* force of *effective* men, when a *given per centage* of men are constantly sick.

PHYSIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF SOLDIERS.

In January, 1863, we commenced the social and physiological examinations of soldiers; and since then have been constantly receiving, and continue to receive, these returns from our agents, Messrs. Buckley and Fairchild. The former has confined himself exclusively to the examination and measurement of Union soldiers, and the latter has been similarly employed on rebel soldiers at Point Lookout. The number of individual examination returns received up to date is, of Union soldiers, 4,078, and of rebels, 1,970—making in all 6,048 returns.

These we tabulate as they come in, distinguishing those in usual good health from those suffering from disease, exhaustion or otherwise.

Being fully impressed with the great value of this work in establishing comparisons between the physical, social, and moral condition of northern soldiers, with those of the south; and between both and those of European armies, we have succeeded in placing the aggregate facts in as forward a state as possible, so that results may be deduced therefrom with comparatively little delay and trouble.

THE INFLUENCE OF MILITARY LIFE ON MEN OF DIFFERENT AGES.

Another subject of investigation is to ascertain the average age of the soldiers of the volunteer service, by States; to find out what ages predominate in the national army; and through these means, by connecting them with other facts, to determine the relative efficiency of men in active military life, at different ages.

With regard to the average age of the volunteers, we are now engaged in collecting all the available data in the Adjutant General's Office on this point, and have completed that of the soldiers of the following thirteen States, namely:

Maine,	New Jersey,
New Hampshire,	Pennsylvania,
Vermont,	Maryland,
Rhode Island,	Illinois,
Massachusetts	Iowa,
Connecticut,	and
New York,	California.

We have thus far investigated the records of about 900 organizations or bodies of troops, involving the examination of 10,000 muster rolls—representing an aggregate force of nearly 800,000 men.

There yet remain to be examined, in order that each State may be represented, the rolls of sixteen States and Territories, beside the different State and United States' organizations of colored troops.

In regard to the question, as to the relative efficiency of men in active service at different ages, the difficulty of obtaining data for its discussion, makes it not an easy matter to conclu-

sively determine. The only available information, likely to throw light on this subject, was derived from records of deaths and burials, now being collected and recorded, under the official management of Brigadier-General Rucker. As these records are received, entries are made on a large register, of the name of the deceased soldier, his age, regiment, and cause of death; together with such other information as will render it not only a means of future identification, but also a document of considerable historic value.

Having obtained permission to make such use of the facts contained therein as we saw fit, we exhausted all the information relating to the age of the soldier, and the cause of death. Somewhat over 2,000 deaths were recorded.

The results seemed to indicate that the mortality was *less* between the ages of eighteen and twenty, than between twenty and twenty-five, but *greater* than among those of twenty-five and thirty-five.

Whether the facts obtained from the records of 2,000 men are sufficient to establish a question of such scientific importance, it is difficult to say; we understand, however, that they have been considerably increased since then. We know, also, that Mr. Elliot, previous to his departure for Europe, was about to make arrangements for the collection of data from other sources, and in sufficient quantity, to enable us to arrive at conclusive results on this point.

PENSIONS.

We have likewise collected from time to time, such other statistics of the volunteers, as were afforded by the rolls in the Adjutant General's Office, such as, nativities, occupations, heights, complexion, color of hair, eyes, &c. The number of men of whom we have obtained such descriptions is 69,000—of whom 18,000 are drafted men and substitutes; and the number of rolls examined, to get at this information, was at least 5,000. In these descriptions are comprised soldiers of the following States, namely:

Maine,	New Jersey,
New Hampshire,	Pennsylvania,
Vermont,	Maryland,
Rhode Island,	Illinois,
Massachusetts,	Iowa,
Connecticut,	Indiana, and
New York,	Minnesota.

As the rolls from which these facts are derived, are constantly being received, the work of collecting them may be prolonged indefinitely.

EFFECTS OF LONG MARCHES AND IMPROPER FOOD ON THE HEALTH OF THE MEN.

Soon after the battles of Gettysburg, another subject of investigation was entered upon. This was to ascertain the effect of long marches and improper or insufficient food, on the health of the men who took part in the engagement.

For the purpose of collecting the necessary facts to aid in its discussion, forms (J, J[1], & J[2]) were prepared, and given to Inspectors with such instructions, in relation to their collection, as should render the information to be obtained of greater value.

We have received up to date 144 of these returns, (Dr. Swalm 50, Dr. Winslow 69, and Dr. Fairchild 25,) which we have arranged, classified and tabulated; and which await *scientific analysis*, to elicit just and correct conclusions in relation to the subjects under discussion.

IN THE HOSPITAL.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "A RAINY DAY IN CAMP."

S. S——, a Massachusetts Sergeant, worn out with heavy marches, wounds and camp disease, died in —— General Hospital, in November, 1863, in "perfect peace." Some who witnessed daily his wonderful sweet patience and content, through great languor and weariness, fancied sometimes they "could already see the brilliant particles of a halo in the air about his head."

I lay me down to sleep,
With little thought or care,
Whether my waking find
Me here—or THERE!

A bowing, burdened head,
That only asks to rest,
Unquestioning, upon
A loving Breast.

My good right-hand forgets
Its cunning now—
To march the weary march
I know not how.

I am not eager, bold,
Nor strong—all that is past:
I am ready NOT TO DO
At last—at last!

My half-day's work is done,
And this is all my part;
I give a patient God
My patient heart,

And grasp his banner still,
Though all its blue be dim;
These stripes, no less than stars,
Lead after Him.

The following was found in a pair of sanitary socks recently:

The fortunate owner of these socks is *secretly* informed, that they are the *one hundredth and ninety-first* pair knit for our 'Brave Boys' by Mrs. Abner Bartlett, of Medford, Mass., now aged 85 years. January, 1864.

HOSPITALS IN TENNESSEE.

(CONTINUED.)

Since my connection with the United States Sanitary Commission as hospital visitor, Mr. Ingraham and myself have visited the general hospitals in Nashville as often as once a week. In these visits I have endeavored to make myself fully acquainted with the wants of the sick and wounded soldiers in the various hospitals, and to furnish supplies to relieve their wants, to the full extent of their claims upon the aid of the Commission.

No case has presented itself, within my knowledge, that has been passed by without proper attention and relief. The affairs of these hospitals appear to be administered with care and ability by the surgeons in charge. Neatness, cleanliness, and order characterize all their departments. I have discovered no want of attention to the wants of the patients. They have wholesome food and suitable clothing. As a general thing, the wards are well ventilated, and kept at a proper temperature.

Strangers have often visited the hospitals with me, and in every instance have expressed gratification at the excellent manner in which they are provided, and the healthful condition in which they are kept. Not long ago, a father came here to visit his son, who was a wounded soldier in one of the hospitals. He came with the intention of taking his son home with him. After spending two days at the hospital, he said to me that he should leave his son there, for he was satisfied, from what he had seen, that his son was better cared for there than he could be at home.

That you may have a correct general idea of the work done by the Commission in these hospitals, I will enumerate the various articles that have been distributed in them during the months of January and February. The amount distributed in the month of March will be ascertained and included in the next report. I will also state the number of patients in each hospital for the same time, and from what States of the Union they have come.

This will be instructive, and serve to illustrate the necessity of such an organization as the United States Sanitary Commission.

During the months of January and February, there were distributed to Hospital No. 1, 321 shirts, 105 pairs of drawers, 107 towels, 52 pairs of socks, 11 pairs of slippers, 95 cans of fruit, 8 cans of condensed beef, 1,760 pounds of dried fruit, 248 pounds of groceries, 54 bottles of wine and spirits, 30 cans of condensed milk, 30 gallons of apple butter, 162 gallons of pickles, 360 gallons of krout, 304 bushels of potatoes, 52 bushels of onions, 63 gallons of ale, 15 bushels of green apples, 265 pounds of crackers, 41 pounds of codfish, 124 bandages, 48 pillow cases, and other small articles. This distribution was made, for the most part, under the immediate supervision of Mr. Ingraham and myself, and the soldiers in the hospital received the full benefit of it. I have not the slightest idea or suspicion that a single article was misapplied or wasted.

In a conversation I had last week with Dr. Horner, the surgeon in charge, he said publicly, in the presence of a number of ladies and gentlemen, that the United States Sanitary Commission had rendered the greatest possible service to Hospital No. 1; that it saved it last winter from going down; that he found it greatly in debt, and was only able to sustain it by the aid received from the Commission; and that it was now out of debt, and able to take care of itself. To show how highly he appreciated the service rendered, he directed a number of his assistants to procure a letter of thanks from the inmates of the hospital to the Commission, for the supplies received at their hands. That letter has been forwarded to you.

The number of sick and wounded soldiers in this hospital, who participated in the supplies above mentioned in the months of January and February, and the States from which they were mustered into the Federal service, will be found in the following table, furnished by the hospital clerk:

U. S. A., GENERAL HOSPITAL No. 1,
NASHVILLE, Tenn., *March* 26, 1864.

Number of patients from the different States in hospital, January 1st, 1864, also the number received in January and February:

	January 1, 1864.	Received in Jan.	Received in Feb.	Total Treated.
Regular Army.	16	6	10	32
Ohio.....	237	105	161	603
Indiana..	126	70	66	252
Illinois	89	59	109	257
Tennessee	15	6	12	33
Michigan	67	17	41	125
Kentucky.....	80	25	50	155
Wisconsin	18	8	14	40
Minnesota ...	1	2	0	3
Kansas	2	2	6	10
Missouri.....	5	3	15	23
Pennsylvania .	26	5	12	43
New York.....	15	8	14	37
Massachusetts.	5	3	0	8
New Jersey ...	1	1	1	3
Iowa..	15	1	10	26
Miscellaneous.	[illegible]	1	11	20
Total.....	726	312	532	1,570

From this exhibit it will be readily perceived, that no mere *State* agency would be adequate to supply the wants of the soldiers in this hospital; neither would it be adequate for any army hospital, for a similar state of facts exists in all. Here are fifteen hundred and seventy soldiers, from fifteen different States of the Union, brought together, by the casualties of war, in the same hospital.

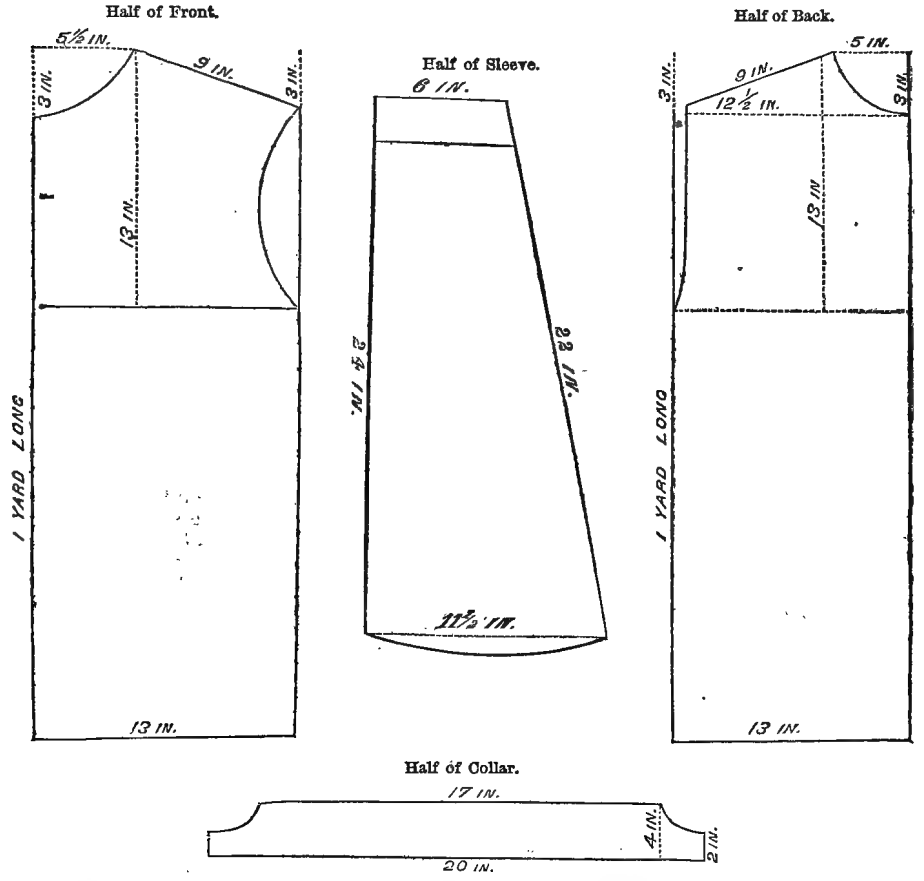
They are all United States soldiers, and were fighting under the same flag when wounded or disabled. Surely a Commission must be *national* in its character, and "not hemmed in by State lines," to meet the wants of such a case. In the struggle that exists, the political, social, and individual interests of the whole people are at stake; and it should make no difference with patriotic citizens from what State the heroes come who fight their battles for them; and, when suffering, there should be no partiality in the relief that is extended to them.

The United States Sanitary Commission was founded upon this broad and comprehensive principle of patriotism and benevolence; and the good it has done, and is doing, over the whole extent of the theatre of war, fully vindicate the wisdom of its organization.—*Report of Hospital Visitor.*

PATTERNS FOR HOSPITAL CLOTHING.

The following patterns have been adopted as the best and most economical by the New England Branch of the Sanitary Commission, after an experience of more than two years, during which over 45,500 garments have been cut.

FLANNEL SHIRT.



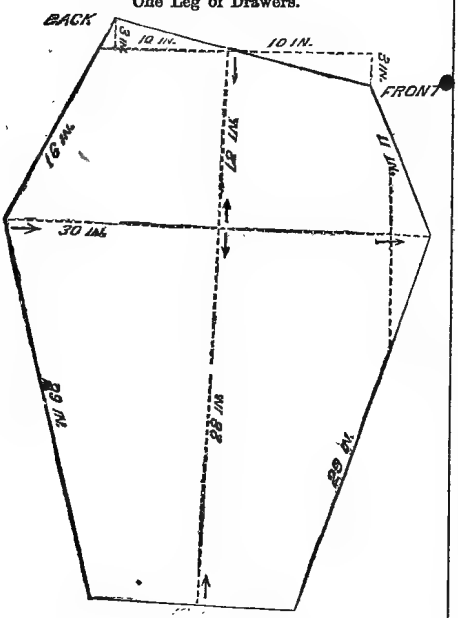
Required for each Shirt—3 skeins linen thread, 5 black bone buttons, 7 stays, tape or silesia.

Directions for Making.—The dimensions given above, are for flannel twenty-six inches wide.

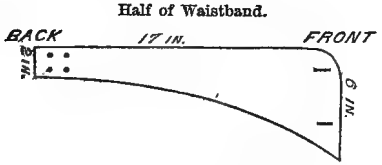
The opening in the front should be fourteen inches long, and should be faced on the left side with silesia, two and one-half inches wide. There should be two button-holes on this side. A flap of silesia, two and one-half inches wide, when doubled, should be put on the right side for the buttons, and stitched under the left side at the bottom of the opening. The collar should cover the flannel entirely on the left side, but the silesia flap should project beyond it on the right side. There should be one button and button-hole in it. The shoulder seams should be strengthened by a crosswise binding of silesia, and stays should be put on at the flaps and at the opening in the sleeve. The sleeve should be faced at the wrist with silesia, three inches wide, and fastened with one button. The opening at the wrist should be one finger long. The flaps should be two fingers long.

FLANNEL DRAWERS.

One Leg of Drawers.



Half of Waistband.



Required for each pair of Drawers.

1 tape stay, one inch long, (for opening in back.)

3 knots linen thread.

3 black bone buttons.

Narrow tape, for back of waistband (18 inches long.)

Directions for Making.—If the flannel to be used is less than thirty inches wide, put the point at the back close to the edge of the flannel and piece the fronts, as shown by the dotted lines above.

The opening below the waistband in the back should be four inches long. The opening in front should be seven inches long and faced with flannel or silesia, two inches wide. Two buttons should be put on the waistband in front, and one on the opening below. There should be four eyelet holes on each side of the waistband behind. Waistbands should be lined with silesia. Drawers to be closed to the ankle, and finished with hem.

To cut a piece of flannel economically, drawers and shirts should be cut together.

Put the bottom of one leg against the bottom of the other, and two long triangular pieces of flannel will be left on each side, out of which, with the other small pieces, cut the collars and wrist-facings for shirt, and waistband for drawers. In cutting the second pair of drawers, be careful that the slanting line of the top meets the slanting line left by the first pair, and go on as before.

Begin to cut the shirts at the other end of the piece of flannel, tearing off two yards for the body of each shirt. One sleeve and a half can be cut out of the width of the flannel, and in cutting a number of sleeves, one may be made to fadge into the other.

Pieces of flannel are usually from 45 to 52 or 53 yards long and 26 inches wide.

Cut by the above patterns, it will take about 5½ yards for a shirt and pair of drawers. The diagrams allow for seams.

SURGEON'S TESTIMONIALS.

HEADQUARTERS 3D DIV. 15TH A. C.,
HUNTSVILLE, Ala., *March* 6, 1864.

MY DEAR SIR—I have received lately two numbers of the *Sanitary Reporter*, the last of the 15th of February, for which, supposing that you sent them, accept my thanks. I have often wished that I could receive all the publications of the Sanitary Commission, and especially such as the above. The last number was especially interesting, as containing your report of your visit here. As it may be interesting to you, I will give you some figures in respect to the command since. I will enclose the total of my weekly reports since your visit. Between the 20th and last of February, I inspected the camps of eight organizations—seven regiments and the batteries—all that were accessible. I will give you the results as to sickness. The strength present was 2,556; number of sick (unfit for duty, rather,) at date of inspection, 87; average number for the preceding week, 95 3-7; giving on this average a ratio per thousand of mean strength 37.33—differing but little from the proportion when you were here, (3½ per cent.)

We have as yet had scarcely any symptoms of scurvy. One cause for this, perhaps, is the frequent foraging expeditions, in which the men get articles of food not otherwise easily procured. The details for duty are large, and prevent sickness from idleness. In my inspections I found that 7,053 rations of fresh beef, and 7,078 rations of soft bread, or flour, had been issued during the preceding week. You will perceive by the copy enclosed, that in the *regular way* we get very few vegetables. The potatoes issued have at times been damaged. The agents of the Sanitary Commission have issued quite largely. To them we are compelled to look for our supplies. I am glad to see my idea confirmed by your opinion of the anti-scorbutic properties of corn meal. It was at my suggestion that it was added to the articles to be reported weekly as issued. I would like to see the meal of parched corn issued. It, I presume, would keep as well as flour. As fresh potatoes cannot be procured in any thing like an adequate supply, I wish

very much that your suggestions as to "potatoes, pickled in vinegar, or put up in molasses, as for sea voyages, to be eaten raw," could be carried out. Our Post Hospital is now in much better condition than when you saw it. Mrs. Bickerdyke and Mrs. Porter reached here in the latter part of January, and soon caused a very decided change in the condition of affairs. Mrs. Porter is still there. Dr. Rogers, of the 59th Indiana, who then had charge, went home with his regiment, (veteran,) early in February, and it is now under the charge of Surgeon Early, of the 17th Iowa, an energectic and efficient officer. It now (March 18th, 1864,) contains 1,828 patients.

This has been delayed so long, because some days ago Mr. Tour told me that he expected you here in a few days. I was told at his office to-day, though, that your coming was uncertain; I therefore send you this as it is. We have twelve or fifteen cases of small-pox. A separate hospital has been established for them. The disease does not seem to increase. I commenced to-day to make a second inspection of our troops. If it is satisfactory to you, I will continue at intervals to keep you informed of our condition, &c. Knowing how constantly your time is occupied, I cannot expect the pleasure of a reply from you, though your doing so would give me great pleasure.

I am, most respectfully, &c.,

J. S. Prout,

Surgeon 26th Me. Vols., and Surgeon in Chief.

To Dr. A. N. Reed,

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Nashville, Tenn.

U. S. General Hospital, Patterson's Park, Baltimore, *April 8th.*

Dear Sir—I received your note some days ago; delayed the answer, because I wished to take time to reply at length—to answer your query as I think it should be answered. I hope to do so yet, but am exceedingly busy just now.

In the mean time, accept my grateful assurances that, in my opinion, the mission of the United States Sanitary Commission is a noble one; that its members have ever done their duty well; and that very much suffering among the soldiers has been alleviated through their instrumentality, that could not, under the circumstances, have been reached by any means in possession of surgeons in the field.

It is true that the Government provides liberally, very liberally, for the sick and wounded; but the Sanitary Commission has, to my knowledge, provided for them when the Government could not; and it is, to say the least, ungrateful on the part of officers, as well as men, to refuse to acknowledge the benefits received.

God speed the Sanitary Commission, until you hear from me again.

Believe me, yours truly,

(Signed,)

Thos. Sim,

Surgeon U. S. Vols., in charge of Patterson Park Hospital, late Medical Director 3rd A. C.

Dr. Steiner,

Office San. Com., Washington.

U. S. A. General Hospital, Camden Street, Baltimore, Md., *March 28th*, 1864.

Mr. J. T. Pancoast,

Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission:

Sir—I take this method of expressing to you my personal thanks, for the prompt manner in which you have at all times filled all requests for sanitary clothing and supplies, which from time to time I have made for the benefit and use of the sick and wounded soldiers in this hospital; and I take this occasion to reiterate what I have often before declared, that, from nearly three years' varied experience in hospital and field, I am fully convinced that clothing and other contributions from the people to the soldiers are, with much more facility, uniformity and certainty, distributed among the sick soldiers in the field and hospitals, through the medium of the Sanitary Commission, than by any other means heretofore adopted.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed,)

Z. E. Bliss,

Surgeon U. S. Vols, in charge of Hospital.

Headquarters, Hospital 1st Div. 2d Corps, *March 12th*, 1864.

Doctor—I desire to express, in a more tangible manner than by words, my appreciation of the Sanitary Commission as an institution. The amount of good which is being done in the Army of the Potomac daily by the Commission, cannot be overestimated. Although I have never been visited officially by the agent of this corps, since I have been in the charge of this hospital, yet I have been able to procure an abundance of supplies of all kinds from the officer at Brandy Station, by which means I am not only enabled to make the patients under my charge comfortable, but to afford them a degree of luxury. When the history of this war shall have been written, it will be found that the Sanitary Commission has acted no mean part towards putting down the rebellion.

I am, Doctor,

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed,)

W. W. Potter,

Surgeon in Charge.

Dr. Winslow,

Inspector Sanitary Commission.

The following extracts are from a letter written by Mr. F. C. Sessions, of Columbus, Ohio, who has lately visited the Army of the Potomac, to look into the condition of troops from that State, at the request of the Governor. Speaking of Ohio soldiers, he says:

These regiments have been remarkably healthy for the last year. The 4th has not lost a man by disease since a year ago last December. The 8th has lost but two by disease. This speaks well for Ohio surgeons. A more faithful and intelligent class of men I never saw—enthusiastic and devoted to their profession; I have noticed them now in nearly all of our armies, east and south, with pride and satisfaction. They all express themselves in the highest terms of the Sanitary Commission, and its noble work; and but for its labors, many a poor soldier, now serving his country, would have been in his grave. Its business with this army is immense. Each station is charged with every article sent them; and the agents are obliged to report vouchers from the surgeons of the regiments receiving articles for every thing given out, and make a weekly report of all their expenses, &c.

* * * * *

I examined the report of the agents of the Sanitary Commission at Culpepper and Brandy Station, and found our Ohio regiments had been supplied with all that the surgeons desired. Every requisition had been promptly filled by the Commission, and the surgeons expressed themselves highly grateful for their generous aid.

One remarked: "God only knows how we should have suffered at Antietam, Gettysburg, and other battle-fields, without their assistance." He mentioned the numerous articles supplied by the Commission, which the Government do not furnish. Each surgeon is obliged to give a receipt for each article that they receive, and that they will honorably distribute the same to the sick and wounded of their respective regiments or hospitals. Captain Harris, the efficient and gentlemanly superintendent of the Relief Corps, was formerly from Ohio, and takes special pleasure in caring for Ohio men; he was for two years a captain in the army. Col. Poten, formerly commander of Camp Chase, has charge of the Commission in Gen. Siegel's department, at Harper's Ferry. The army has been remarkably healthy this winter, and never stronger, morally or physically.

HOSPITAL GARDENS.

These laudable institutions flourish apace, and promise to be of the greatest utility to the army. Of that at Chattanooga, Mr. M. C. Reed writes as follows: "The garden of one hundred acres and a little more is now fenced, and arrangements made for all the land we may desire to use adjoining it. It is well furnished with tools of all kinds. To-morrow I shall send out an additional harrow just finished, and a portable blacksmith's forge for repairs. It remains only to secure the erection of barracks for the men, gardeners, store-room for the seeds and tools, and a shelter for the horses, and my work for providing material will be nearly finished. The fencing party will go to work at the vineyard to-morrow. We intend to make the garden and the vineyard supply fully the wants of all the sick and wounded accessible from this point, so far as vegetables are concerned, from midsummer until late in the fall; and although it requires quite a large expenditure for seed, it seems to me it is good economy to put under cultivation as much of this splendid soil as we can cultivate well."

Mr. Thomas Wills, the superintending gardener, writes at a later date, March 25:

I am getting along well. We have planted some forty-five bushels of potatoes, twelve of onions, seven of peas—some of which are up—and have in our hot-beds, cabbage, mustard, lettuce and tomatoes, all growing finely. I have twenty-five men and thirty-six horses on the land, which is most beautifully situated, and very rich. We have also two vineyards, one of sixteen acres, the other containing fourteen thousand eight hundred vines.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FESTIVAL AT SING SING.

Editor San. Com. Bulletin:

I am glad to see that you receive, and publish, communications even from villages; and as the little rills all contribute to swell the volume of our noble Hudson, as it pours into the great Atlantic, so do the contributions from hamlet and village aid in the great work done by the Woman's Central Association; may we, loyal women of Sing Sing, have a little space to tell of our festival? In February last, fearfully, and with but little hope of success, one of our directresses suggested a Festival, and a meeting of the young ladies from each of the village churches was called. The enthusiastic manner in which they responded to the call banished all fear—"No such word as fail," they said, and valiantly they sallied forth; loyal men, fearful men, half-way patriots, whole copperheads, no one was passed by, and if there was a single man, woman, or child, who refused their mite, we don't know, and don't wan't to know who they are. For two days before the festival, down poured the rain, and painfully through mud of the thickest kind plowed the horses, and yet there were young men and

maidens from miles back in the country working at wet, cold evergreens, that made one shiver to look at. The great day arrived—long tables were set, and so the good things came with a perfect rush. Huge turkeys, chickens, hams, tongues, rounds of beef garnished with exquisite flowers in full bloom, and budding japonicas red and white—"from whose green house did they come?" Why they are made of homeliest materials—turnips and beets! chicken pies, tarts, great milk pans full of doughnuts, crullers, jumbles, and a dozen different kinds of real home-made cakes, biscuits, loaves of home-made bread, pine-apples of golden butter, oysters, ice-cream, jellies, blanc mange, tea, coffee, fruits—will they never cease coming? Every table is groaning under the weight of delicacies. Distracted women, with huge, white aprons, rush about, and wonder where they will stow the supplies; young girls mischievously titter at their perplexity, and feel elated at the success of their exertions; efficient young men come to the help of the matrons, improvising on the stage that occupies one end of the spacious hall, a store-room. Three o'clock comes very early; the young girls, each with a white apron tied about the trim waist, and the dear colors, the red, white, blue on their loyal bosoms, take their stands. At the head of the room is a small table of fancy work, got up in haste, but creditable to the taste and industry of the fair fingers. The two large military schools are among the first visitors, and linger until discipline obliges their exit; they are staunch patrons and loyal boys—each boy averaging three suppers, at least; he is good for that amount, or more. Nearly one hundred well-behaved lads are there, and the feast and the fun goes on—until twelve o'clock the "cry is still they come," provisions and guests, and the hall is crowded to its utmost capacity; the wonder grows how the children can eat so much, and the managers feel that a separate donation and vote of thanks should be sent by the physicians of the village, all that week, for cases of surfeit and indigestion. There will surely be an increased practice for them. Early the next morning, a faithful few appear on the scene of action. The evergreens are still beautiful, the canary birds are singing shrilly, the pictures and banners are all right, the store-house is full. True, all the bouquets are sold, the fancy table is cleared, but there are eatables enough to warrant another evening's entertainment. So they set to work resolutely, and the débris of the feast is cleared away, and by five o'clock the tables again are filled, and again the crowd pour in. An auction sale concludes the evening, and the tired managers, too tired to count their gains, gladly divide the surplus of meats among the poor and needy. In donations and sales they had taken in $820! Think of that in proportion with Chicago, Albany, and Boston; they had done well—a little village, destitute of the summer visitors, who always give so liberally to fairs and festivals, the roads in a fearful state, too. It was a great success, and most thankfully was it felt to be such by the managers, who knew of an empty treasury, and the sore need of our war-worn and sick soldiers. A committee of gentlemen have organized a series of lectures in aid of the Sing Sing Society, and Mr. Belden, Dr. Fox, and George Wm. Curtis, have delivered lectures to good, and appreciative audiences, refusing all compensation for their services. Dr. Foster, the loyal and eloquent Methodist clergyman, closes the course next week. Mr. Editor, does not Sing Sing deserve a corner in the Bulletin?

OSSINNING.

PATRIOTIC UNITY—HOW IT IS TO BE FOSTERED.

All true friends of their country, desire to see, at this moment above all, united devotion to her cause—and they rejoice at every effort to avert discord. For this reason many readers were glad to see this extract repeated in your editorial column:

We believe the great body of the Democrats of the North are at heart loyal; tens of thousands of them are in the field to-day—Heaven shield them!—we are proud to name such men, and to be defended by them in this trial hour.—*Democrat, April 4th.*

It was as just as it was generous. Thoughtful men prize and applaud such utterances, for they know our country needs them now. In the same spirit and to the same end, is your vindication of the motives and aims of the friends, promoters, and managers of the great Sanitary Fairs. And it was this that prompted me to take up my pen this morning, and that has led me to ask the insertion of this article:

Let me quote you here again—

"When we think of the earnestness, the Christian benevolence, the self-sacrificing devotion, with which the kind-hearted ladies of our city engaged in the Sanitary Fair; when we think of the generosity with which the good and pure-minded, without distinction of party or sect, contributed to its success; when we recall the emotions of pleasure with which the proceeds were forwarded to the relief of the prostrate sick and wounded soldiers in our hospitals, the heart is filled with gratitude to the kind Author of our existence for having created us with benevolent hearts and generous impulses.

"We regard the munificent contributions for the relief of the suffering heroes of the

battle-field, as one of the most praiseworthy exhibitions of the kind-heartedness of this noble people. Of their unspeakable benefit to the soldiers, no one will doubt. In short, we have heard a most intelligent army surgeon, high in position, remark, that without the aid of the Sanitary Commission the sick and wounded could not be treated with common humanity. "In fact," said he, "I doubt whether we should carry on the war without it!"

The Sanitary Commission, Mr. Editor, has been singularly fortunate in escaping insinuations of sinister design and selfish purpose, which any unusual efforts of human zeal are pretty sure to draw from those who have no faith in lofty motives. I have heard them, in whispers, here and there. But the first and only formal embodiment of them which has met my eyes, is in the malignant extract which drew forth your remarks—started in some New Hampshire paper. May I ask you to reprint it here, as a specimen "to send to the Fair," and to elucidate my argument.

"By the way, we notice that these great so-called Sanitary Fairs, purporting to be for the purpose of procuring aid and comfort for the sick and wounded soldiers, are having an extensive run through the country. The alleged object may be a good one, but in looking over the names of the managers in every instance, we are led to believe that the whole thing is a political trick, very much like the Kansas Aid Societies of 1855–56, to raise funds for the Abolitionists to carry the Presidential election. These managers are leading Administration men, with a liberal sprinkling of those political nondescripts called, for the want of a better name, 'War Democrats.'"

The author of this ungenerous calumny has doubtless long ago been answered by New Hampshire women. For they have been among the foremost in personal interest and work, and furnishing supplies to the distributing hand of the Sanitary Commission.

I remember well the comfort that was given at one of the Commission's depots, during the rain and mud, on the dark and memorable night of re-crossing the Rappahannock from Chancellorville, as I dealt out a box of New Hampshire supplies, and read aloud the greetings from those who sent them, which I found enclosed in some of the New Hampshire "feetings." And they were New York soldiers who received them, as it happened; and I was a New Yorker, dealing them out. I felt towards New Hampshire then, as a part of our common country, as nothing else could have made me feel. And I "took to" the Sanitary Commission, as being (over and above its immediate utility as a healer to the bodies of the soldiers,) a great institution for a moral end; for fostering a national spirit. No agency has been so promotive of a pure patriotic spirit in this war; of a national patriotism; of loyal sympathy with Government, irrespective of political affinities; and of enthusiastic interest in our armies, as contending for the nation's life. It accepted war, and armies in the field, as a fact. It took up the saving of life and health in the armies of the nation as a duty. It rejoiced in being the ministering servant of the homes of our soldiers, in carrying to them the solaces of home.

It eschewed all differences and questions of opinion in politics and religion, and suppressed their manifestations, to the utmost of its power, as I know, in its counsels and among its agents.

Democrats, Republicans, Radicals—yes, and Copperheads, Roman Catholics and Presbyterians; Unitarians, Methodists, Episcopalians, Baptists—men and women of all varieties of creed and opinion, have met, and consulted, and labored, and given together, and hence learned to respect and esteem each other, and to draw nearer to each other; lowering the fence of separation, and mollifying the harshnesses of antagonism, on this broad platform of national patriotism and humane sympathy. And very many of them have learned to prize the privilege as providential, and as a compensation to be made much of, amid all the alienation, and grief, and havoc, which war inevitably brings along with it.

You will not wonder, then, that the writer should sympathize in your endeavor to repel insinuations of unworthy aim, from this great agency for promoting and fostering patriotic unity.

Yours,
J. V.

—*Rochester Democrat.*

NOTES ON NURSING.

TAKING FOOD.

Every careful observer of the sick will agree in this, that thousands of patients are annually starved in the midst of plenty, from want of attention to the ways which alone make it possible for them to take food. This want of attention is as remarkable in those who urge upon the sick to do what is quite impossible to them, as in the sick themselves, who will not make the effort to do what is perfectly possible to them.

For instance, to the large majority of very weak patients it is quite impossible to take any solid food before 11 A. M., nor then, if their strength is still further exhausted by fasting till that hour. For weak patients have generally feverish nights and, in the morning, dry mouths; and, if they could eat with those dry mouths, it would be the worse for them. A spoonful of beef-tea, of arrowroot and wine, of egg flip, every hour, will give them the requisite nourishment, and prevent them from being too much exhausted to take at a later hour the solid food, which is necessary for their recovery. And every patient who can swallow at all can swallow

these liquid things, if he chooses. But how often do we hear a mutton-chop, an egg, a bit of bacon, ordered to a patient for breakfast, to whom (as a moment's consideration would show us) it must be quite impossible to masticate such things at that hour.

Again, a nurse is ordered to give a patient a tea-cup full of some article of food every three hours. The patient's stomach rejects it. If so, try a table-spoon full every hour; if this will not do, a tea-spoon full every quarter of an hour.

I am bound to say, that I think more patients are lost, by want of care and ingenuity in these momentous minutiæ, in private nursing than in public hospitals. And I think there is more of the *entente cordiale* to assist one another's hands between the doctor and his head nurse in the latter institutions, than between the doctor and the patient's friends in the private house.

If we did but know the consequences which may ensue, in very weak patients, from ten minutes' fasting or repletion, (I call it repletion when they are obliged to let too small an interval elapse between taking food and some other exertion, owing to the nurse's unpunctuality,) we should be more careful never to let this occur. In very weak patients there is often a nervous difficulty of swallowing, which is so much increased by any other call upon their strength that, unless they have their food punctually at the minute, which minute again must be arranged so as to fall in with no other minute's occupation, they can take nothing till the next respite occurs—so that an unpunctuality or delay of ten minutes, may very well turn out to be one of two or three hours. And why is it not as easy to be punctual to a minute? Life often literally hangs upon these minutes.

In acute cases, where life or death is to be determined in a few hours, these matters are very generally attended to, especially in Hospitals; and the number of cases is large where the patient is, as it were, brought back to life by exceeding care on the part of the Doctor or Nurse, or both, in ordering and giving nourishment with minute selection and punctuality.

But in chronic cases, lasting over months and years, where the fatal issue is often determined at last by mere protracted starvation, I had rather not enumerate the instances which I have known where a little ingenuity, and a great deal of perseverance, might, in all probability, have averted the result. The consulting the hours, when the patient can take food; the observation of the times, often varying, when he is most faint; the altering seasons of taking food, in order to anticipate and prevent such times—all this, which requires observation, ingenuity, and perseverance, (and these really constitute the good nurse,) might save more lives than we wot of.

To leave the patient's untasted food by his side, from meal to meal, in hopes that he will eat it in the interval, is simply to prevent him from taking any food at all. I have known patients literally incapacitated from taking one article of food after another, by this piece of ignorance. Let the food come at the right time, and be taken away, eaten or uneaten, at the right time; but never let a patient have "something always standing" by him, if you don't wish to disgust him of everything.

On the other hand, I have known a patient's life saved (he was sinking for want of food) by the simple question, put to him by the doctor, "But is there no hour when you feel you could eat?" "Oh, yes," he said, "I could always take something at — o'clock and — o'clock." The thing was tried and succeeded. Patients very seldom, however, can tell this; it is for you to watch and find it out.

A patient should, if possible, not see or smell either the food of others, or a greater amount of food than he himself can consume at one time, or even hear food talked about, or see it in the raw state. I know of no exception to the above rule. The breaking of it always induces a greater or less incapacity of taking food.

In hospital wards it is of course impossible to observe all this; and in single wards, where a patient must be continuously and closely watched, it is frequently impossible to relieve the attendant, so that his or her own meals can be taken out of the ward. But it is not the less true that, in such cases, even where the patient is not himself aware of it, his possibility of taking food is limited by seeing the attendant eating meals under his observation. In some cases the sick are aware of it, and complain. A case where the patient was supposed to be insensible, but complained as soon as able to speak, is now present to my recollection.

Remember, however, that the extreme punctuality in well-ordered hospitals, the rule that nothing shall be done in the ward while the patients are having their meals, go far to counterbalance what unavoidable evil there is in having patients together. I have often seen the private nurse go on dusting or fidgeting about in a sick room, all the while the patient is eating, or trying to eat.

That the more alone an invalid can be when taking food, the better, is unquestionable; and, even if he must be fed, the nurse should not allow him to talk, or talk to him, especially about food, while eating.

When a person is compelled, by the pressure of occupation, to continue his business while sick, it ought to be a rule, WITHOUT ANY EXCEPTION WHATEVER, that no one shall bring business to him or talk to him while he is taking food, nor go on talking to him on interesting subjects up to the last moment before his meals, nor make an engagement with him immediately after, so that there be any hurry of mind while taking them.

Upon the observance of these rules, especially the first, often depends the patient's capability of taking food at all, or, if he is amiable, and forces himself to take food, of deriving any nourishment from it.

A nurse should never put before a patient milk that is sour, meat or soup that is turned, an egg that is bad, or vegetables underdone. Yet often I have seen these things brought in to the sick in a state perfectly perceptible to every nose or eye except the nurse's. It is here the clever nurse appears; she will not bring in the peccant article, but, not to disappoint the patient, she will whip up something else in a few minutes. Remember that sick cookery should half do the work of your poor patient's weak digestion. But if you further impair it with your bad articles, I know not what is to become of him or of it.

If the nurse is an intelligent being, and not a mere carrier of diets to and from the patient, let her exercise her intelligence in these things. How often we have known a patient eat nothing at all in the day, because one meal was left untasted, (at that time he was incapable of eating,) at another the milk was sour, the third was spoiled by some other accident. And it never occurred to the nurse to extemporize some expedient—it never occurred to her that as he had had no solid food that day he might eat a bit of toast (say) with his tea in the evening, or he might have some meal an hour earlier. A patient who cannot touch his dinner at two, will often accept it gladly, if brought to him at seven. But somehow nurses never "think of these things." One would imagine they did not consider themselves bound to exercise their judgment; they leave it to the patient. Now I am quite sure that it is better for a patient rather to suffer these neglects than to try to teach his nurse to nurse him, if she does not know how. It ruffles him, and if he is ill he is in no condition to teach, especially upon himself. The above remarks apply much more to private nursing than to hospitals.

I would say to the nurse, have a rule of thought about your patient's diet; consider, remember how much he has had, and how much he ought to have to-day. Generally, the only rule of the private patient's diet is what the nurse has to give. It is true she cannot give him what she has not got, but his stomach does not wait for her convenience, or even her necessity. Why, because the nurse has not got some food to-day which the patient takes, can the patient wait four hours for food to-day, who could not wait two hours yesterday? Yet this is the only logic one generally hears. On the other hand, the other logic, viz., of the nurse giving a patient a thing because she has got it, is equally fatal. If she happens to have fresh jelly, or fresh fruit, she will frequently give it to the patient half an hour after his dinner, or at his dinner, when he cannot possibly eat that and the broth too—or worse still, leave it by his bedside till he is so sickened with the sight of it, that he cannot eat it at all. If it is used to having its stimulus at one hour to-day, and to-morrow it does not have it, because she has failed in getting it, he will suffer. She must be always exercising her ingenuity to supply defects, and to remedy accidents which will happen among the best contrivers, but from which the patient does not suffer the less, because "they cannot be helped."

One very minute caution,—take care not to spill into your patient's saucer, in other words take care that the out-side bottom rim of his cup shall be quite dry and clean; if, every time he lifts his cup to his lips, he has to carry the saucer with it, or else to drop the liquid upon, and to soil his sheet or his bed-gown, or pillow, or if he is sitting up, his dress, you have no idea what a difference this minute want of care on your part makes to his comfort and even to his willingness for food.—*Miss Nightingale.*

☞ We shall publish in our next a number of protests from Surgeons of the Army of the Potomac against the statement of a correspondent of the *Evening Post* of April 1st, that certain Generals deny that the Commission has rendered any important service in this army.

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For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

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In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

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NORTH AMERICAN

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

Of the City of New York,

OFFICE, No. 114 BROADWAY.

INCORPORATED 1823.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - - - - $500,000 00
ASSETS, - - - - - - - 604,535 59

NO CLAIMS FOR LOSSES.

Abstract of the EIGHTY-THIRD Semi-Annual Statement, showing the Condition of the Company on the 31st day of December, 1863.

ASSETS:

Loans on Bond and Mortgage, being first lien on Real Estate, worth over Fifty per cent. above the amount loaned	$157,360 00
Stocks, Bonds, and other Securities owned by the Company, market value	364,385 00
Cash in Bank and Office	6,603 11
Loans on demand with collateral	46,000 00
Premiums due and outstanding	5,384 00
Cash in Agents' hands in course of transmission, (business of December since received,)	10,220 39
Interest accrued on Securities	13,788 83
Other Property of Company	793 75
	$604,535 59

Losses unpaid, none.

Insures Property against Loss by Fire at usual rates, at the Office of the Company, or through their Agents in the principal Cities and Villages of the United States; adjusting and paying Claims with the liberality and promptness that has characterized their business during the past *Forty-one Years.*

The Customers receive **Three-Fourths** of the Net Profits of the business each year, without incurring any liability whatever.

R. W. BLEECKER, Sec'y. **JAMES W. OTIS, Pres't.**

R. F. MASON, Superintendent of Agencies.

DURYEA'S MAIZENA

RECEIVED

TWO PRIZE MEDALS





(FROM JURIES 3 AND 4)

AT THE

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION,

LONDON, 1862.

Being Sole Awards gained by anything of the kind. It also received Superlative Report of

"EXCEEDING EXCELLENT FOR FOOD."

MAIZENA,

At the GREAT INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION at HAMBURG, July, 1863, received the highest Prize Medal for its great delicacy as an article of food.

MAIZENA,

At the FAIR of the NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, at Utica, N. Y., September, 1863, received both DIPLOMA and MEDAL.

MAIZENA,

AT THE

Pennsylvania State Fair at Norristown,

OCT. 3, 1863, TOOK GOLD MEDAL.

"MAIZENA" has also taken the first premium at the AMERICAN INSTITUTE, New York City; NEW JERSEY STATE FAIR at Trenton, and at other places—in every instance where it has been exhibited.

"MAIZENA" has never failed to receive the highest award when placed in competition with Corn Starch and all articles of like character, after a thorough Microscopical and Analytical Examination of disinterested judges. It therefore stands commended to the public as the best article of its kind in the world without any comments of the manufacturer.

MAIZENA,

For Puddings, Cakes, Custards, Blanc Mange, &c., without isinglass, with few or no eggs, at a cost astonishing the most economical. It is also excellent for thickening sweet sauces, gravies for fish and meat, soups, &c. For Ice Cream, nothing can compare with it. A little boiled in milk will produce rich cream for Coffee, Chocolate, Tea, &c.

Put up in one pound packages, under the trade mark "Maizena," with directions for use.

A most delicious article of food for children and invalids of all ages. For sale by Grocers and Druggists everywhere.

WHOLESALE DEPOT, 166 FULTON STREET.

WM. DURYEA, General Agent.

THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. NEW YORK, MAY 15, 1864. No. 14.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall Street, or No.* 823 *Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

THE EFFECTS OF THE FAIRS ON OUR FUNDS.

It will surprise the country, no doubt, but it is nevertheless strictly true, that however great the credit done by the Sanitary Fairs to the charity and patriotism of the people, they have thus far resulted in loss rather than in gain to the Sanitary Commission. So far from assuring its future, they have placed it in some peril. Instead of filling the treasury to overflowing, as many people imagine, they bid fair at this moment to be instrumental in bringing our funds down, during the coming summer, to a lower point than they have ever reached before.

This is in a great measure due to the exaggerated estimate of their returns, which the public has formed. The Fairs have been attended, and naturally so, with a great deal of enthusiasm, and have been got up and conducted by great exertions on the part both of managers and contributors. They have been, perhaps, the most remarkable exhibitions of benevolence ever witnessed, and have produced a profound impression on the public mind, and they have brought us in a large sum of money. We have received from all of them, so far, $429,000; we expect to receive from the New York Fair over $1,000,000—in all, about $1,400,000. Now this, *in addition* to what we have been receiving hitherto, would have not only placed our existing operations on a firm basis during the coming year, but would have enabled us to extend them considerably, which there is great need of our doing. Our receipts in supplies last year amounted to $2,000,000; at the rate at which they have been coming in during the last four months, they will not

this year, amount to more than $1,000,000; in other words, they have fallen off exactly one-half. This leaves the value of our receipts, including those derived from the Fairs, nominally, what it was in 1863, but in reality much lower. The million dollars worth of supplies which we received last year, we have this year to purchase ourselves, at prices which are certainly twenty-five per cent. higher than they were twelve months ago, so that instead of being so rich that we do not know what to do with our money, we are suffering from the Fairs a deduction from our previous income of at least $250,000.

This is a result we need hardly say, which was not foreseen when the Fairs were started. If the public now cease to support us as before, it would have been vastly better for the soldiers that not one of them had ever been held. And unless the people resume their contributions of supplies, and leave us the proceeds of the Fairs as a clear addition to our income, we shall have to curtail our operations instead of extending them.

There is a good deal of pains taken in many quarters by persons who have never given the matter five minutes' examination, to spread this misapprehension as to the extent of our resources. It is constantly stated in public and private, that we have more money than we need, and that not only ought there be no more contributions made to us, but a portion of those which we have actually received ought to be devoted to the establishment of an asylum for invalid soldiers. There is nothing that we desire more than to be able to provide an institution of this kind. The subject has been long under consideration, and we are ready to take up work the moment we find we have something to spare after meeting the necessities of the battle-field. But we doubt if anybody will assert that the man who is lying mangled on the field, or in the hospital, has not the first and strongest claim on our assistance. As long as battles are occurring or likely to occur, such as the recent ones in Virginia, lasting twice as long and disabling twice as many men as anybody expected, and leaving miles of country covered with dead and dying, we certainly cannot take upon ourselves, and the public will not expect us to do so, to withhold from one sick or wounded man, on any pretence whatever, any assistance which he needs and which it is in our power to render. Our first duty is to assist in curing him of his wound, or his fever; our next, to assist in taking care of him afterwards. At present, we are only equal to the discharge of one of them; it remains with the public to say whether we are to discharge both.

We do not doubt that much of the falling off in the contributions of goods, is due to the exhaustion of household stores and the enormous rise in the price of nearly every article of general consumption. To the mass of people throughout the country it is undoubtedly harder to give now than it was two years ago. All we can say on this point is, that an increase of sacrifice and privation is the inevitable consequence of the prolongation of the war. The longer it lasts, the more we must all suffer, the citizen at home as well as the soldier in the field. We shall have every week a greater number of wounded and disabled men on our hands, whom it is our duty to take care of, and it is a duty which we cannot and ought not to shirk. It, no doubt, every day costs more to do it, but it is none the less sacred and imperative for all that. To this, people must make up their minds. We as well as the army in the field, have enlisted for the war, be it long or short.

We are glad to say the indications now are that it will be very short. There is every reason to believe that the coming summer will put an end to all fighting on a great scale. If the military operations continue as they have begun, it is all but certain that we shall see them reduced by next November to mere police duty against guerrillas, leaving the Medical Department abundantly able to meet all demands on it, whether ordinary or extraordinary. During the interval between now and then, however, the Sanitary Commission will need, and earnestly requests from the public the same amount and the *same kind* of support which it has hitherto received. In other words, the Fairs have not rendered the regular collection and transmission of clothing, vegetables, stimulants, delicacies, linen, lint, and, in fact,

of every article that sick or wounded men can need, one whit less necessary than ever.

—

The General Secretary of the Sanitary Commission has addressed the following letter to the Boston *Journal*, in correction of some recent statements of that paper; giving also an interesting account of the general results of the fairs lately held for the benefit of the Sanitary Commission:

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION, 823 B'WAY,
NEW YORK, *April* 29, 1864.

To the Editor of the Boston Journal:

In the *Journal* of the 27th inst. is an article, headed "The Sanitary and Christian Commissions," in which you remark, after a well-deserved commendation of the Christian Commission and its peculiar work, that the "Sanitary Commission has now more funds than it can judiciously spend, if the war continues a year longer; that its storehouses are filled with goods, and its treasury is overflowing." This statement is very erroneous, and of a character to injure the cause of the United States Sanitary Commission. The storehouses of the Commission are not "filled with goods." The series of fairs has arrested the flow of sanitary stores to such an extent, that the receipts at the storehouses of the Commission have for some months past been at least *fifty per cent. less* than for a corresponding period of 1863. Previously to the series of fairs lately held, the Sanitary Commission received about six dollars' worth of stores to every dollar in money, and could barely meet the urgent demands for supplies in the field and hospitals, by economizing its expenditures, and by very large purchases of such articles as condensed milk, condensed coffee, stimulants, anti-scorbutics, bed clothing and hospital clothing.

The Sanitary Commission has not received into its treasury all the funds raised by the fairs; more than half has gone into the treasuries of branch associations, and been expended in the purchase of supplementary stores. If the Sanitary Commission had received all the money raised by the various fairs, it still would be straitened in its means by the great falling off in the supply of supplementary stores. As the flow of supplies into the storehouses has fallen off more than fifty per cent., while the demands upon the Commission have everywhere increased, you can readily understand that the necessity of purchasing out of the funds of the Commission, at the present high prices of everything, not only prevents any thing like an "overflowing" treasury, but threatens a rapid exhaustion. The Sanitary Commission has now existed nearly three years, and attained a large measure of the confidence of the public and of the national forces. Its operations reach every column of the army, and meet a corresponding dependence on the part of the soldiers. If the people are persuaded that the Sanitary Commission has grown rich, and therefore in need of nothing, in less than two months the storehouses of the Commission will be empty and its treasury exhausted, in the vain attempt to eke out the funds raised by the fairs in the purchase of the supplies of flannel underclothing, dried fruits, blankets, stimulants, &c., &c.

The people all over the country must be stimulated to continue their contributions of stores, or else the victims of the fearful campaigns now pending will fail to receive the full measure of succor and comfort that they have heretofore received from the homes of the land, through the agency of the United States Sanitary Commission. Let the Christian Commission be sustained in its glorious work, but let it not be by any diversion of either stores or money for such a purpose from the channels of the United States Sanitary Commission.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. FOSTER JENKINS,
Gen. Sec. of the U. S. Sanitary Com'n.

THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION IN PREVENTING DISEASE.

As the sickly season in the regions occupied by our armies is again approaching, and large numbers of raw troops are going into camp, we deem it well to call attention to the preventive department of our work—that of "inspection," which, in the excitement caused by the sufferings of those who have fallen in action, is apt to be overlooked, and yet the gaps made in our ranks by disease are far greater than those caused by even bullets or bayonets.

A large portion of the national army is in a section of country notorious for the production of malaria, an enemy more insidious and more dangerous than all the physical forces that the rebels can bring to bear against the loyal troops. The records of the human race are filled with instances which prove the truth of which we speak. The rapid and overwhelming disaster to the forces of Sennacharib is familiar to readers of history, but it was scarcely more rapid or more crushing than the malarious destruction of the French army in 1528, which, while preparing to besiege the forts pro-

tecting Baiæ, was almost totally destroyed by disease. Of 28,000, but 4,000 remained alive, and they were helpless.

In Wellington's Peninsular Campaigns, from January, 1811, to 1814, the battle of Albuera, (one of the most desperate and bloody of the Peninsular War,) Salamanca, Vittoria, the Pyrenees, Nivelle, Nive, Orthes, and Toulouse, were fought, and Badajos, Ciudad Rodrigo and San Sebastian were stormed, besides many skirmishes not included in the list of battles, the entire loss in battles was 2,550, while that from sickness was 7,257.

The average annual loss of the whole British Army during the Peninsular War was one hundred and sixty-five men out of every thousand. Of these, one hundred and thirteen died by disease or accident.

From 1803 to 1812, the average annual death-rate of the whole British Army "abroad" was 80 per 1,000—71 by disease, and 9 by wounds in action. In the war with Burmah, the loss by military forces was thirty-five per thousand, and from sickness the loss was four hundred and fifty per thousand.

In July, Aug. and Sept., 1854, the British Army in the Crimea lost at the rate of two hundred and ninety-three men out of every thousand per annum. Ninety-six per cent. of this loss was from disease. During the next three months, October, November and December, 1854, their loss was at the annual rate of five hundred and eleven out of every thousand—seven-eighths of which loss was by disease. In January, 1855, it was at the rate of 1,174 per 1,000 per annum—97 per cent. of this loss being due to disease. During the first three months of that year it was at the annual rate of 912 per 1,000—and ninety-eight per cent. of the loss was due to disease.

While the armies were encamped in the valley of Varna, "in the midst of large shallow lakes, surrounded by level, spongy lands, indented with little hollows, dried and cracked by the recession and evaporation of the winter floods—low brushwood, rank in vegetation, bounding uplands, a deficiency of potable water, with a high temperature, we have all the elements of a devastating sickness. In the high temperature of the day, heavy masses of steam spread themselves over the camps, and at night heavy, chilling dews invaded every part of the camp, and carried poison to every sleeper. The tents were thin and permeable, the rations execrable, and no protecting care was exercised." A medical philosopher, with these facts before him, knows the result already. The French and Turks suffered terribly. Macleod says the hospitals recalled the horrors of Boccaccio. Half of the army of Espinasse, in the Dobrutcha, disappeared as by a whirlwind, and the panic among the survivors was beyond description. Cholera, intermittent and remittent fever, typhus, and dysentery took possession of the camps—the encampment was broken up, and the army fled precipitately from the scene of the disaster—but the enemy retained possession of the men, and the horrors of Varna continued to follow them. The survivors continued for years to feel the dreadful visitation of the Dobrutcha, and those who seemed to have passed unscathed, showed in subsequent wounds that the seeds of the poison of the camp had been merely latent. Among the English, there were in three months 897 deaths from cholera, and 75 from dysentery and diarrhea. Dr. Aitkin says: "My estimates lead with still greater force to the conclusion, that the amount of sickness at Varna was greater than that of the French army in Spain, and nearly as great as the army of Portugal while engaged in very active campaigns, and this, too, though not a soldier on Lord Raglan's army had fired a shot." From October, 1854, to April, 1855, the army of 23,775 men, lost 9,248 by sickness, and 608 by wounds. In the last six months of the Crimean campaign, including the final assaults which carried Sebastopol, the French had 21,957 men wounded, and 101,128 cases of sickness.

Now, the great mass of this sickness was avoidable, and should have been prevented. In the Italian campaigns, Napoleon guarded his troops against the disasters connected with localities. He never encamped his armies in the neighborhood of malarial sources when he could avoid it, and when compelled to make such an encampment, he always built fires at night between his army and the sources of this poison. We earnestly wish that we could engrave in

vivid letters upon the memories of those who have the management of the American camps the following truths of Sir Baltingall. He says: "The experience of all ages has proved that the neighborhood of marshes, grounds subject to overflow by large rivers, surrounded by foul stagnating water, or low places covered with wood, are most injurious to health, and the noxious effluvia arising from these situations are augmented in proportion to the heat of the climate or the season of the year."

In all perils of this kind, the camp should be pitched so that the evening wind will blow the marsh air in an opposite direction from the camp. When this cannot be done, fires should be burned all night between the sources of the malaria and the camp. Malaria never acts in daytime nor at night upon a wakeful person in motion. Sentinels may walk in safety where a sleeping army may be almost destroyed. No garbage should be permitted about camps. Let it be buried or thrown into running water. It should not be burned in camp.

As the sun climbs the ecliptic, he scatters the seeds of sickness northward. Rio Janeiro, Pernambuco, Cuba, Tampico, Vera Cruz, New Orleans, Vicksburg, and places farther northward take their turn. The cause of pestilence is now incubating in the regions held by our armies. They can and must be protected from the pestilence that walks in darkness only to those who wilfully shut their eyes. The men must be well fed, for there is a great truth in the aphorism, "that the first condition of health is the good condition of the stomach." M. Worms, in his work, "*Des Maladies de la Province de Constantine,*" says: "Those who are well nourished pass through or even sojourn with impunity in localities where others meet with disease and death. In the army, where soldiers and officers are exposed to the same morbid influences, the average deaths are one in twelve of the former to one in fifty-four of the latter. The officers, by the proper nourishment and the use of fermented liquors, sustain the vital energy, which has a tendency to fall into inertia, and so escape the effects of malaria, which makes ravages around them. The Commissioners of Inquiry of the British Army of Sierra Leone found that the main cause of the fearful mortality from diseases of the digestive organs there, two-fifths of the cases having proved fatal, arose from the use of salt rations, and that by the substitution of a fresh meat diet, the mortality from these diseases was reduced to one-tenth of its former amount. Haliday's testimony is to the same effect."

Up to May 18, 1862, our armies had lost at the rate of fifty-three per thousand per annum, and only forty-four per cent. of that loss was by disease and accident.

The last report of the Secretary of War states the number of patients in General Hospital, June 30, 1863, as 9.1 per cent., and in Field Hospital 4.4 per cent. of the whole national forces; and that of this aggregate of 13.5 per cent., 11 were cases of sickness, and 2.5 of wounds or other casualties. This is a most gratifying statement, especially when contrasted with the sickness rates of foreign armies in the field; and of our own during the Mexican war.

In estimating the value of these figures, it must be remembered that the conditions under which our soldiers serve have been generally unfavorable. Their field of operations includes, as we have said, large districts quite as insalubrious as any part of Spain, Portugal, or the Crimea. There has at all times (and especially during the first year of the war) been among them a large proportion of half-disciplined recruits and of inexperienced officers, while the soldiers of Great Britain, in the Peninsula and the Crimea, were regulars under high discipline, and commanded by professional officers. The Commissariat and the Medical Department of the British Army were parts of a system long established and matured. In May, 1862, ours were newly-organized, (for the purposes of this war,) and not yet in perfect working order. The Peninsular and Crimean Armies had, therefore, material advantages over our own. Yet we have lost far fewer men by disease. Even on Morris Island, and in the pestilential swamps of the lower Mississippi, our loss by disease has been smaller than that of any army about which we have authentic information. For this great fact—equivalent to the addition of hundreds of millions to our national resources—the nation can never be sufficiently thankful. No human agency

could have insured it. Though the average intelligence and culture of our common soldiers are beyond those of any army ever yet put into the field, and though the medical staff and the Sanitary Commission have worked diligently in their respective spheres, a blessing so great, exceptional, and unhoped for can be attributed to none but the Highest cause.

And yet the Commission claims credit for having contributed in some degree to this happy result, by its system of sanitary inspection of camps, posts and hospitals.

This was the chief object contemplated by the Commission when it was created by Government. As has already been stated, our armies were, during the summer of 1861, in serious danger of destruction by epidemic disease. Modern sanitary science was hardly recognized in the ancient regulations of the medical bureau. Its officers could not be expected to go beyond the strict line of official duty when that duty was more than quadrupled. The first business of the Commission, therefore, was to awaken general attention to the sanitary interests of the army, and to do what it could to improve the sanitary condition of camps, quarters, hospitals, and men.

It sent out medical inspectors forthwith to warn inexperienced officers of the peril to which filth, bad ventilation and bad food exposed their men and themselves. It brought to bear upon Government the influence of the medical profession throughout the country, effected the extension and invigoration of the medical bureau, and secured the express recognition of the prevention of disease, no less than its cure, as among the functions of the medical staff. Government now employs its own sanitary inspectors, and does a certain portion of the preventive work which the Commission did during the first year of its existence. But the Commission still keeps up an inspectorial corps, auxiliary to that of Government, for the latter is numerically unequal to its great work, and there are special causes beside that have thus far interfered with its efficiency.

Each inspector on visiting a camp or post puts himself, in the first place, in communication with its military authorities, and asks their co-operation in his work. This being secured, he proceeds to investigate the condition of the men in every particular that bears on their liability to disease, and the sufficiency of the remedial agencies within their reach. He inquires into the quality of their water-supply, food, cooking and clothing—the ventilation and the cleanliness of their camp or quarters—the position of their latrines—the provision for the removal and destruction of refuse and offal—the equipment of their field or post hospital—their ambulance service—the competency of their medical officers—the salubrity or insalubrity of their camp-site or post—the sufficiency of their bedding and blankets, the character of the diseases that have prevailed among them, and the precautions thus indicated. On these points he advises the medical and military authorities of the corps as a sanitary expert. His inspection generally discloses something that can be done to promote the health of the command. He finds, for instance, that there are tendencies to malarious disease that call for quinine as a prophylactic, or tendencies to scurvy, that require supplies of fresh vegetables, or that there is a deficiency of stimulants, bedding, articles of hospital diet, or disinfecting material. If the want, whatever it is, can be promptly supplied through the regular official channels, he sees that this is done—but if it cannot, or if (as is often the case) something is required which Government does not undertake to supply, he calls on the relief department of the Commission, which supplies it according to its ability. If the officer who should obtain it be inexperienced in requisitions and supply tables, the inspector is able to assist him. If the defect arise from corruption or incapacity, he reports the fact. It sometimes happens that the health of a camp is endangered by want, not of supplies, but of some work for which authority cannot at once be obtained. In this case money is appropriated by the standing committee, or, in case of emergency, by the associate secretary, on the inspector's report. The Commission has done much work of this class. It has improved the ventilation of hospitals, dug wells to improve the water-supply of camps, built temporary hospitals and quarters, to

replace unwholesome and dangerous buildings, furnished and fitted up hospital transports, and converted ordinary railroad cars into railroad ambulances, with cooking apparatus and store-rooms, and litters hung on springs, in which thousands of men with fractured limbs have traveled thousands of miles without suffering or injury.

The results of every inspection are noted on blanks provided for the purpose, and are severally reported. Each report covers about two hundred distinct points affecting the sanitary condition and wants of the force inspected. More than 2,000 of these reports have been accumulated. They are digested and tabulated, as received, by a competent actuary. It is believed that the body of military and medical statistics thus collected is among the largest and most valuable in existence. It can hardly fail to furnish conclusions of the utmost importance to sanitary science.

The Commission employs other agencies also for the prevention of disease. It urges measures of sanitary reform on the attention of Government. It furnished material for the vaccination of thousands of men at a time, now happily past, when the medical bureau was unable to supply the tenth part of what was needed, and issued what it had only after a fortnight's delay. It has thus stayed the ravages of small-pox in regiments crowded on board transports, after that disease had actually begun to spread among their men.

It has done much beside to protect our soldiers against this peril. During the first year of the war, for instance, all cases of "eruptive disease" in one of our most important military departments were consigned indiscriminately to a single hospital, from which men were "discharged cured" of mumps or measles, and rejoined their regiments to sicken and die of small-pox contracted in this "hospital," so called, and to infect and kill their comrades. It was through the persevering remonstrance and protest of the Commission that this murderous abuse was at last corrected.

The Commission has also circulated throughout the army, and especially among the medical staff, many hundred thousand copies of its medical documents. This series now numbers eighteen publications, each devoted to some special point of prevention or cure. Some of them are addressed to the individual soldier, but the great majority are for the use of the medical staff, and relate to the prevention or treatment of the diseases to which camps are specially exposed, and to sundry operations of military surgery with which it cannot be expected that surgeons recently appointed from civil life should be generally familiar. These monographs have been prepared at the request of the Commission, by some of the most eminent physicians and surgeons of the country. Embodying, in a condensed form, the latest results of science, they have been of great use to our army surgeons, who often encounter cases for which their previous practice has not specially prepared them, and who have neither medical libraries nor opportunities for consultation.

The Commission institutes special inspections, also, from time to time, outside of its general inspection system. It employs medical agents to look into the condition of such camps or hospitals as seem to require special attention, and to ascertain and report the wants of our armies during or immediately after a trying campaign. Within the past year it has made a thorough inspection of all general military hospitals, east and west, employing for this purpose medical practitioners of the highest professional standing. Their recommendations of improvement in our hospital system and its administration have been submitted to the proper authorities.

The relief agents of the Commission are not expressly charged with the office of sanitary inspection, but their reports and journals, sent in at short intervals, help to keep the Commission informed of the condition of the army, and of the measures required to maintain it in health, at every point from Annapolis to New Orleans.

As has been already stated, it is, from the nature of the case, impossible accurately to estimate how many men have been saved from death or disease, and how much efficiency has been economized for the country by this preventive service, for though the results of the treatment of disease can be more or less accurately recorded, the result of measures for its prevention cannot be

stated with any kind of certainty. The only attainable data are the percentage of disease among men to whom such preventive measures have been applied, and among those to whom they have not. Though inferences from a comparison of the two are not absolutely to be relied on, (because we can never be quite sure that the conditions of any two cases have been precisely the same,) a comparison of the mortality rates of our army with those of the British armies in the Crimea and during the Peninsular war, which we have given above, will, nevertheless, throw some light on the question.

WHAT THE COMMISSION HAS DONE FOR GRANT'S ARMY.

Some account will be found in Dr. Steiner's report on another page, of the preparations made by the Field Relief Corps of the Commission for the movement in Virginia. What we have done, and are doing for the wounded of Grant's glorious "eight days" may be gleaned from the following extracts from our reports. Mr. Knapp writes from Washington, May 11:.

"You were informed by Dr. Caldwell yesterday that, at 12 M., we sent to Belle Plain the Mary F. Rapley, steam transport, with sixty relief agents and seventy-five or eighty tons of assorted sanitary stores, the vessel having in tow a barge with twenty-one horses and five strong wagons. We have loaded to-day another barge with sixteen horses and four purchased wagons, carrying the necessary forage, and to-night, or at daylight in the morning, she will go down, towed by the tugboat Gov. Curtin, also chartered for the purpose. With these nine teams the supplies can go on to Fredericksburg rapidly, where there is need of them, I can assure you, although Government is making every exertion to supply the needs, and is constantly showing increased ability to put in practice what were last year regarded as only experiments. Thus the Government has prepared, and admirably, two large hospital transports, and has also arranged for feeding the sick on board the other boats which are not regular floating hospitals. A relief agent of the Sanitary Commission came up last night with a large party of the wounded. They arrived here at 2 A. M., having left Fredericksburg yesterday. He says our relief agents who accompanied the army with their wagons and stores, rendered invaluable service, of which he is writing now a brief report, which I will send you to-morrow. He returns on our tugboat leaving to-night or in the morning.

"To-morrow we hope, at Baltimore, to hire a boat with which to carry another load of supplies up the James River, where there is hard fighting, and likely to be more of it, and where, doubtless, the needs must be great. That boat, if obtained, will take up a quantity of the saurkraut, vegetables, pickles, &c., ordered for Norfolk. This will save Dr. McDonald the necessity of leaving his post with his storeboat. Twenty-five relief agents either have started, or will start, for Belle Plain this afternoon. We shall send some more to-morrow. Our supplies are thus far abundant."

Dr. Steiner reports:

Belle Plain, Va., May 11.—We steamed down the Potomac without any occurrence of interest until we passed a transport filled with troops, bound for Washington, who gave the flag of the Commission three hearty cheers. Soon after dark we reached our fleet of hospital steamboats and barges, at the wharf of Belle Plain. Here I went ashore with Mr. Fay, and saw Medical Inspector Wilson, to whom I introduced myself. He said: 'You see there is enough work to be done here; I need not point it out; look around and you will find it.' No sooner said than done. Fay's Auxiliary Relief Corps immediately took hold. It is divided into five divisions. That section under charge of Le Barrons supplied the men on the barges with hot coffee, beef tea and crackers, while the squad under charge of Mr. Denniston pitched a large tent, and made arrangements for getting things to rights. Thus they worked until more than nine hundred wounded men were sent off in one boat, and others prepared to go. These labors have been of the most heartrending description, though the wounded were handled with all possible tenderness.

We have sent off four wagons to Fredericksburg loaded with sanitary supplies. The necessities of this post will require me to remain here to-day. Dr. Cuyler will be in charge, and is here already; and Wilson will go to Fredericksburg, whither Douglas has already gone. Pope goes with the train as storekeeper, and Fay will secure a storehouse for him in some part of the town. On the whole, the wants of the wounded at this point are so great that help is as imperatively demanded, as it must be freely given. The army may have started with splendid supplies, but such an unprecedented series of engagements have never, heretofore, been known, and hence, any amount of regular supplies would be too small to meet the emergency. I have heard that our Field Relief Corps was working in the neighborhood of

Fredericksburg, although a report reaches me that Wilcox—one of the Second Corps Relief Agents was captured with his wagon while coming in from the front. I have sent messages in all directions for the agents to report here, if possible, with their wagons, so as to secure all the necessary supplies for our wounded in the hospitals. I presume to-morrow they will be here.

From Mr. Wilcox, in charge of the Field Relief Agency, with the Third and Fourth Divisions, Second Corps, we get the following:

Wednesday, May 4.—Accompanying the ambulance trains, under charge of Lieut. Shook, of the Third Division, Second Army Corps, (a part of which had moved the evening previous,) we took up the line of march from our camp near Brandy Station, proceeding to Ely's Ford, which point we reached at dark, crossed the run, and bivouacked near the river.

Thursday, May 5.—We continued our march toward Chancellorsville, which point we reached at 9 o'clock A. M., and bivouacked. After an hour's rest, the march was resumed in the direction of Todd's Tavern. Up to 3 P. M., nothing indicating the whereabouts of the enemy was apparent at the point of the column occupied by us; but on arriving at a point within about three miles north of Todd's Tavern, skirmishing with musketry, and occasional artillery shots began to be heard. At this time an order was received from Gen. Hancock to change route. We then retraced our steps, and countermarched about two miles, to a point where a road bearing to the right of Todd's Tavern was met, which we took. Marching in this direction several miles, we came upon the rear of our lines, where the wounded were being brought in; and a point was here designated as the hospital of the Third and Fourth Divisions, where I located my wagons and pitched my hospital tent.

It was now quite dark, and the fighting had been conducted with vigor in our front all day, continuing until about 9 o'clock. The wounded were already numerously strewn through the grove where our hospitals were located, and the demands for our sanitary stores became frequent and large. The sanitary supplies were acknowledged by the surgeons in charge as most timely and prompt. Underclothing and blankets were the first articles in demand—the need for the latter being particularly urgent.

It may here be properly remarked, that throughout the line of march from camp at Brandy Station, a great waste of blankets could be noticed. The day was warm, and the soldiers wished to enter the battle unincumbered. The roads were strewn with blankets to an extent which warrants the belief that enough were thrown away to have amply provided for every man who was wounded; whereas, owing to this waste, hundreds were obliged to lie in the night air almost naked, with wounds exposed.

Friday, May 6.—The battle raged to-day in our front with terrific fury, during which our forces were obliged to relinquish three successive advantages gained on the previous day. The business of dispensing sanitary supplies was carried on briskly all day, requiring every effort to fill the demands. The wagons attached to the First and Second Divisions of our army corps, under Mr. Holbrook, were located at a short distance from my own, though the demands upon them not being so great as on mine. At the close of this day my supplies of clothing, stimulants, &c., &c., were almost entirely exhausted.

Saturday, May 7.—Little fighting took place to-day, but the wounded of yesterday still poured into our hospitals. My stock of clothing and other articles was in a measure renewed by supplies from Mr. Holbrook's wagons. Mr. Johnson and Captain Harris spent a portion of the day at my depot, and the work progressed well.

Sunday, May 8.—Broke camp with division hospital supply train, and went to Chancellorsville, and subsequently to Fredericksburg, (for fresh supplies,) where we bivouacked. On the route from Chancellorsville to Fredericksburg, we accompanied a train of ambulances and army wagons, loaded with wounded soldiers and officers. The sufferings of these men cannot in any degree be realized. The road—an old plank road—was in a wretched condition, and the groans and shrieks of the sufferers were truly heart-rending. On this march the presence of the sanitary supplies were acknowledged by the poor men to be a godsend, inasmuch as ours were the *only* supplies in a train of two hundred wagons and ambulances. Crackers and stimulants, judiciously dispensed, gave relief to many suffering soldiers during that tedious march of twelve hours. We arrived at Fredericksburg at midnight, the head of the column having reached that place at noon on Sunday, and the work of transferring the wounded to the houses was commenced. A tedious and painful work was this. A former acquaintance with the town enabled me to point out the most suitable houses for hospital purposes, and among these the Planters' Hotel, containing a large number of rooms furnished with beds, &c. This proved a great advantage as a ready means of making many wounded comfortable.

* * * * * *

The following letters from Washington explain themselves:

MR. KNAPP:

DEAR SIR—Four boatloads of wounded men arrived during the night, viz.:

Connecticut, 1,300; Key Port, 425; Wanasett, 350; Daniel Webster, 400. Total, 2,475.

One-fourth part were severely wounded. Three hundred or more were brought ashore on stretchers. The surgeon of the Connecticut says he is deeply indebted to the Sanitary Commission for their aid and kindness. The surgeon of the Key Port says: "He does not know what he should have done had it not been for the Sanitary Commission, who furnished him with stimulants at Belle Plain for the wounded he brought up."

We gave chocolate this morning to nearly five hundred veteran soldiers of the Sixty-seventh Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. They are on their way to the front.

We have distributed since last night—

5 barrels of crackers,
50 gallons of coffee,
50 gallons of chocolate,

150 gallons of lemonade,
30 gallons of milk punch.

We have fed the ambulance drivers, at the request of Mr. Tucker, Superintendent of the Ambulance Corps of Washington. Most of these drivers have been on duty, night and day, for the last four days, and I have yet to hear the first one grumble.

Mr. Stacy merits much praise for his zeal in the work of feeding and looking after the wounded men here.

Your obedient servant,
J. B. ABBOTT.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Thursday, *May* 12.

Mr. Knapp again asks me to give you a short account of the condition of our work. The Rapley sailed again this afternoon, loaded with seventy or eighty tons of stores. Mr. Fairchild went with her, in charge of thirty volunteer nurses, including Miss Woolsey.

A barge, with eighteen horses and four large wagons, went down yesterday. Offers of assistance from all the departments are coming in all the time.

I enclose, by Mr. Knapp's direction, three letters, which will give you a good account of the work done at the front.

The wounded that have arrived thus far are but slightly injured, and are very well cared for on the boat.

Yours respectfully,
(Signed,) G. C. CALDWELL.

RELIEF AGENTS ASSIST DURING A RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

David S. Pope, Relief Agent, in his account of a trip to Washington with the surplus furniture, &c., of the Sanitary Station, which was broken up at Brandy, on the moving forward of the army, says:

"About six o'clock next morning, a train passed us at almost lightning speed, and then came a crash. We looked out of the car, and saw the wreck of five or six cars heaped up alongside of the track just a few feet beyond us, and soldiers crawling out from under the ruins. Mr. Marsh, Mr. Dubosq, and myself went up, and aided in removing the wounded, six or seven of whom were very seriously injured; one of them, more than likely, died before he reached Alexandria; another will have to suffer amputation of his leg, which was fearfully crushed.

"We were the fortunate instruments of alleviating their sufferings to a great extent. Although a surgeon was present, he was unable to do much, his stores and instruments having passed, his regiment being on the move. With our stimulants, mattresses, cots and blankets, we made the poor fellows comparatively comfortable, but they were probably without surgical attendance until they reached Alexandria."

HOSPITAL CLOTHING.

☞ The length of lower line of the diagram giving the pattern of flannel drawers, in No. 13, was omitted. It should have been marked 18 inches.

THE HOSPITALS AT WASHINGTON.

The quarterly report of Mr. Caldwell, one of our Hospital Visitors in Washington, contains some valuable hints for our branches of supply. He says:

SIR—During the quarter ending with this date, (March 31st,) I have made nearly three hundred visits in the General, Post and Regimental Hospitals in this Department.

In March, the two hospitals at Annapolis and one at Annapolis Junction, were added to my list, it seeming to be desirable that such important points as those should be regularly visited by some one from Washington, whence their supplies were drawn.

At no time during the quarter has the number of patients in the hospitals in the Department at Washington been large, and the proportion of quite sick, or bed fast, such as are usually most in need of the assistance furnished by the Commission, has been all the time very small; consequently, the issues to these hospitals have been small.

The two hospitals at Annapolis have been partially filled with the sick among the released prisoners, and have needed more aid than those in Washington and Alexandria; even these have twice received all the sick from the Army of the Potomac.

On my first visit to Annapolis I found one of the hospitals very much in need of delicacies, and a liberal order was made out; in the other, I was much pleased with the admirably arranged storeroom well stocked with most of the Commission supplies; and a large invoice was daily expected from Washington, of such things as were wanting.

The regiments garrisoning the defences of Washington, have received a large number of new recruits; and their sick lists have been larger in proportion; and consequently the issues to them have been larger in like proportion.

Most of the hospitals depend upon the Commission for their supply of brandy; surgeons in charge understand that they cannot get it from the Medical Purveyor. The issue of this precious article has, however, been small, and very carefully made. Cherry cordial and blackberry brandy are much esteemed wherever they have been introduced; there should be a good supply of these stimulants on hand for issue in the summer, when the complaints for which they contribute so serviceable a remedy, are most prevalent.

In all cases where brandy is called for, I endeavor to substitute wine therefor, and with various success. Some surgeons like it quite as well, while others can make but little use of it.

Dried apples, pickles and porter, have

been issued to some hospitals when the funds were low.

The pickles are always very acceptable, and their quality is very highly praised; they are usually much better than those obtained in the market or from the Commissary.

A few cases of peaches that happened to come this way, were most highly prized, being far better than any that could be bought here; they were issued only where I felt sure they would be well used.

Domestic wines are but little used. Their quality and strength are too uncertain, and they cannot be depended upon.

The Boston crackers are very much valued, and the issue of them is quite constant.

There is a constant call for white sugar; it is so fitly used in many cases in the cook room, where the low diet is prepared, for dishes that would be half spoiled by the brown sugar of the Commissary.

Lemons and dried beef are often asked for.

Of assorted dried fruits, there is always too little in store; a good cook can with these, make very good substitutes for jelly; and, considering the sad waste of this article in the course of transportation, the people at home, the Commission, and the soldier, would all be gainers, if the fruit were dried, instead of being converted into jelly. Then there would be no waste, and far less difficulty and labor in packing and transportation. Would it not be well to recommend this change to the branches?

At my suggestion, a small supply of yarn has been put in store for issue for mending socks; those issued by Government are of an inferior quality, and need much mending. Quite as necessary as yarn is cotton thread, for repairing cotton garments; the calls for it are frequent, and I should be glad to be able to give it.

Woolen underclothing has not been issued largely. The wool shirts issued by Government are often half cotton, and very rough and harsh; some men who need woolens cannot wear them.

For such cases, when the men have not the means to buy for themselves, or have families to whom they have to send their spare earnings, I allow to be given freely.

Pillow cases are often called for, and I supply but a small portion of the demand, for the reason that they are furnished to a certain extent by the Government.

But the Government supply is based upon but one pillow to a man; of those small pillows, two or three are hardly enough for common comfort. Moreover, the Government arrangement for condemning worn out hospital clothing is not prompt and sufficient; and a hospital sometimes has to wait six or nine months before it can have such clothing put aside as unfit for use; and till then, it can ask for no more to take its place.

Of towels and handkerchiefs, the issue has been constant; a great many are given to the men for their own property.

The slippers supplied by Government are, like our own, cloth or carpet ones, of very little use to a man who is about on his feet; they are soon worn out.

The attendants have to move about in their heavy shoes, and have not usually much time to spend in walking on tip-toe; the noise they cannot but make, must be an annoyance to sick men, if not positively harmful. I wish there might be a supply of good leather soled slippers on hand, to be used for that purpose only. They would not be needed in every hospital, since in some a strip of matting is put down where the attendants walk.

I am often asked why these things are not bought with the hospital fund. They cannot be to the extent that is desirable, for two reasons:

1st. Surgeons are prohibited from purchasing any thing but eatables, and a few articles of a perishable nature, with the hospital fund.

2d. At the present high rates of provisions, it requires the best of management to get for the men all that the Surgeon-General's diet-table requires, and all that the men ought to have of the staple articles of food.

Under such circumstances, a small quantity of good things placed in the hands of women nurses, or Sisters of Charity, serves to make many a meal more palatable and strengthening.

I frequently receive testimonials to the efficiency of the service of the Commission, which it would be out of place to repeat here.

Respectfully submitted,

G. C. Caldwell,
Hospital Visitor Sanitary Commission.

Mr. Stephen Barker writes us:

Having already explained my way of making acquaintance with officers and patients in hospitals, I need only say that my last month's work has in no way differed from that of previous months.

I have received more expressions of gratitude than formerly; but I attribute this entirely to the fact of having transacted all my hospital business in the *wards*, where the patients could hear the conversations between the ward master, or cook, or hospital steward and myself, concerning the wants of the hospital and the sanitary stores. Patients manifest great interest in these subjects; and when I sit down to make out my order for supplies, they cluster round as if this part of my business were one of their chief entertainments. In this way the patients seem to have realized, for the first time, where the delicacies come from which

they enjoy so much, and which they have hitherto carelessly attributed either to the kindness of private individuals, or to the agents of the Christian Commission, or to their regular medical supplies. I have been made to realize this fact, by being so often obliged to disclaim the *personal* thanks, which really belonged to the Sanitary Commission.

Lately, every visit has brought me some pleasant expression of thanks for comforts received. Sometimes by tearful silence; sometimes by a hearty outburst that the "Sanitary Commission is the greatest institution in the United States." My last was a slip of paper, tucked into the thumb of my glove, with a "God bless you," which means some thing from a "Down Easter," who wrote it.

In order to bring the benefits of the Sanitary Commission before a larger circle than hospitals afford, I have lately begun to distribute papers, magazines, and comfort bags in camps.

The supply of newspapers, in large quantities, has been furnished by contributions from Vice President Hamlin, and by Hon. Charles Sumner, Hon. Alex. H. Rice, and Hon. Oakes Ames.

Mrs. Hamlin and Mrs. O. Ames have also assisted me in the distribution of these favors.

One very pleasant scene occurred at Camp Barry, in the distribution of comfort bags at the barracks of the 9th and 11th Mass. Batteries, under Capt. Jones. By previous programme, my friend and I, with the ward master and driver, had each a box at our feet, containing a hundred bags apiece, with some papers and magazines. The men were all out (playing) kicking football. I said, "Here, boys, are some gifts for you, from Massachusetts girls," accompanying the words with a salute of bags, needlebooks, and pincushions, from all sides of the wagon, into the crowd. The men immediately took the joke, and, with a shout, rushed towards us, while we kept up the fire, and they rushed, and scrambled, and clutched at the flying gifts, like children after sugar-plums on a Thanksgiving eve. When at last the boxes were all emptied, and *one red sugar-plum* was all I had to put into the fifty outstretched hands around us, the captain appeared, and thanked us, in behalf of his men, for our visit, not only for its immediate benefits, but for affording pleasant memories, and material for letters for weeks to come. Here again I had the pleasure of disclaiming all personal thanks, and turning them over to the Sanitary Commission, where they rightfully belong. He said more pleasant things, and ended by proposing three cheers for Massachusetts ladies, which the soldiers gave with swinging hats, and prolonged into three times three for the pleasure of using their lungs once more in good old Massachusetts fashion. In my last visit to Camp Barry, I learned that most of those bags contained letters, which have been answered by the soldiers, which have also been answered by the original writers. I could distribute ten thousand bags in this way, to good advantage. I regret to say I have exhausted our supply.

Mr. Brown reports as the result of his labors for the month of March in the matter of back pay for soldiers in the hospitals of Washington and vicinity:

Whole number of cases taken during the month	96
Number of cases completed by securing pay	96
" " otherwise completed	24
Total number of completed cases	120
Number of letters written during the month	218
Amount represented by the ninety-six completed cases	$5,907.58

This is an average of nearly five months' pay for every successful case.

You will perceive that the completed cases are in excess of the number of cases taken. The present being a non-muster month, I have taken less new cases than I otherwise should, and devoted my time to a large number of complicated cases lying over from last month. The result is that we now have a less number of uncompleted cases on hand than we have had at the writing of any previous report, being now only fifty-four in number.

The work of the past month has been of a more complicated character than any previous one. Many of the hospitals in Washington have arrangements with the Pay Department for fixing up the accounts of the men, and as a consequence our services are not needed, except in such cases as are not easily traced on the regiment rolls, or which require evidence which is not on file at the Pay Department. It is the usual custom of the Paymaster General's Office to refer cases of this character to this office.

We have had quite a large number of cases the past month where the men were charged wrongfully with "desertion," and have succeeded in most instances in getting the charge removed, and in securing the men their rightful dues. One man of this class I secured *twenty months'* back pay for, after he had been to a great amount of trouble to get it through other sources, without success. Have had several cases where the men had 18 months due, all of whom were wrongfully charged with desertion.

To one unacquainted with the manner in which the accounts of the Government are kept, it seems strange that men who are serving their country for the pittance of $13.00 per month, should be compelled to wait so long for their pay.

The fact is not to be disguised that this state of affairs is often the result of the ignorance or indifference of officers, who are paid, and well paid, for attending to this

business. A short time ago a Paymaster showed me a company roll bearing sixty-seven names. Out of that sixty-seven only *four* could be paid, the other sixty-three being incorrectly mustered by the commanding officer. These men must now wait two months longer, not only for the last two months' pay due, but also for all that was previously due, and the next muster may find them in as bad condition as they now are. It frequently happens that a man is taken prisoner, and on his next subsequent rolls charged with desertion, which has the effect of stopping all pay that is due or that may become due, till the charge is removed.

Not one soldier in a thousand is acquainted with the method of removal, and consequently many innocent men suffer in their reputation, as well as lose their pay; for, according to military law, the *charge* of desertion is *prima facie* evidence that the man did desert.

The preliminary steps have been taken for extending this work to Baltimore and Philadelphia, and I would suggest that New York be included in this arrangement. There has been no way heretofore for men without description lists to get their back pay, if they have been outside of Washington. The new arrangement will be a great advantage to this class of men.

The bulk of the work will have to be done through this office. All that is required for cities outside of Washington, is some one to look up the cases at the hospitals, which is comparatively little work. Mr. Ashman, of Philadelphia, has sent us on some cases, and promises to send more soon. I went to Baltimore yesterday, to make the arrangements for starting the work in that city.

Saw Dr. Bliss, the surgeon in charge of the Camden Street Hospital; also, Rev. Mr. Bower, the chaplain. They seemed willing to do every thing in their power to co-operate in the work. I find that nearly all the men have description lists, and that they are mustered on there without any further evidence; therefore the number who will require assistance there will be smaller than here, in proportion to the number of patients.

RESULTS OF THE FAIR.

I take the liberty of sending to you for publication in your journal the following:

At a meeting of the Ladies' Executive Committee of the Metropolitan Fair, held May 13, 1864, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That John H. Gourlie, Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Metropolitan Fair, be requested to place *one million dollars* in the hands of the United States Sanitary Commission.

By order of the Board.
(Signed,) CATHARINE C. HUNT.

In accordance with the above resolution, I have handed over to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer of the United States Sanitary Commission, the above-named sum of one million dollars. The following is a copy of his receipt for the same:

NEW YORK, *May* 17, 1864.

Received from John H. Gourlie, Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Metropolitan Fair, one million dollars, for the benefit of the United States Sanitary Commission.

(Signed,)
GEORGE T. STRONG,
$1,000,000. *Treasurer of the Sanitary Commission.*

I take the liberty of stating, for public information, that the above-named amount is the *first instalment* of the results of the Metropolitan Fair. Its financial affairs cannot be completely closed for some time to come, as contributions known to have been made have not yet been sent into the Treasurer's Department; besides, there are other contributions, still on their way from Europe, (a cargo of coal, valued at $12,500, the generous gift of Geo. Elliott, of Liverpool,) and paintings, and works of art, still unsold, the probable value of which is $20,000.

A detailed statement of the receipts and disbursements will be made as soon as practicable.

I congratulate the public on the noble results of their generous contributions to the Metropolitan Fair.

The receipts over and above all expenses will not, I venture to say, fall far short of $1,100,000; still, all sums over one million at present can only be roughly estimated.

A committee are now engaged in examining the accounts of the Treasury Department, and I trust that their report will be satisfactory to the public.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN H. GOURLIE,
Chairman Finance Committee, Metropolitan Fair.

NEW YORK, *May* 17, 1864.

GENERAL SURVEY OF OPERATIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 1st*, 1864.

DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS,
General Secretary, U. S. San. Com.:

SIR—I submit, as Associate Secretary for the East, the following report. It embraces the time from January 1st to present date.

The monthly reports sent to you, with the frequent letters forwarded, have already furnished to you all the detail of what I

now simply present as a summary of the whole.

During these four months there has been no essential change in the *methods* adopted, the *character* of the demands, the *ability* to meet all claims, and the *working force* itself.

There has been a constant *tendency* to *enlargement*, both in the Field Relief Corps and in the Special Relief Department.

At Washington and vicinity, the long existing systematic provision for rendering aid to general and regimental hospitals has continued. There has in that section been no important movements in the field. Here, however, as elsewhere, large provision has been made to meet the demands which may arise from great battles. (Accompanying are papers of stock with Army of the Potomac, stock sent to Norfolk, stock sent to Harper's Ferry, stock in storehouse at Washington and on the way, as by invoice.)

Accompanying, also, is report of Dr. Steiner, Chief Inspector of Army of Potomac, covering the months of January, February, and March.

Thus, at Washington; at Newbern, N. C.; at Olustee, Florida; in Texas, and at Grand Ecore, Louisiana, during this same period, the Commission has had large opportunity to show its preparation to meet urgent needs, and its ability to render efficient help in emergencies.

In each instance its preparations were larger than the needs, and its help followed close upon the emergencies.

You have herewith, or previously forwarded to you, the reports from these several sections.

These reports indicate, also, efficiency and earnest zeal on the part of all the agents of the Commission employed in their respective fields; and their labors have been recognized and appreciated by the officers and military authorities, as well as by the men receiving "aid and comfort."

The amounts of supplies with the army; value of the same; issues to the depots at Washington, Newbern, Hilton Head, (from which the Florida supplies were sent,) and New Orleans, for the quarter ending April 1st, accompany this. Marked valuation, $117,683.50.

At Newbern, N. C., at the present time, preparation is made, by two additional relief agents recently sent, and a large invoice of stores, to meet the probably large demands which may soon arise there.

At Hilton Head and Beaufort, the present demand is comparatively limited, with diminished forces.

At New Orleans and beyond, the working force of the Commission has been increased by efficient men, some sent from the North, some found there; and stores are constantly forwarded by almost every steamer. The right granted to the Chief Inspector to purchase in New Orleans, when necessary to meet emergencies, (a right which he has judiciously exercised,) adds to the efficiency and real stock there of the Commission.

Homes or Lodges have followed the army in Louisiana and Texas whenever it has moved, or else been ready to meet returning men sick or discharged. These Lodges have all done a valuable work. When the army left a given region, rendering a Lodge further unnecessary at that point, the same men and material constituting this station have been moved on and planted elsewhere, as the need required.

The permanent Home at New Orleans is doing a very large and very beneficent work. It has every aid from the military authorities there which can be asked for. Reports submitted.

The "Pension and Claim Agency" at New Orleans is full of work, and recognized by officers and public men as meeting a large and long-existing need.

The agents in charge have proved competent and faithful. Reports submitted.

Arrangements were made for establishing a Home at Hilton Head, (this special relief work hitherto having been performed under great disadvantages,) but the recent removal of heavy forces from the department has deferred for the present the execution of the plan.

At Washington, Alexandria, Annapolis, Convalescent Camp, Camp Parole, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Boston, the special relief work of the Commission has continued much as heretofore, with these exceptions, viz.:

ALEXANDRIA.

At Alexandria increasing demands have called for increased accommodations.

CAMP PAROLE.

At Camp Parole new portable houses have been put up for the relief agents and for a storehouse. In connection with this station we have also a carpenter's shop, with suitable tools, where many of the invalids find amusement and occupation. A garden is also started here.

PHILADELPHIA.

At Philadelphia the special relief work is under Col. Soert, (formerly relief agent in the Army of the Potomac,) who has been appointed and whose labors are wisely directed by the Philadelphia Branch. Col. Soert, as I understand, is doing a very valuable work—similar in general terms to the work undertaken at Lodge No. 4 in Washington.

BOSTON.

From Boston a report has been received, which is herewith submitted. It shows continued earnestness, wise and efficient action, joined to the most carefully elaborated and perfect system, which has yet been seen in any section of the Commission's work.

PORTLAND, ME.

A Home or Lodge has been established at Portland, Me., where none existed before. It does good service.

PORTSMOUTH, VA.

A new Lodge has also been opened within three months at Portsmouth, Va., with large facilities and corresponding opportunities for usefulness. Report appended.

The "Agency for Fresh Hospital Supply Purchases" has been discontinued. During its continuance, the advantages which had been secured to the Hospitals were evident and real. The Medical Director estimated that ten per cent. of their entire Hospital Fund had been saved to the Hospitals by this Agency.

"CANVASSING AGENTS."

Of Canvassing Agents, there are in the East, as follows:

Dr. Parish, with a wide field.
Dr. Van Ingen, in Northern New York.
Mr. Hadly, in Maine.
Rev. Mr. Tuttle, in New Jersey.
Mr. Rathburn, in Western Pennsylvania.
Mr. Ball, in Massachusetts.
Major Bush, in Western New York.

Besides these, there are some persons, mostly women, employed by the various "Branch Societies," as at Philadelphia and Boston.

The *theory* is, for these agents above named, to receive their appointment and assignment to duty from this office, but their special instructions from the managers of that branch of the Commission whose supervision covers the special field to which the Agent is assigned.

It is believed that the work of these Agents has been productive of good, both in imparting information and correcting prejudices, and also in stimulating supplies.

The reports of Dr. Parish and of Dr. Van Ingen accompany this.

I wish to suggest the importance of adding to the Agents thus engaged, and, perhaps, to systematize the work more fully, by placing the responsibility of its conduct upon one person, who shall also be a lecturer, but whose duty it will be to keep informed of the condition and demands of the field.

Yours respectfully,

F. N. KNAPP,
Associate, Secretary.

THE COMMISSION ON THE RED RIVER.

Dr. Crane writes from New Orleans, April 21st:

In my letter to you of the 15th, I furnished you with a general summary of our recent work up to that date. We have subsequently continued our operations upon pretty much the same scale.

Five invoices of stores have been sent forward to Mr. Mitchell since the 15th. They will average about fifty boxes and barrels each.

I proposed forwarding to you by this mail complete lists of these shipments. But copies are not made, or if made, cannot be found this morning. We have now sent to the front most of our stock on hand in this city. I shall reserve the balance, issuing more sparingly, particularly such stores as cannot be replaced, except from the North. Indeed, I think that the necessities resulting from the late engagements have already, for the most part, been supplied either through the ordinary channels, or by the recent efforts of the Commission.

I am happy in being able to inform you, that Dr. Sheldon, Acting Medical Director here, has succeeded finally in obtaining for

the Quartermaster's Department, a few thousand dollars of that hospital tax fund, which now amounts in this Department to more than a quarter of a million of dollars —and of which, I shall have something to say some day.

With this assistance, Dr. S. has been able to make purchases of fruit, milk, stimulants, which will probably obviate the necessity of our purchasing largely hereafter, especially as Dr. Sheldon, has not only engaged heartily in this work, but has exhibited towards the Commission the most liberal and generous feeling.

I hear from the army the most glowing accounts of our good work. Stevens is securing golden opinions; Barnard is splendid, and Edgerly the subject of almost unmeasurable praise. But it is quite invidious to mention a few names when our whole force has worked most untiringly, and every man has tried at least to do his duty.

In my letter of the 15th, I alluded to the interest taken by Mayor Hoyt in our Commission.

I forward to you a copy of a letter written to him on the following day; it may prove of interest as a part of the history of recent events.

Mr. Baker, of the "Varieties," informs me that the result of the *benefit* given me in our behalf on Monday evening last, was much less satisfactory than he expected, but that he has succeeded very well with the subscription list opened at the office of the theatre. He thinks that he will be able on Monday to place in my hands ($2,000) two thousand dollars, as the result of this effort in behalf of the Commission.

I make a requision on Mr. Collins by this mail, for a new and large supply of stores.

When the hurry has passed, I will endeavor to furnish Mr. Knapp with some sort of a general sketch of our work.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
NEW ORLEANS, *April* 10, 1864.

STEPHEN HOYT, *Captain U. S. Army,*
Acting Mayor of New Orleans:

DEAR SIR—I am sorry that I have been unable to comply with your request at an earlier hour. I have the pleasure, however, of now forwarding to you the enclosed list of stores issued from the depot of the U. S. Sanitary Commission in this city, and shipped to Alexandria, for the use of the sick and wounded in our armies during the present campaign.

50 Woolen Shirts,
100 Canton Flannel Shirts,
220 Cotton do.
420 Hospital do.
100 pair Woolen Drawers,
217 pair Canton Fl. Drawers,
200 pair Cotton Drawers,
317 Woolen Socks,
112 Wrappers,
140 pair Slippers,
360 Sheets,
100 Blankets,
88 Bed Sacks,
105 Pillows,
91 Quilts,
250 Towels,
292 Cushions.
1 bbl. Cotton pieces,
2 bbls. Lint,
2 bbls. Bandages,
1 bbl. Rags,
6 bbls. Lint and Bandages.
25 Flannel Bandages,
20 yds. Oil Silk,
4 yds. Rubber Cloth,
50 Musquito Bars,
10 pieces Musquito Netting,
500 Fans,
20 Sick Feeders (Medicine Cups,)
18 Catheters,
73 Sponges,
2 Bed Pans,
20 Tin Basins,
18 Lanterns,
1 Urinal;
4 Tin Buckets,
1 Water do.
124 Tin Cups,
20 lbs. Nails,
48 bottles Brandy,
5 gallons do.
48 bottles Sherry,
54 do. Whisky,
7½ gallons do.
24 bottles Domestic Wine,
16 Cases Claret,
50 gallons do.
3 bbls. Ale,
36 bottles Bay Rum;
7 kegs Pickles,
13 jars do.
286 barrels Vegetables and Pickles,
15 do. do.
2 bbls. Potatoes,
6 do. Cabbage in curie,
1 bbl. Dried Fruit,
1 box do.
41 cans Fruit,
3 bbls. Dried Apples,
32 do. Crackers,
100 lbs. Barley,
200 do. Corn Starch,
98 do. Farina,
500 do. Soft Bread,
15 do. Arrow Root,
48 do. Beefstock,
3 Sugar-cured Hams,
7 boxes Codfish,
1 bbl. Eggs,
48 cans Tomatoes,
150 lbs. Chocolate,
30 do. Cocoa,
864 do. Cond. Milk,
2 kegs Butter,
3 bbls. White Sugar,
1 bbl. Sugar,
72 boxes Lemonade,
30 cases Lemons,
1,000 lbs. Ice,
12 lbs. Soap,
15 do. Chloroform,
12 bottles Chlorate Soda,
15 do. Red Pepper,
62 lbs. Tobacco (chew'g,)
50 do. (smok'g,)
1 gross Pipes,
½ Ream Letter Paper,
650 Sheets do.
1,250 Envelopes,
3 bottles Ink,
1 gross Pens,
2 boxes Reading Matter.
Tin Basins, Towels, Condensed Coffee, and many other articles, of which Mr. Grant has the list.

Additional stores were placed on the Laurel Hill, to be issued on the boat, by one of the agents well acquainted with the hospital transport service, who will return with the wounded she may bring to this city.

Thus much has already been done. More still remains to be done.

The greatest necessities which it is our mission and duty to meet, will probably arise from a want of sufficient hospital clothing, as also from a want of proper hospital food.

Of clothing, we have now on hand a very good stock, blankets and bed-sacks excepted, which we are expecting to receive from a ship now many days due.

Our supplies of hospital food and delicacies have been relatively smaller; sufficient to meet ordinary demands, but quite insufficient for an emergency like the present.

I, therefore, was compelled immediately I heard of the necessities of our hospital service, to make purchases in this city of some lemons, milk, ice, &c., to the amount of seven hundred dollars. Most of these articles have already been sent to the front.

With reference to the future, I intend to repeat my recent purchases, and send forward sanitary supplies on every available boat, so long as the want, suffering and wretchedness, consequent upon the late engagements may continue to claim our aid and succor.

It is impossible for me at the present moment, to say precisely what amount of money it may be necessary to expend. Two thousand dollars may be sufficient—it may

not be; no definite exact statements of either the number or condition of the wounded have as yet reached me.

I have received several communications, the last dated at Alexandria, on the 13th instant, from our agents—six or seven of whom are now either at Alexandria, or with the army beyond. From these despatches I infer that there is little danger of our overdoing for many days to come—the substance of them is, provide everything for 2,500 wounded men.

I shall, so far as possible, make my issues continuously, believing that any efforts we may make, well and judiciously sustained, are much more likely to accomplish the greatest good, than a hundred attempts to do every thing at once. I have made arrangements for sending a ton of ice to the front every day, if possible.

I shall have a large shipment ready for the next boat, which will leave to-morrow or next day—a trusty agent will go with them.

In conclusion, I can only return to you, sir, in behalf of the Commission, my most sincere thanks for the aid which you have so promptly and so generously extended to me.

Yours, very respectfully,
EDWARD A. CRANE,
Agent of the U. S. San. Com.,
Department of the Gulf.

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Mr. Barnard writes from Alexandria, April 13:

My visit to the army has been attended with much to depress and distress the mind of one anxious for his country's welfare.

Nothing of moment transpired on the way up. We expected, and were somewhat disappointed in not meeting with some opposition from the Bushwackers, at the many dark and woody points that favored an ambush.

We felt prepared for them, as we had a full complement of ready-loaded muskets, besides our guard. There were on board some twenty sutlers and their clerks, all ready to show their markmanship. The monotony was broken by shooting at the numerous alligators that line the banks, many of them being of vast size.

On Monday morning, the hospital boat, Laurel Hill, was ordered to prepare to receive the wounded. I delivered a portion of the sanitary stores taken up to Mr. Stevens, reserving the balance for use on the Laurel Hill. I went on shore, and assisted Mr. Stevens to distribute the supplies to the different hospitals; visited his camp; was shown under what disadvantages he labored in transporting goods to the army.

Mr. Stevens is the right man in the right place. He enjoys the confidence of the officers, and receives every attention, and particularly from the quartermaster. He could afford much more relief had he the supplies necessary.

About ten o'clock, the mournful ambulances, with their living, DYING contents, darkened the road leading to the boat, who were transferred, some in stretchers; others hopping on one foot, sustained by two men; this one carried in the arms of friends; that one hobbling along on two sticks, picked up for the occasion, that answered for crutches. Some walked on board, without help, with mutilated arms, hands, head, neck, nose, ear, mouth, breast and eye.

The temporary berths in the middle of the hall were first filled, then the state rooms, then the floors, afterwards the spaces on the outside of the cabin—the ladies' cabin was occupied for General Remson and another wounded officer—the engine-room was next called into requisition; thus the entire guards, the wood racks, cock-lofts, the spaces under the wheel-houses, and finally the Texas hall and sky-light decks were required to hold the 500 mangled beings who were seeking to escape death's door, by a passage on the Laurel Hill—numbers of whom were without blanket, without coat, without baggage, and almost *sans culottes*, sans every thing, having left them for the benefit of the rebels. Well, here was a field open for prompt action—"*hic opus est, hic labor*"—only three or four surgeons on board, minus surgical instruments, medical chests, or in fact, any appliances to make the wounded comfortable—off coat and at it, was the word. But who can describe the sufferings of these poor soldiers, most of whom had been three days without nourishment or attention, riding over a rough road of 35 miles.

We put to their parched lips cups of milk punch, wine and water, as their case demanded, and oh, what heart-felt thanks would greet our ears: "God bless you," "That is worth $5," "How good and kind you are." When told that their friends at home had furnished these things, tears would well up, their countenance brighten, and expressions of gratitude would fall from their quivering lips. One man said: "Little did I think that when I and wife were donating our mite in Ashtabula, Ohio, that I should be one of the recipients; God bless the folks at home."

While the nurses and surgeons were dressing their wounds, we would administer hot coffee, tea and chocolate, with a Boston cracker, and with what relish would they partake! Some whose teeth were shot out were served with gruels and soups. Pickles and vinegar were freely distributed; a small piece of soap was handed with a clean towel to him who was able to help himself; this man had a pair of drawers, that one a clean shirt to replace their

bloody ones; a sweet smelling sheet was placed under this, a soft pillow or cushion under that; a warm clean blanket spread over their persons appeared to give them comfort, a comb assisted their toilet, a book or paper or pamphlet was given them to read, to beguile the lonesome hour; some asked for pen and paper to address a hasty line home, informing the folks that they were among the living.

Many of the officers, coming on board all worn down and covered with dust, after receiving a generous cup from the Sanitary, would extol in language not to be misunderstood the members and friends of our institution.

Your agent here, Mr. Edward Mitchell, stands head and shoulders over all, possessing the esteem and good will of the army and people. He chafes under a curb bit; he wants to administer free waters to all the thirsty of the army.

Mr. Mitchell writes from the same place five days later:

Yours of 13th and 15th received, also stores in generous quantities and with prompt dispatch, by the Hattie Gilmore, in charge of Mr. Foote, by the Laurel Hill, in charge of Mr. Edgerly, and just now by Chateau, in charge of Philip. I thank you for responding as you have done so promptly to my requests for stores. Edgerly tells me you directed him to return with the Laurel Hill.

Most of the stores will be needed, and will be forwarded as soon as transportation can be procured to the front, with Mr. Foote in charge, to report to Mr. Stevens. Mr. Barnard I sent up on Saturday with all but a scanty supply of stores I retained here, in case of emergency; he will return as soon as possible. Dr. Alexander will tell you how opportune was the arrival there of our little supply and our agents; the army and its officials are grateful indeed for what we have done and are doing. To-day seventy-five men have been given clean underclothes; some came in with no socks, others no shirts, and yet others with no drawers on; the number at the counter threaten to break the bank before we are an hour older. No stores will come amiss here for a week to come at least.

I think that a "Rest" of some kind may become desirable in case of an advance at or beyond Grand Ecore. I would put Edgerly in charge, and let Mr. Foote report to Stevens in the field. Mr. Stevens I have not heard from since he left on the flag of truce expedition.

Mr. Edgerley says:

Agreeable to your instructions, I, on Friday the 15th instant, with stores as per invoice, left New Orleans on the hospital transport Laurel Hill, for Alexandria, at which point we arrived on the morning of the 17th. After delivering to Mr. Reynolds the stores designed for the Home, and reserving a few supplies for the use of the sick and wounded on the Laurel Hill, I, at Mr. Mitchell's request, turned over to him the balance of the stores in my charge. After receiving on board some two hundred and fifty soldiers, sick and wounded, we, the same evening, left Alexandria for this city. Owing to the energy of Dr. McClellan, Surgeon in charge, the Laurel Hill had been well fitted out with bunks, mattresses, rations, cooking arrangements, &c., which, with the addition of Sanitary stores, furnished by the Commission, rendered the condition of patients on board, very comfortable, compared with that of those first brought to this city from the recent field of action. As, has always been the case in every transport filled with sick and wounded, we found an abundant opportunity to lend a helping hand, which we endeavored to do by the way of dressing wounds, preparing cooling drinks, and supplying many of the destitute with comfortable under clothing, for which more than one disabled soldier, with moistened eyes and faltering voice said: "God bless the dear ladies at home, and the Sanitary Commission." Arriving in this city at an early hour this morning, the wounded men were promptly removed to the hospital, and the Laurel Hill, after undergoing a thorough cleansing, will return to Alexandria for another load of our wounded veterans.

THE COMMISSION AND THE SURGEONS.

CAMP NEAR BRANDY STATION, VA.,
April 6th, 1864.

DR. LEWIS H. STEINER,
Chief Inspector, Sanitary Commission, Army of the Potomac:

SIR—My attention has been attracted by an article in the New York *Evening Post* of the 1st inst., in which it is stated that certain general officers of this army "do not acknowledge that the Sanitary Commission has rendered any important service" in this army.

I regret much to see such an article published in an influential paper, as it does gross injustice to the Sanitary Commission, which has rendered incalculable service to this army; and any thing done to weaken the hands of its friends, is an injury to the cause of humanity.

I joined the Army of the Potomac at Harrison's Landing in July, 1862, and from that time to the present, have seen food, clothing and delicacies, that could not otherwise be obtained, distributed liberally and impartially to wounded, sick, and enfeebled soldiers; and, to my certain knowledge, much suffering has been alleviated and prevented by the forethought and en-

ergy of the agents of the Sanitary Commission, in having constantly on hand, and accessible, such supplies as were most needed.

I have drawn, from the storehouses of the Commission in the army, supplies for several different regiments and hospitals during that time, and have always found the agents of the Commission in possession of such supplies as were most needed, and ready to distribute them to the suffering, whether officers or enlisted men.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. N. FREEMAN,
Surgeon 106th N. Y. Infantry.

CAMP 14TH REGT., N. J. VOLS.,
1ST BRIG., 3D DIV., 6TH C. A. P.,
April 6th, 1864.

DR. LEWIS H. STEINER:

DEAR SIR—Having had my attention called to an article in the New York *Evening Post* of April 1st, 1864, regarding the efficiency of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, I beg to state, that during the marches the past summer, when it has been very difficult, or even impossible, to obtain sanitary stores for the sick in ambulance trains, or even in hospitals, when established, I have never failed to obtain such stores as required by calling upon the Commission. Their supplies, always keeping with the train, were ever at hand. I will also state, that on several occasions during the past winter, I have called upon Mr. S. M. Blazier, Sanitary Agent, 3d Corps, for such articles as were required in our regimental hospital, and could not be obtained elsewhere, and have been promptly supplied.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. S. MARTIN,
Surgeon 14th N. J. V.

138TH REGT., PENNA. VOLS.,
2D BRIG., 3D DIV., 6TH CORPS,
4th Mo. 6th, 1864.

DEAR DOCTOR—Mr. Blazier called upon me this morning, and exhibited an extract from a New York paper, which, in effect, stated that several of the prominent generals of this army have declared the Commission of no "benefit in their departments," &c. What may have been the ground for this declaration, of course I know nothing; but being connected with *the* department in which the Commission is mainly intended to operate—*i. e.*, among sick and wounded—and having witnessed in so many instances its beneficial operations, I most cordially bear my testimony in its favor. Not only have I witnessed these good effects in the field, but also in general hospitals. The sick of my own from the stores of the Commission. In an enterprise of the magnitude of the Sanitary Commission, where its operations extend over so wide a field, it is not surprising that errors and irregularities should creep in; but they are of minor importance, when compared with the great good accomplished.

I am, doctor,
Your friend,
CHARLES E. CADY,
Surgeon, 138th Regt. Penn. Vols.

TO DR. LEWIS H. STEINER,
244 F Street, Washington, D. C.

The following, also, will not be out of place here, though not from a Surgeon:

HEADQUARTERS 104TH PENNA. VOLS.,
MORRIS ISLAND., S. C., *Nov.* 15, 1863.

DR. MARSH,
Inspector Sanitary Commission.

SIR—I feel it a duty as well as a pleasure, to make some acknowledgment for the many favors received from your truly benevolent Commission, by the men of my command, during the operations against Charleston. Since our arrival on Morris Island, in August, the men of my command have been on duty almost continuously of the most hazardous character. The supply of vegetables received from the Commissary was totally inadequate to meet the demands. Your Commission has kindly supplied to meet the deficiencies. We have been supplied almost daily with ice, and upon the return of the men from duty in the trenches, as they clustered around the barrel for their cups of ice water, the feeling of all was, God bless the Sanitary Commission. Trusting that you may still go on with your work, and that the men in other Departments of the Army may receive like advantages,

I remain, &c.,
EDWARD L. ROGERS,
Maj. 104th Penna. Vols.,
Commanding Regiment.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE CAMPAIGN IN VIRGINIA.

Dr. Steiner reports May 1st:

Since sending in my report for the quarter ending April 1st, the operations of my department have been confined to the distribution of stores, as needs might arise, the organization of corps to meet the emergencies of the spring campaign, and the collection of supplies at local depots for subsequent use. In the bustle and confusion consequent upon preparations for active work throughout this wide field, it will be impossible to furnish a very full report. What I have to give must be more of a sketchy character than in detail. I shall divide it into three portions, corresponding with the three districts composing the de-

1. *The Upper District, Maj. Gen. F. Sigel's command, from Cumberland Eastwards.*—Our operations here were commenced by Charles C. Harris, as stated in my last report, on the 19th of March, and were afterwards somewhat more fully organized under the direction of Col. A. H. Poten, whose previous position as one of General Sigel's officers, gave him special advantages. The fullest privileges we could ask were granted by the General commanding, and it was hoped that the labors of Col. Poten would continue of avail to the Commission, but the health of his father, Maj. Gen. Poten, of Hanover, Germany, requiring him to visit Germany, he resigned his position, and his resignation was accepted on the 16th of April. Col. George A. Muhleck, (formerly Col. 73d Pa. Vol.,) late attached to the 1st Army Corps, as Relief Agent, has been appointed Superintendent. Col. M., is, however, now absent, in consequence of sickness in his family, and Mr. Harris, the Acting Superintendent.

The storehouse established at Harper's Ferry is located in one of the Government buildings, which was placed at our disposal by the Commanding General, and has been kept pretty well supplied with stores from Washington. The officers of this district are exceedingly courteous, and well disposed towards the Commission. Every facility has been extended to make our work effective and useful. Mr. Roberts is the migratory agent along the railroad, and will most likely accompany the expedition of Gen. Sigel to Winchester. Mr. Harris acts as Hospital Visitor in the region around Harper's Ferry, where most of the hospitals are aggregated. These gentlemen have been only assigned to duty within the last few days, but have shown an earnestness which gives me the right to expect good work from them.

It may be well to state that Mrs. Poten, having acted as a volunteer aid at our depot in the Ferry for some weeks, is anxious to continue in that capacity during Col. Poten's absence from the country. If arrangements can be made to retain her services, we shall do so.

2. *The Middle District—Army of the Potomac—Field Relief Corps.*—Some slight changes have been made in this corps since my last report. Charles S. Betts was transferred on the 21st of April to the E. Va. Corps. Selah Howell was appointed Relief Agent on the 19th ultimo, and William B. Marsh on the 26th. Mr. Johnson returned to duty on the 20th, and resumed his position as Superintendent.

In addition to their ordinary duties of visiting regiments, the Relief Agents have been actively engaged in getting wagons and teams ready for the approaching campaign. In this work Captain Harris has been laboring with his usual zeal and fidelity. Five wagons, stout, strong and substantial, with good four-horse teams, and well supplied with assorted supplies, are now with the army on the march. The two superintendants accompany them, and will lend assistance wherever it may be needed in the work. Great care has been taken to make the Sanitary outfit of such a character as will enable the agents to supplement the stores which the Medical Department take with them. The medical stores carried by the army in the present campaign exceed by far those carried in previous campaigns. These are so liberal in the 6th Corps, that its Medical Director, Dr. Holman, declined giving his consent or permission for a Sanitary wagon in his hospital train. He claims that he has stores sufficiently large to supply five thousand men for five days. Should he succeed in providing for the wants of his wounded without extra assistance, he will have acquired a reputation of which any Medical Director might be proud; should he fail, the country will not be likely to overlook his disregard of that assistance which was freely offered him. It is well to add, that I have been informed that all the medical officers of the 3d Division, 6th Corps, have entered an urgent application, approved by Gen. Ricketts, that a Sanitary wagon might accompany them.

The breaking up of our station, familiarly called the "Sheborg," by the Field Relief Corps, at Brandy, closes a four months of good honest work by this Corps,—of work which has brought the comforts of our stores to hundreds and thousands of the sick and suffering; the advantages of a lodge and resting place to over a thousand way-worn and exhausted soldiers and their friends, and a place of resort for all who wished help and assistance, in addition to that furnished by the regular army supplies. There is a historic interest about the old house, which formed the centre of our quarters, that will make it of special attraction hereafter to those who have derived benefit therefrom, as well as to the laborers who have faithfully worked under directions, and with stores issued from it.

With the view of meeting the wants of a large battle, on the 15th of April last I prepared a list of articles presumed to be necessary, on the basis of ten thousand wounded. I suggested that these stores should be held in depot, subject alone to orders for the coming exigency. The Associate Secretary, with great promptness and readiness, forwarded a requisition for the same, and I am pleased to know that we have the materials in the storehouses with which relief can be brought to the needy and suffering. The only problem to be solved is, "How shall transportation be secured to the point where the need exists?" Should the battle

tion, we have the assurance, freely given, of the Provost Marshal General of the Army of the Potomac, that a car, or cars, will be placed at our disposal. Should the new base of supplies be on the water, it will be absolutely necessary that we have a boat at our disposal, so as to allow us independent means of transportation. This subject deserves the most careful study and prompt action, if the conclusion be arrived at to procure a boat. It may be well to state, that the indications now justify the opinion that the railroad will be deserted. It is true that some three hundred empty cars have been sent to the front,—these may be intended to bring in to Washington the wounded and prisoners from the first engagement, or to transport a portion of a corps. In any case, it is evident that the intention of the military authorities is not to retain the wounded in the field, but to transport to Washington as speedily as possible.

Notwithstanding the views contained in the preceding paragraph, I have deemed it well that a corps of ready and, to a certain extent, trained workers should be formed, whose duties should be to take charge, so long as supplementary assistance is needed on any field, of the sanitary work. It is proposed that they, under a proper superintendent, should subordinate all their work to the wishes and orders of medical officers, and their duties are expressly stated to be non-interference with, but aid to the latter in affording relief and comfort to the suffering. After due consultation with the Associate Secretary, and an expression of approval, the Hon. Frank B. Fay, of Chelsea, Mass., whose name has almost been the synonyme for honest, conscientious, loving care of our sick and wounded in the hospitals, after all our large battles in the East, was appointed. The Auxiliary Relief Corps will consist of some volunteers, who have engaged to give up the comforts of home and family for this grand work of charity, and twenty-four theological students from Princeton and New York, who have applied for position in the same; believing that it was a duty peculiarly fitting for those who have the holy ministry in view, to administer to the needy, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and smooth the pillow for the dying.

Mr. Fay is here now, and has entered upon the duties of fitting his corps for the field with an alacrity and zeal that demonstrates the fact that he is the man for the place, and his corps show a spirit that satisfies us their enlistment in the cause will redound to the benefit of the Commission and the good of the soldiers. He is meeting them at stated hours during the day, and imparting, from the rich stores of his own personal experience, such instructions as will divest them of the ignorance which marks all new men endeavoring to act as nurses.

With these two corps, the Field Relief Corps—moving *with* the army, the Auxiliary Relief Corps—ready to do work whenever the emergency demands it, and as soon as the field of its operations can be reached,—with a vast accumulation of stores at our depots ready for use,—with the securing of such transportation as may be practicable or attainable,—the Commission may safely say it has left no stone unturned to make the way open for the full performance of its duty. Whatever be the result, the Chief Inspector feels that all efforts will have been made, as far as human judgment can aid, to be prepared for the emergency. God grant us the means of doing all He has put it in our hearts to do for our suffering soldiers!

3. *The Lower District.—Major General B. F. Butler's Command.*—Mr. R. Cecil Nevin has fitted himself for his duties as relief agent, in charge of the department of Norfolk, with commendable alacrity and promptness. His reports—dated April 9, 16, 23 and 30—show an increasing fitness for, and execution of, the duties assigned him. The Norfolk Relief Corps at present consists of three gentlemen.

The amount of stores kept in stock here has been largely increased of late, in order to meet the wants of an army which has been collecting for some time past at or near Yorktown, on the Peninsula. Finding, some two weeks since, that it would be necessary to have a separate organization with this army, I proceeded to organize the Peninsula Relief Corps. This, with various changes and modifications required by the demands of this army, consists at present of ten gentlemen.

Some of these are on the field, and the others are on their way thither. An order, dated May 4, separates this district from my department, and places it under the supervision of Dr. A. McDonald, Sanitary Inspector. I part with it with great regret, as, under much difficulty, a systematic organization of the Norfolk work had been effected during the past winter, and a similar result was being attained for the Peninsula Corps; but the selection of Dr. McDonald as the immediate chief inspector on the ground, will ensure the greatest possible success to the work of the Commission, and will enable him to carry out his own noble and earnest desire to aid the hearts' desires of the people of our great nation.

Issues made by the Field Relief Corps, Army of the Potomac, during the months of January, February and March, 1864:

1,044 Bed Ticks,	462 Cotton Socks, pairs.
130 Cushions,	3,456 Woolen Socks, pairs
1,378 Pillows,	324 bottles Brandy,
2,492 Pillow Cases,	3,609 lbs. Cond'd Milk,
716 Pillow Ticks,	1,206 lbs. Corn Starch,
733 Quilts,	1,296 lbs. Farina,

1,388 Sheets,	697 bottles Jellies & Preserves.
402 Spoons,	100 lbs. Salt Fish,
2,370 Towels,	600 lbs. Sugar.
358 Tin Pans,	486 bot. Foreign Wine,
3,092 Woolen Drawers,	498 bots. Wines & liq'rs,
1,162 Handkerchiefs,	1,864 Needle Books,
1,770 Mittens,	154 lbs. Soap,
3,158 Woolen Shirts,	1,500 Envelopes.
1,125 Slippers, pairs,	

Issues made from storehouse of U. S. Sanitary Commission to troops from Cumberland, Md., eastwards to Monocacy, during months of January, February, and March, 1864:

354 Woolen Shirts,	374 Cotton Drawers,
278 Drawers,	324 " Shirts,
273 Pillows,	142 Slippers,
138 lbs. Chocolate,	286 Woolen Socks,
160 lbs. Corn Starch,	25 lbs. Arrowroot,
240 cans Beef Stock,	344 Needle Cases,
200 lbs. Oatmeal,	100 Tin Plates,
231 lbs. Sugar,	77 Sheets,
220 Bedticks,	74 cans Tomatoes,
116 Blankets,	2,750 Envelopes,
170 Cushions,	108 cans Milk,
299 Pillow Cases,	300 Handkerchiefs,
160 " Ticks,	100 Eye Shades,
529 Towels,	192 bbls. Farina.

Issues made from storehouse at Norfolk, Va., during months of January, February, and March, 1864:

307 Woolen Shirts,	72 bottles Bay Rum,
619 " Drawers,	100 Quilts,
144 bottles Brandy,	69 bottles Cologne,
228 lbs. Farina,	2,376 sheets Note Paper,
88 jars Jelly,	197 cans Beef Stock,
120 galls. Pickles,	300 Tin Cups,
72 bottles Jam. Rum,	386 Sheets,
156 " Wine, for'n,	2,560 Envelopes,
442 lbs. Sugar,	240 cans Milk,
250 Bedticks,	50 Games,
560 Pillow Cases,	12 bottles Spirits Camp'r,
432 Slippers,	100 Tin Basins.
935 Woolen Socks,	

A variety of articles issued in smaller quantities are omitted from the above list.

THE HOSPITALS AND SANITARY STATIONS IN TENNESSEE.

Dr. Read gives the following account of a tour of inspection he has just made:

Soon after my last report I left Nashville for the purpose of visiting the different posts of the Commission in this department, and the hospitals and camps in their vicinity, that I might learn the condition of the soldiers, what Government is doing to supply their wants, the efficiency of the work of the Commission, and what supplies are most needed for present and future use.

I first visited Chattanooga, where I found our agents working up to their full strength. The store-room, in charge of M. D. Bartlett, was clean, and all the goods arranged in order. Mr. Bartlett is kind, courteous, patient, ready to investigate carefully every call for help, and is eminently qualified for his place.

The Hospital Visitor there, Rev. Prof. Hosford, is well received, and is a valuable member of the Commission.

Dr. Hazen, Special Relief Agent of the Commission, has gone home on furlough on account of ill-health.

Mr. Worth, the Transportation Agent, is sick, and will leave as soon as he is able to bear the ride home. M. C. Read, while he has an eye to all parts of the work, was at the time of my visit much occupied with the large hospital gardens. Two hundred acres, including forty acres of vineyard, will soon be planted. This land had to be fenced and plowed. The seed and many garden implements were furnished by the Commission by purchase; but many more implements were obtained by order of Gen. Thomas from the abandoned farms in the vicinity, most of which, within five or six miles, were visited for that purpose.

The land selected is of excellent quality, and we have reason to expect a yield sufficient to supply all the wants of the hospitals in the vicinity, at a time when vegetables cannot be obtained from the North.

The hospitals I found in an improved condition. Many of the sick have been removed, and several hospitals have been broken up since my last visit. The General Field Hospital, in charge of C. E. Byrne, Ass't Surg. U. S. A., on April 5th, contained 555 patients, including the small-pox ward, which had 55. The mortality had been large, 143 deaths in March, including all cases, refugees and negroes, as well as soldiers. Total number of cases treated was 959. There were white soldiers remaining sick the last of February, 467—wounded 71; admitted during March, sick, 400, wounded, 21. Returned to duty, 263; sent to other hospitals, 128; furloughed, 5; discharged, 2; died, 78; remaining sick, 440—wounded, 43.

Some of the principal diseases were as follows: small-pox, 30 cases; varioloid, 19 —of these there were 13 deaths; measles, 76, and 29 deaths; inflammation of the lungs 39, and 15 deaths. No scurvy.

U. S. Colored Troops—number treated during March, 105; returned to duty, 19; sent to other hospitals, 2; died, 23; remaining sick, 51; wounded, 4.

Citizen employees treated during the month, 53; returned to duty, 19; sent to other hospitals, 19; died, 6; remaining, 9.

No special wants, except vegetables, in this hospital, the surgeon having supplied many delicacies, and many others were drawn from the Commission.

Preparations are being made to build hospitals on Lookout Mountain. The Officers' Hospital has been removed there. Gen. Thomas advised me to make a garden also on the top of the mountain, as he thought it would be very convenient, and the land could be made to produce well by sending up fifty or a hundred loads of manure. I mention this to show that he was ready to give all necessary assistance.

The troops in the field were in better condition than in January or February. There was less scurvy, which very many

tables received from the Commission. I made an effort to obtain the amount of fresh vegetables issued by the Commissaries, and, from the statements received, I judge that but few rations have reached the soldiers for the last six months; not much more, in the aggregate, than was sold to the officers of regiments. Some regiments had not received one full ration of vegetables since the battle of Chickamauga, except what had been furnished by the Commission.

The camps that I visited were well policed and the men well clothed. The 14th U. S. Colored Troops were commanded by Col. Thomas Morgan. The regiment was organized February, 1864, and on March 1st contained 1,000 men, including officers.

Fisher W. Ames is surgeon. I did not see him; but the colonel informed me that the soldiers had all been systematically vaccinated. The camp was beautifully laid out, streets and ditches clean; everything in as good condition as any other regiment. Indeed, the camp was a model of order and neatness, and the black man, as he stood erect, bearing the arms and dressed in the uniform of our country, bore witness to a redeemed manhood.

Upon consultation with Dr. Perin, Medical Director, I telegraphed our agent at Bridgeport to break up camp and bring his tents and all the goods to Chattanooga, which he did; at the same time it was thought best to continue the depot at Stevenson. On my subsequent visit at Stevenson I found everything in most excellent condition. Mr. Wm. A. Sutliffe, the agent, has not been liberally furnished with goods, but had improved his time in attending to their careful distribution, and preparing comfortable quarters, which he had accomplished with no expense and very little help; his accommodations for himself and others show, to great advantage, how much can be done by ingenuity and industry. I visited with him the burial ground, for the purpose of obtaining a list of the dead, but did not succeed to any great extent; if one was kept, it was by the undertaker, whose books were in Huntsville.

I sent to him to obtain the list, which, if obtained, I will forward to you promptly. I found graves, fourteen in number, enclosed by a light railing, two of which were marked as follows: Joseph Littlejohn, Co. H, 18th Ohio, died July 7th, 1862, and Isaac Johnson, Co. D, 61st Ohio, died July 30, 1862. No others were marked. These were undoubtedly with Gen. Mitchell when he made his advance there.

The "Home," in Stevenson, established by Government, is in charge of Capt. Park Wheeler, 149th N. Y. During the return of troops to and from their homes, he has fed about 1,000 per day; lodging about 300 each night, while about 100 have been compelled to sleep in the open air without covering. He has received bed-sacks, comforts, candlesticks, sconces, and other articles of furniture from the Commission, as well as a liberal share of vegetables to feed his men. He wants several other articles, which I informed him would be furnished on a proper order.

Promising Mr. Sutliffe a more liberal supply of stores, I went on to Huntsville. There I found but one General Hospital, in charge of J. H. Early, 17th Iowa, with one assistant, and no lack of cooks and nurses. There were 53 patients. In the same building, mentioned in my last report as the "Calhoun House," in which one of the patients said, "we have a good house, but that is all; nothing good to eat, and hard beds," they now have comfortable beds, the surgeon remarking, "Sanitary has given to us all the comforts, and without them we should be comfortless."

The rooms of the Commission, in charge of Mr. May and Mr. Norton, are well kept, but at the time of my visit, they had few goods, and the calls for help were frequent.

The Western Sanitary Commission have a room next door, and seemed to have a better supply, yet not near enough for the demand.

Returning to Nashville, I visited Murfreesboro, April 18, where are six hospitals, one for small-pox, and one for contrabands, containing 760 patients in all, with the prospect that the number will be increased rather than diminished.

Rev. Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Hogue are doing all that could reasonably be asked of any man; Mr. Kennedy co-operating with the Post Chaplain, with him visiting the hospitals, and often preaching for him on invitation. The hospital garden in Murfreesboro' is much larger than last year, and, under the care of John Harmon, the same gardener, is even in better condition. It is mostly planted. Peas, onions, lettuce, beets, cabbage, &c., were up, and gave promise of an abundant and early harvest.

The hospitals in Nashville remain about the same as at my last report. The number of sick is (April 20) 4,282, in charge of Surgeon Clendennin, Assistant Medical Director of the department. The small-pox hospital is much better for the accommodation of the patients than the old one, and the mortality is less.

There are ten hundred and forty-three vacant beds. There are also four hundred and twenty-seven contrabands in hospital, about one-half of them soldiers.

The soldiers in the field are well clothed, and have no lack of good food, except fresh vegetables. But few of these, compared with the demand, are yet furnished; as proof, I select one letter from many of similar import:

. WHITESIDE, TENN., *April* 12, 1864.

Sanitary Commission, Nashville, Tenn.:

Our command is suffering much for want of vegetables. I have made every effort through our commissaries, and through your agents at Bridgeport and Chattanooga, to obtain them, but so far in vain. We report twenty to fifty cases of scurvy from two regiments alone, and those cases are on the increase. If you can send me direct, or through your agents, a few barrels of potatoes and onions, you will much oblige,

Your ob't serv't,

The great obstacle in the way of furnishing a supply is want of transportation, the demand for which is urgent from all points of the army, and we are obtaining perhaps our full share.

The commander at Knoxville telegraphs: "Send vegetables in preference to other commissary stores." Dr. Perin, the faithful Medical Director of the Army of the Cumberland, promises to aid us in procuring transportation for all we can furnish. Dr. Kitto, who has recently inspected the 11th and 15th Army Corps, assures me that the great want is fresh vegetables, although there are but few well marked cases of scurvy.

They are now going forward quite freely; on the 20th, five car loads; on the 21st, seven; and, in addition to the order to give us at least two cars daily, Captain Lyttle has promised to load two for Pulaski, and two for Decatur, which will be distributed by Mrs. Bickerdyke and Mrs. Porter.

Having forwarded the large amount of vegetables now here, and on the way, we must next turn our attention to securing in Chattanooga a large amount of reserved battle stores, and obtain for them, if possible, from that post, transportation. This will be the most difficult part of our work. We cannot procure teams, or feed them, without difficulty, if indeed it can be done at all, independently of the Government officers. And upon consultation with Gen. Webster, Gen. Sherman's chief of staff, to whom we are under many obligations for past favors, I have decided to depend on Government, and to offer to each medical director of divisions one wagon load of such stores as he may select, in addition to all the medical supplies he is permitted to take, to go forward as sanitary stores.

In conclusion, I have the pleasure of assuring you that the work of the Commission is vastly increased, and, so far as I can judge, is prosperous in all departments.

There are several Medical Inspectors in the Department, who report to Dr. Douglas, but Drs. Castleman and Parker have rendered me essential service in obtaining full statements from many brigades of the amount of vegetables issued by the Government.

There is not a General Hospital in the Department that is not visited often by one of our hospital visitors.

The special relief agents are constantly employed, and find, and often relieve, every variety of suffering.

Mothers coming for their children, wives seeking their sick husbands, are helped on their way; soldiers furloughed and discharged, are helped on their way to the homes they are so anxious to reach. Or a little girl comes and asks, "Where is my father?" Agent answers, "Don't know;" she replies, "Well, you ought to, you must have seen him; he wears Co. G., 83d Indiana, on his cap." Poor girl, she was not permitted to go to her father.

The Home in Nashville has been overcrowded, but is admirably managed by Capt. Brayton.

In addition to the one established by Government at Chattanooga, which is only common barracks, one is needed there to receive the sick, discharged, and furloughed soldiers who are sent back from the advance, and compelled to remain there awaiting transportation. I hope to be able to secure some better accommodations for them.

The transportation agents are taxed to their utmost in order to secure transportation where there is so much competition, and where success very much depends upon personal effort, even where the most liberal orders are maintained; but with all the difficulties, vegetables are being sent forward liberally, and I hope by securing a large supply of reserve stores, to be in readiness for impending movements.

Mr. Root, our Hospital Visitor at Nashville, also writes as follows on the condition of the troops encamped near that city, and the contribution of stores amongst them by the Commission in Jan. and Feb. last:

The number of men in these regiments, the number of sick and the character of their diseases, and the condition of the camps, I stated in a former report. The regiments that were stationed here for the time above specified, were from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee; besides detachments from other States. In many of them were regimental hospitals, and in all of them sick soldiers, under treatment by regimental surgeons. From the commanding officers and surgeons of these regiments I obtained information of the wants of their men in camp, and have from time to time furnished them with such sanitary supplies as were required.

From my frequent visits to their camps, I know that the supplies furnished were faithfully applied; and the officers and soldiers in many of them have voluntarily

united in letters of thanks to the Aid Societies and ladies of the Northern States, for the supplies received through their agency. Those letters I have forwarded to you, and many of them are published in a supplement to the *Sanitary Reporter*.

If any one doubts the good that is done through the U. S. Sanitary Commission, let him read the effusions of thankfulness from the warm hearts of our gallant soldiers. Testimony to the same effect could be had from thousands more, if it were desired.

The following articles, from the U. S. Sanitary Commission, were distributed among the soldiers of the regiments around Nashville, during the months of January and February, 1864:

Blankets, 42; comforts, 158; bedticks, 62; pillows, 121; pillow cases, 249; sheets, 212; shirts, 908; drawers, 672 pairs; towels, 588; socks, 636 pairs; slippers, 38 pairs; mittens, 150 pairs; fruit, 351 cans; condensed beef, 134 cans; dried fruit, 5,800 lbs.; groceries, 855 lbs., such as farina, &c.; wine and spirits, 272 bottles; condensed milk, 48 cans; apple butter, 88 gallons; pickles, 512 gallons; kraut, 2,150 gallons; potatoes, 623 bushels, onions, 231 bushels; ale 106 gallons; green apples, 14 bushels; crackers, 612 lbs.; tea, 50 lbs.; sugar, 370 lbs. Besides a variety of smaller articles.

The supplies furnished to State agencies from the U. S. Sanitary Commission, which are considerable, are not included in the above list of articles distributed. The greatest need I found to exist among the regiments from East Tennessee. The men of these regiments have been compelled to carry on a desultory warfare with the rebels, many months before Gen. Burnside reached Knoxville.

They had suffered every thing but the loss of their lives and honor. Their property had been plundered or destroyed, and they had been driven from their homes, to find shelter and a precarious subsistence in the mountains.

When protection came, they rallied under the federal flag, with brave hearts, but in a weak and exhausted bodily condition.

Owing to these circumstances, sickness had been more fatal among them, than among the men of other regiments. In talking upon this subject with Dr. Mitchell, the Surgeon of the 102d Ohio regiment of infantry, whose camp was near them, and who had often visited them when sick, he remarked, that when any of them had a severe attack of disease, they were sure to die, not only for the reason above mentioned, but for another reason which he stated, to this effect: they have no home, no pleasant future in anticipation; the mothers, and sisters, wives and daughters, of many of them, have perished; while those that survive are houseless wanderers, within the rebel lines, from whom no tidings can be had, or pining and starving amidst the desolations of their once happy country.

Such is the picture that continually presents itself before the minds of the East Tennessee soldiers; and when disease seizes upon them, it is no wonder that it should prove fatal, aggravated, as it must be, by sickness of heart that no medicine can cure.

The U. S. Sanitary Commission has done for them what it could, and I have the satisfaction of knowing it has done very much to relieve their sufferings.

HOMES AND LODGES.

NASHVILLE.

During the four weeks ending April 30, 4,750 soldiers have been admitted from twenty-four different States; 4,867 lodgings have been furnished, and 18,525 meals. Transportation has been furnished for 4,314; and pay, to the amount of $8,328.04, has been drawn and paid over.

MEMPHIS.

At the Lodge at Memphis there have been admitted, during the four weeks ending May 1st, 1,444 men, from twenty different States; 4,389 meals were furnished, and 1,169 lodgings. Transportation was procured for 117.

CAMP NELSON.

The following is a statement of the operations of the Home at this Post, for the month of April, 1864.

The uncertain destiny of Camp Nelson for the past month, seems to have suspended its usual operations, and also to have directed trade and travellers from the Camp.

However, Camp Nelson is not now the scene of the gigantic business which it once was, consequently, we have to report a smaller number of inmates of the Home for the month of April.

Number of lodgings for the month of April, 2,484. Number of meals for the month of April, 7,455.

On the 18th of April, Chaplain Henderson, of the 112th Illinois Regiment, advised me that (14) fourteen barrels of potatoes, (2) two kegs of pickles, and one box of sundries, were at Paris, Ky., for his regiment, and he desired me to procure them for distribution, as Sanitary stores. I immediately telegraphed for the stores, to be sent on to me at Camp Nelson.

This evening, Chaplain Pell, of the 12th Regiment of Cavalry, who, on the 28th of last December, left Knoxville, with me for Louisville, came to camp and informed me that for four months he had been lecturing in behalf of his special object, viz.: to raise Sanitary stores for his regiment, and his success had attained (16) sixteen boxes, and (5) five barrels, which he expected by Government transportation the same evening. Finding that his regiment had gone two days previous for Loudon, Tenn, he very wisely turned over the shipment to the depot here, taking my receipt for it.

The sterling philanthropy of Chaplain Pell is highly commendable. For four months he had labored assiduously to collect these stores for his regiment, and, doubtless, looked forward with much pleasure to the time when he should dispense them to the greedy men under his care.

Ascertaining that transportation could not be procured, he expressed himself equally recompensed by the assurance that the soldier in his sickness and need, whether from Michigan or Maine, or any other loyal State, might be comforted by them. This is the doctrine of justice and true benevolence.

I had thought that the good people who labor incessantly, and contribute so abundantly and generously for the soldier, had learned long ago the great impropriety and wastefulness positively incurred, by shipping stores to regiments. While at Murfreesboro', last summer, I received over a hundred boxes, for individuals and companies in the Army of the Cumberland, three-fourths of which were worthless, ere the owner could be found. So, in the shipment from Illinois for the 112th Regiment, the boxes regarded by the Chaplain as most valuable, were not worth a half dollar, while some of the barrels were damaged by long delays and careless handling. These consequences, so far as my experience extends, almost invariably attach to private shipments to State troops.

In conclusion, I will state the Home at Camp Nelson, is the Post Church. We have regular services morning and evening, every Lord's day, and a prayer meeting every Wednesday evening. Several protracted meetings have already been held. Chaplains who remain in camp with their comrades, are tendered the use of our large dining hall, which is frequently filled with soldiers, employees and visitors, both white and otherwise.

Dr. Woods, Chaplain U. S. A., and Rev. L. A. Payson, Hospital Visitor U. S. Sanitary Commission, are our regular preachers; while a stranger generally appears every week to aid them.

The Home is now thoroughly whitewashed, and the sodding, &c., will be completed this week.

WASHINGTON.

The following is some of the labor performed in this office for the quarter ending April 1st: Amount of money collected upon four hundred and sixty-six cases, $58,493.21; amount of money forwarded upon eighty drafts, $8,321.20; number of men lodged, 4,203; number of meals furnished, 20,915; number of letters written, 1,116; number of letters received, 233.

ANNAPOLIS.

The Rev. Mr. Hennis reports:

I have the honor to report that the Home in this city, established by your direction for the benefit of nurses, mothers, wives, and relatives of soldiers located in this vicinity, more especially for the sick and wounded in our hospitals, is in successful operation, meeting with general favor from those who visit it and know personally of its operations. During the latter part of January and the month of February, we had but very few visitors; as the exchange of prisoners was suspended, our hospitals, which are principally for the reception of paroled prisoners, being nearly cleared, and consequently there was little to call the relatives of soldiers to this point. During the month of March there has been a large increase, and at present the Home is well filled; and I cannot convey to you any adequate conception of the gratitude manifested by those who share the benefits of the Home, and believe that it is exerting a good influence, in recommending the Commission to the favorable consideration of those who have known but little of its operations in detail.

The number of meals and lodgings afforded since the 1st of January to the 1st of April are as follows: Meals, 1,221; lodgings, 408; besides a large number of meals which have been given to the male relatives of our soldiers, and others who have visited by invitation. I would suggest that permission be asked to purchase stores from the commissary of this post for the Home, on the same conditions as they are afforded to officers, which would be quite a saving to the Commission.

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION IN BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

A meeting of the Associate members of the United States Sanitary Commission was held a fortnight ago in the rooms of the Executive Committee, No. 76 Kingston Street, to listen to a report concerning the Special Relief Service of the Commission in this city, for the year ending March 31, 1864. H. B. Rogers, Esq., presided.

John B. Blatchford, Esq., on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Boston Associates, presented a report concerning the Special Relief of the Commission for the year ending March 31, 1864.

"The service was established April 1, 1863. Rooms located at No. 76 Kingston Street were furnished for the purpose. The establishment as now equipped consists of an office, reception room, sleeping rooms, containing 60 beds; a hospital ward, with 12 beds, with convenient wash rooms, bath rooms, and water closet; capacious closets for hospital stores, clothing, and linen, and a room appropriated for the use of the wives, mothers, and sisters of sick soldiers, who often accompany them on their return to their homes.

"The first applicant for aid was received April 7, 1863. Since then 11,190 soldiers have received aid, as classified in the following statement:

"Secured transportation at reduced (government) rate to 4,990; furnished transportation paid by the Commission to 193; secured transportation by U. S. Quartermaster for 781; furnished carriage within the city, for sick and feeble, for 1,627; special attendance to their homes in charge of messengers to 85; furnished lodging, 6,305; number of meals, 16,351—to 7,945; clothing—number of garments, 677—to 355; aid in arranging papers, 147; aid in obtaining pay, 190; medical advice, 400; wounds dressed, 279; procured commutation of rations, 75; loaned money, 51; gave money, 85; sent to hospital, 100; referred to local relief associations, 42; secured re-enlistment, 20; amount of back pay collected, $20,559 16; furnished undertaker's services 5; deaths 2.

"In addition to the above, a considerable amount of aid has been rendered to resident, discharged, disabled soldiers and their families; permanent and remunerative employment having, in some instances, been obtained for disabled men, who, otherwise, would remain a helpless burden upon our charities.

"Of the whole number thus aided, Maine has furnished 4,086; New Hampshire 768; Vermont 121; Massachusetts 4,422, Connecticut 51; Rhode Island 50; New York 140; New Jersey 2; Pennsylvania 34; Maryland 3; District of Columbia 34; Ohio 86; Kentucky 13; Michigan 7; Indiana 7; Illinois 15; Kansas 7; Iowa 10; Minnesota 24; Wisconsin 17; Missouri 5; Tennessee 2; Louisiana 4; Alabama 2; Virginia 2; Georgia 2: Delaware, California, North Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, and rebel army, 1 each; U. S. regulars, 550; U. S. Navy, 102; veteran reserve corps, 608; corps d'-Afrique, 18.

"The Hospital Car service between New York and Boston, established under the direction of the Executive Committee of the Commission in this city, Nov. 2, 1864, has been attended with satisfactory results, 4,805 soldiers having been transported.

"The total expenditure for the year, as shown by the Treasurer's account, has been $15,478.30, classified as follows: Rent and taxes, $640.49; furnishing repairs, $2,613.42; salaries, $2,148.61; traveling expenses, $212.57; advertising, $242.67; stationery and printing, $512.69; postage, $14; telegrams, $6.64; hospital stores, $238.59; superintendent's expense account, $6,877.07; miscellaneous, $240.67; hospital car transportation, $1,730.88.

"The average cost per man of the service for the first quarter, ending June 30, 1863, was $2.35; for the second quarter, ending September 30, 1863, $1.28; for the third quarter, ending December 31, 1863; $1.15; and for the fourth quarter, ending March 31, 1864, $1.08.

"The necessary funds for the support of the 'Special Relief Service' of the Commission in this city are drawn from the Treasurer of the Boston Branch, J. Huntington Wolcott, Esq. $10,000—being a portion of the proceeds of the Fair held in this city in December last, in aid of the Sanitary Commission—was donated for the support of this service, by the N. E. Woman's Auxiliary Association. The amount in the treasury, April 1, 1864, was $6,863.32, which, at the current rate of expenditures for the last quarter, will suffice to meet the expenses of the next four months.

"The rooms are open at all hours of the day and night, and provision is made at the principal railway stations to meet such soldiers as may require aid upon the arrival of trains, and convey them to the rooms or to connecting trains.

"It is the policy of the Commission to facilitate the return of all soldiers to their homes or camps with the least possible delay, but during their delay they enjoy the comforts of a home, with cheerful surroundings, and ever ready hands to minister all needed aid and comfort. Their frequent and earnest expressions of pleasure and gratitude evince their appreciation of the beneficent services thus rendered them."

To illustrate the great variety of cases in which the Commission has been of service to the soldier, Mr. Blatchford read several extracts from the record book, in which is recorded the name of every man who is in any way aided by the Commission, together with a sketch of the particular kind of help given him. These records were deeply interesting, and gave copious proofs of the efficiency of the organization.

MARKED ARTICLES.

Some of the marks which are fastened on the blankets, shirts, &c., sent to the Sanitary Commission for the soldiers, show the thought and feeling at home. Thus—on a home-spun blanket, worn, but washed as clean as snow, was pinned a bit of paper, which said: "This blanket was carried by Milly Aldrich, (who is ninety-three years old,) down hill and up hill, one and a half miles, to be given to some soldier."

On a bed quilt was pinned a card, saying: "My son is in the army. Whoever is made warm by this quilt, which I have worked on for six days and almost all of six nights, let him remember his own mother's love."

On another blanket was this: "This blanket was used by a soldier in the war of 1812—it may keep some soldier warm in this war against traitors."

On a pillow was written: "This pillow belonged to my little boy, who died resting on it; it is a precious treasure to me, but I give it for the soldiers."

On a pair of woolen socks was written: "These stockings were knit by a little girl five years old, and she is going to knit some more, for mother says it will help some poor soldier."

On a box of beautiful lint was this mark: "Made in a sick room, where the sunlight has not entered for nine years, but where God has entered, and where two sons have bid their mother good-bye, as they have gone out to the war."

On a bundle containing bandages was written: "This is a poor gift, but it is all I had. I have given my husband and my boy, and only wish I had more to give, but I haven't."

On some eye-shades were marked: "Made by one who is blind. Oh, how I long to see the dear old flag that you are all fighting under."—*Sanitary Reporter.*

NOTES ON NURSING.

WHAT FOOD?

I will mention one or two of the most common errors among women in charge of sick respecting sick diet. One is the belief that beef tea is the most nutritive of all articles. Now, just try and boil down a pound of beef into beef tea, evaporate your beef tea, and see what is left of your beef. You will find that there is barely a teaspoonful of solid nourishment to half a pint of water in beef tea;—nevertheless there is a certain reparative quality in it, we do not know what, as there is in tea; but it may safely be given in almost any inflamatory disease, and is as little to be depended upon with the healthy or convalescent where much nourishment is required. Again, it is an ever ready saw that an egg is equivalent to a pound of meat—whereas it is not at all so. Also, it is seldom noticed with how many patients, particularly of nervous or bilious temperament, eggs disagree. All puddings made with eggs, are distasteful to them in consequence. An egg, whipped up with wine, is often the only form in which they can take this kind of nourishment. Again, if the patient has attained to eating meat, it is supposed that to give him meat is the only thing needful for his recovery; whereas scorbutic sores have been actually known to appear among sick persons living in the midst of plenty in England, which could be traced to no other source than this, viz.: that the nurse, depending on meat alone, had allowed the patient to be without vegetables for a considerable time, these latter being so badly cooked that he always left them untouched. Arrowroot is another grand dependence of the nurse. As a vehicle for wine, and a restorative quickly prepared, it is all very well. But it is nothing but starch and water. Flour is both more nutritive, and less liable to ferment, and is preferable wherever it can be used.

Again, milk and the preparations from milk, are a most important article of food for the sick. Butter is the lightest kind of animal fat, and though it wants the sugar and some of the other elements which there are in milk, yet it is most valuable both in itself and in enabling the patient to eat more bread. Flour, oats, groats, barley, and their kind, are, as we have already said, preferable in all their preparations to all the preparations of arrowroot, sago, tapioca, and their kind. Cream, in many long chronic diseases, is quite irreplaceable by any other article whatever. It seems to act in the same manner as beef tea, and to most it is much easier of digestion than milk. In fact, it soldom disagrees. Cheese is not usually digestible by the sick, but it is pure nourishment for repairing waste; and I have seen sick, and not a few either, whose craving for cheese showed how much it was needed by them.

In the diseases produced by bad food, such as scorbutic dysentery and diarrhea, the patient's stomach often craves for and digests things, some of which certainly would be laid down in no dietary that ever was invented for sick, and especially not for such sick. These are fruit, pickles, jams, gingerbread, fat of ham or bacon, suet, cheese, butter, milk. These cases I have seen not by ones, nor by tens, but by hundreds. And the patient's stomach was right and the book was wrong. The articles craved for, in these cases, might have been principally arranged under the two heads of fat and vegetable acids.

There is often a marked difference between men and women in this matter of sick feeling. Women's digestion is generally slower.

But, if fresh milk is so valuable a food for the sick, the least change of sourness in it, makes it of all articles, perhaps, the most injurious; diarrhea is a common result of fresh milk allowed to become at all sour. The nurse, therefore, ought to exercise her utmost care in this. In large institutions for the sick, even the poorest, the utmost care is exercised. Wenham Lake ice is used for this express purpose every summer, while the private patient, perhaps, never tastes a drop of milk that is not sour, all through the hot weather, so little does the private nurse understand the necessity of such care. Yet, if you consider that the only drop of real nourishment in your patient's tea is the drop of milk, and how much almost all English patients depend upon their tea, you will see the great importance of not depriving your patient of this drop of milk. Buttermilk, a totally different thing, is often very useful, especially in fevers.

In laying down rules of diet, by the amounts of "solid nutriment" in different kinds of food, it is constantly lost sight of what the patient requires to repair his waste, what he can take and what he can't. You cannot diet a patient from a book, you cannot make up the human body as you would make up a prescription—so many parts "carboniferous," so many parts "nitrogenous" will constitute a perfect diet for the patient. The nurse's observation here will materially assist the doctor—the patient's "fancies" will materially assist the nurse. For instance, sugar is one of the most nutritive of all articles, being pure carbon, and is particularly recommended in some books. But the vast majority of all patients in England, young and old, male and female, rich and poor, hospital and private, dislike sweet things—and while I have never known a person take to sweets when he was ill who disliked them when he was well, I have known many fond of them when in health, who in sickness would leave off anything sweet, even to sugar in tea—sweet puddings, sweet drinks, are their aversion; the furred tongue almost always likes what is sharp or pungent. Scorbutic patients are an exception, they often crave for sweetmeats and jams.

Jelly is another article of diet in great favor with nurses and friends of the sick; even if it could be eaten solid, it would not nourish, but it is simply the height of folly to take ½ oz. of gelatine and make it into a certain bulk by dissolving it in water, and then to give it to the sick, as if the mere bulk represented nourishment. It is now known that jelly does not nourish, that it has a tendency to produce diarrhea—and to trust it to repair the waste of a diseased constitution, is simply to starve the sick under the guise of feeding them. If one hundred spoonfuls of jelly were given in the course of the day, you would have given one spoonful of gelatine, which spoonful has no nutritive power whatever.

And, nevertheless, gelatine contains a large

quantity of nitrogen, which is one of the most powerful elements in nutrition; on the other hand, beef tea may be chosen as an illustration of great nutrient power in sickness, co-existing with a very small amount of solid nitrogenous matter.

Dr. Christison says that "every one will be struck with the readiness with which" certain classes of "patients will often take diluted meat juice or beef tea repeatedly, when they refuse all other kinds of food." This is particularly remarkable in "cases of gastric fever, in which," he says, "little or nothing else besides beef tea or diluted meat juice" has been taken for weeks or even months; "and yet a pint of beef tea contains scarcely ½ oz. of any thing but water." The result is so striking, that he asks what is its mode of action? "Not simply nutrient—½ oz. of the most nutritive material cannot nearly replace the daily wear and tear of the tissues in any circumstances. Possibly," he says, "it belongs to a new denomination of remedies."

It has been observed, that a small quantity of beef tea, added to other articles of nutrition, augments their power out of all proportion to the additional amount of solid matter.

The reason why jelly should be innutritious and beef tea nutritious to the sick, is a secret yet undiscovered; but it clearly shows that careful observation of the sick is the only clue to the best dietary.

Chemistry has as yet afforded little insight into the dieting of sick. All that chemistry can tell us is the amount of "carboniferous" or "nitrogenous" elements discoverable in different dietetic articles. It has given us lists of dietetic substances, arranged in the order of their richness in one or other of these principles; but that is all. In the great majority of cases, the stomach of the patient is guided by other principles of selection than merely the amount of carbon or nitrogen in the diet. No doubt, in this as in other things, nature has very definite rules for her guidance; but these rules can only be ascertained by the most careful observation at the bedside. She there teaches us that living chemistry, the chemistry of reparation, is something different from the chemistry of the laboratory. Organic chemistry is useful, as all knowledge is, when we come face to face with nature; but it by no means follows that we should learn in the laboratory any one of the reparative processes going on in disease.

Again, the nutritive power of milk, and of the preparations from milk, is very much undervalued; there is nearly as much nourishment in half a pint of milk as there is in a quarter of a pound of meat. But this is not the whole question or nearly the whole. The main question is what the patient's stomach can assimilate or derive nourishment from, and of this the patient's stomach is the sole judge. Chemistry cannot tell this. The patient's stomach must be its own chemist. The diet which will keep the healthy man healthy, will kill the sick one. The same beef which is the most nutritive of all meat, and which nourishes the healthy man, is the least nourishing of all food to the sick man, whose half-dead stomach can *assimilate* no part of it, that is, make no food out of it. On a diet of beef tea healthy men, on the other hand, speedily lose their strength.—*Miss Nightingale.*

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☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall Street, or No.* 823 *Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

A FEW DAYS AMONGST OUR WOUNDED.

NEW YORK, *May* 24, 1864.

DR. FOSTER JENKINS, *General Secretary,*
U. S. Sanitary Commission:

MY DEAR SIR—Pursuant to the request of the Standing Committee, I beg leave to present the following informal report (necessarily imperfect from the haste with which it has been prepared,) of the organization and operations of the relief system of the Commission in N. E. Virginia since the opening of the present campaign.

I left New York on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 10th, for the purpose of making a personal examination of the working of the Commission for the aid and relief of the wounded by the battles of the Wilderness and Spottsylvania. At Washington, I learned that the wounded had collected in immense numbers at Fredericksburg, and were already being transported to Belle Plain, on their way, by hospital transports, to Washington and Alexandria. Up to Sunday night, the 8th, everybody in Washington expected that the wounded would be sent to the rear via Rappahannock Station and the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, and to this end great preparations had been made by the Quartermaster's Department under advice from the Medical Bureau. Immense trains of cars, with a full corps of surgeons, were sent out to the Rappahannock Station on that day.

There they waited until the next day, when, it having been ascertained that the wounded were already in very large numbers at Fredericksburg, the trains were ordered back to Alexandria.

I make this introductory statement with some precision, since it furnishes a key to the difficulties which attended the care of the wounded at Fredericksburg during the

period from May 8th to Thursday, May 12th.

Fredericksburg is about ten miles from Belle Plain, and as the railroad from Aquia Creek had been thoroughly destroyed, the most direct and available access to the thousands of wounded already gathered at the former place, was via Potomac Creek and Belle Plain Landing. The rebels had long ago destroyed the wharves at Belle Plain, but during the 8th and 9th of May, most vigorous efforts were made by the Quartermaster's Department to prepare a temporary landing. To this landing, on Monday and Tuesday, (9th and 10th of May,) came a fleet of transports conveying ordnance stores, fighting rations, hospital appliances, and means of shelter for the incoming wounded. The dock, a most creditable structure, considering the time within which it was built, but, perhaps, hardly large enough for the demands made upon its capacity, presented a fearful scene when I arrived at Belle Plain on Wednesday afternoon.

I found one of our supply barges, the Kennedy, at the dock, and Dr. Steiner directing the operations of the Commission. Down the right-hand side of the U-shaped dock, slowly moved a single file of army wagons filled with wounded men; at the end or corner of the dock, by the gangway of a large Government transport, stood that most efficient and admirable officer, Dr. Cuyler, Acting Medical Inspector General, U. S. A., receiving the wounded, and superintending their removal from the wagons to the deck of the transport, preparatory to their transfer to the hospital steamboats that lay in the offing. After each wagon had deposited its living freight, it passed around the end of the dock to the lef-thand side, and there took in ammunition or fighting rations, the orders being imperative to return to the front only with full loads of these indispensable supplies. Crowding along the narrow margin of the dock were continuous lines of men carrying litters and stretchers on which were such of the more severely wounded as had been removed from the wagons at the hospital tents, on the hill-side above the plain. Hour after hour, for several days, was this fearful procession kept up. It would not be proper for me to state how many thousands thus passed under Dr. Cuyler's inspection, but I cannot forbear mentioning the most distinguished zeal, energy and self-devotion with which his arduous duties were performed. His administrative skill, his quick and ready humanity, his almost ubiquitous presence, his self-denying exposure to the pelting rain, while laboring to secure prompt shelter to the wounded, his night work and day work, his personal attentions to even the little wants and minor discomforts of each individual sufferer, were the subjects of universal admiration. Dr. Brinton, (Medical Purveyor of the Army of the Potomac,) was also there, working with vigor in the difficult undertaking of forwarding medical supplies to Fredericksburg.

By the end of the pier lay the barge Kennedy, the storeboat and headquarters of the Commission. Here, as elsewhere, every thing was astir. Gen. Abercrombie, commandant of the post, was making it his temporary headquarters. Out in the stream, amid a promiscuous collection of transports, lay the steamboat Rapley, loaded with stores from the Washington storehouses of the Commission. Near her lay the barge Washington, with a load of army wagons and horses for the Commission's service. After great difficulty, and the exercise of no little ingenuity, the stores from the Rapley were put ashore, half a mile up the creek in small boats, and the wagons loaded and sent to Fredericksburg. Capt. J. W. Clarke, of the Quartermaster's Department, and Capt. Lubey, 15th Regiment New York Engineer Corps, gave us most cheerful and essential aid in this work. Indeed, from all the officers at the post of the Commission we received nothing but kind services and expressions of the heartiest good-will. Captains Pitkins and Lacey, of the Quartermaster's Department, provided every facility in their power, and from General Abercrombie and Colonel Cuyler, down, every body seemed to take pleasure in aiding us. From Monday the 9th, until this time, incessant exertions have been made by the officers of the Medical, Quartermaster's, Commissary's and Ordnance Departments, to remove the wounded from the rear of the army and replenish the

trains for forward movements. No one at home can form any idea of the labors of the officers in these departments, day after day and night after night, oftentimes living meanwhile on the scantiest subsistence, such as coffee and crackers, and these hurriedly taken. We are oftentimes loud in our praises of military commanders for achieving victory, but seldom give due credit for the result to the quartermasters, who work with almost superhuman energy at some base of supplies, and on whose talent, energy and fertility in resources the very existence of the army depends. The agents of the U. S. Sanitary Commission formed no mean feature in this scene of energy and successful labor. Up to May 21st, the Commission sent nearly 200 tons of sanitary stores, including stimulants, farinaceous food, beef stock, condensed milk, bandages, &c., from Belle Plain and Fredericksburg. It will be interesting to note the fact here, that the relief service of the Commission has involved, since Gen. Grant crossed the Rapidan, and Gen. Butler went up the James River, the use of four steamboats, three barges and two schooners, for the transportation of its stores from Washington to Belle Plain, and from Baltimore to Norfolk, the latter being the Commission's base of supplies for Butler's army.

At Belle Plain, in addition to a relief station on the barge by the wharf, the Commission has maintained a corps of relief agents at a feeding station near the hospital depot, providing food for thousands of weary and hungry men who arrive there in ambulances and wagons, and another at White Oak Church, half-way from Belle Plain to Fredericksburg, where hot coffee, soft crackers, and beef soup, have been issued to wounded and disabled men on their way to hospital, many of whom have not tasted food for hours.

The operations of the Commission at Belle Plain, including the movements of trains of supply wagons, have been conducted by Mr. F. N. Knapp, whose experience in every branch of relief service has made his name the synonym for energy and beneficence wherever the Commission is known.

At Fredericksburg, the Commission's work under the able direction of Dr. Douglas, Chief Inspector, is three-fold: First, there is a large storehouse on Commercial Street, under the care of Mr. Johnson, from which, since the 9th of May, about 200 tons of sanitary stores have been issued to hospitals upon the requisitions of surgeons. Secondly, a corps of relief agents numbering from 160 to 225, under the leadership of Mr. Fay, divided into squads and assigned to the various division hospitals. These relief agents report the wants of the hospitals to Mr. Fay, perform the duties of nurses, and seize every opportunity to minister to the complicated and various necessities of the wounded, as indicated by the advice or orders of the surgeons in charge of them. Thirdly, special diet kitchens under the administration of Miss Woolsey, Mrs. Gen. Barlow and Miss Gilson, while Mrs. Gibbons and daughter and Mrs. Husband, lend their expert services to the hospitals. The special diet kitchens are tents with ample cooking arrangements, pitched on the roads from the front to Fredericksburg or Belle Plain. From these, soup, coffee, stimulants, soft bread and other food are issued to thousands of passing wounded. With the army, seven four horse wagons carrying food, stimulants, underclothing and surgical dressings, constantly move under the direction of Dr. Steiner, the Commission Inspector for the Army of the Potomac, and Mr. Johnson, whose services at Gettysburg, and now at Fredericksburg, form a bright record in the special relief work of the Commission. I should say here that these wagons moved with the army from Brandy Station, dispensing stores during the battles of the Wilderness, and then, passing with the wounded to Fredericksburg, went on to Belle Plain to re-load.

The Commission has now forty odd four-horse wagons of its own, carrying sanitary stores from Belle Plain to Fredericksburg. On Monday, May 23d, thirty-one of these wagons, carrying nearly forty thousand pounds of sanitary stores went in one train from Belle Plain to Fredericksburg. On the same day, our steamboat, the Rapley, in charge of Mr. Anderson, with the barge Kennedy in tow, cleared from Belle Plain and went up the Rappahannock to add

still more largely to our supplies. Our work then for the sick and wounded of the army of General Meade may be summed up, briefly, as follows: Two steamboats and two barges for conveying sanitary stores from Washington to Belle Plain; forty-four four-horse wagons for conveying sanitary stores from Belle Plain to Fredericksburg and the front; over two hundred tons of sanitary stores sent to Belle Plain and Fredericksburg; over 200 trained relief agents lending their best energies to the hospitals and feeding stations. The outlay for the month of May, so far, has been over one hundred thousand dollars for the Army of the Potomac alone. You will remember that all these operations are in addition to what is being done by the Commission at Washington, for General Sherman's army, and at New Orleans and on the Red River.

I should say, that at Fredericksburg the medical affairs were under the able management of Dr. Dalton, Medical Director, while large numbers of medical men from Boston, New York, Philadelphia and elsewhere, served day and night in the hospitals, aiding those devoted men, the army surgeons, in their exhaustive and most serious and self-denying duties. Who can sum up the value of the services of the army surgeons? Who can describe in becoming phrases a tithe of what they do for the thousands of suffering men thrown upon their care and skill by the fearful casualties of an active campaign. I never witness their conduct without a sense of the profoundest admiration and a renewed conviction that the best work of our Commission is that by which we endeavor, even in an humble way, to strengthen their hands by supplementary assistance.

Sincerely yours,

C. R. Agnew.

U. S. Sanitary Commission,
Belle Plain, *May* 15, 1864.

My Dear Dr. Jenkins—I cannot condense within the limits of such a note as can be written now, an account of the operations of the Commission at this point. You know the relations of Belle Plain landing to Fredericksburg; it is, in brief, that of a temporary base. The fearful accumulation of our wounded at Fredericksburg made it imperative to open communications again with sources of supply, and this point was selected. A temporary pier, in the form of a U, was hastily constructed on Monday, at the terminus of the Fredericksburg wagon road. Over this pier and road a mingled crowd of army wagons and ambulances, stragglers and walking wounded, has passed since Monday last, forming a spectacle beyond description. We are using every hand and heart to their utmost power to meet our responsibilities to the wounded. We have used, in the transportation of our sanitary stores, two steamboats and two barges. The Rapley, a fast steamboat, of about 150 tons, is plying constantly between Belle Plain landing and Washington. She is chartered to convey stores by us, and carries not only stores, but constant additions to our Field Relief Corps. We have over two hundred active and able men in this corps, who give themselves night and day to the work of feeding the wounded, both at Fredericksburg and at Belle Plain landing.

The dock space here is so inadequate, that the landing of our stores has been a work fraught with immense difficulty. This difficulty is increased by the character of the ground near the base of the pier. Wagons cannot turn, except on the dock, and even then they must move in a continuous single line around the ∩. Owing to this peculiarity, there was on Wednesday a "jam" of wagons, loaded with wounded, all along the road from the landing to Fredericksburg, a distance of eight or ten miles. These wagons bring in wounded and carry out ordnance stores and fighting rations. During this jam, and, indeed, ever since, we have been compelled to convey our stores in small boats up Potomac Creek a considerable distance, to a point on the shore where the wagons can get across, and thus escape, to as great a degree as possible, the stagnation and confusion of the landing.

A barge arrived on Thursday with four additional four-horse wagons and eighteen horses, in addition to our previous stock of twelve wagons and forty-eight horses. It was necessary to put these wagons overboard, and obtain a gang of twenty colored

[illegible] from

which the horses could haul them. Capt. J. W. Clark, a noble specimen of the Quartermaster's Department, gave every facility and furnished the gang of men.

Just as this work was done, the Rapley came down with a load of stores, and, not being able to get to the pier, discharged into pontoon boats, furnished by Captain Timothy Lubey, 15th Regiment N. Y. Engineer Corps, aided by a gang of laborers furnished by Captain Clark.

It has required constant ingenuity and forethought to surmount these and similar difficulties; and yet we have sent thirty four-horse wagon loads of condensed milk, beef stock, woolen clothing, stimulants, crackers, &c., &c., to Fredericksburg, over a most horrid road.

By a rough estimate, I suppose the amount of sanitary stores sent forward since Tuesday to be about 35,000 pounds. To-day we have sent for six additional four-horse wagons and twenty-four horses, so that our train will consist of about twenty-two wagons and nearly one hundred horses.

We have a stationary barge here at the landing; a large feeding station also, where thousands of men have received coffee, or punch, or crackers; and a special relief corps, consisting of students from Princeton and Union Theological Seminaries, and the Episcopal Seminary of New York, with others from Boston, New York, Washington, &c., &c. This relief corps is mainly operating at Fredericksburg, under Mr. Fay; say about 130 at Fredericksburg, and the balance at the feeding station here. I give these numbers in round terms, as the roster is not at hand at this moment. My figures will not vary half a dozen from the actual number, and I have endeavored to under-state rather than over-state. We are endeavoring to gain upon the demands at Fredericksburg, but as yet the calls are fearfully beseeching and exhaustive. Ten wagon loads of stores, sent on Wednesday to Fredericksburg, were issued in less than four hours. This will serve to show the demand. I go to Fredericksburg to-day, not having been able to move from this point since my arrival on Wednesday. Dr. Steiner, our Chief Inspector for the Army of the Potomac, has been here, hard at work, since Tuesday; and Mr. Knapp takes charge, from to-day, of the whole scheme of special relief and supply work. I cannot now say more; but must, before I close, say just one word concerning that noble, self-sacrificing man, Col. Cuyler, M. D., U. S. A., who has conducted all the operations for the removal of the wounded by the hospital transports. I should fail in any attempt to describe his services. Day and night he has worked, not only in directing the movements, but in dressing wounds and giving personal and ingenious attention to the comfort and safety of the pressing crowd of the weary, wounded and exhausted. Dr. Cuyler is ably assisted by Dr. Thurston, Staff Surgeon.

But not a moment remains to re-read this or add more. Still the clatter, and rush, and confusion continue, and I wonder how I have managed to write even as much as this. Love to the brethren.

Yours affectionately,

C. R. Agnew.

N. B.—I must say further, that our barge lies next to that of the Medical Purveyor; the old flag is flying, and we constitute a general intelligence office and mail agency. Yesterday a bushel and a half of letters were deposited in our box by the soldiers for those at home. We send off one mail a day, and pay for such soldiers' letters as are not prepaid. Gen. Abercrombie, the commandant of the post, made our barge his headquarters for twenty-four hours, and we have furnished tents for the quarters of several of the principal officers forming the military establishment at the landing. Our agent is out taking names at Fredericksburg for the Hospital Directory.

Yours, C. R. A.

Dr. Steiner writes, May 23d:

We are now twenty-five miles from Richmond; have been in the saddle every day since we left, living as best we can on the army rations and such few articles as could be picked up on the road. We are now halted at Carmel Hill Church, and expect to cross the North Anna River this afternoon.

Dr. Stevens reported yesterday, and was ordered to follow Abbott, in the 9th Corps, to turn over his wagon to him and then to devote himself to his special business in the 9th Corps and whatever other corps might

be next him. Thus far I have kept with the 5th Corps. Harris having been detailed on other duty, I have been deprived of my ordinary assistant in keeping up the communication. I am, however, satisfied that the work is b ing well done.

3 *o'clock, P. M.*—I have just come down to the North Anna; the army is just crossing. No opposition has been offered. The fight is expect d to take place somewhere about Hanover Court House.

6 *o'clock, P. M.*—The rebels have made their appearance in the woods, and have attacked our troops hardly in line of battle, with great vigor and spitefulness. Happening to be within ten feet of the rear of the line of battle when the musketry ope ed, Mr. Marsh and I had a splendid opportunity of hearing A. P. Hill's bullets and shells. *We* didn't avail ourselv s of the privilege for a very long time, but beat a retreat to the river, re-crossed, and reached the hospitals of the corps, which had just been established by the medical officers. The result of the battle of North Anna was the frustration of the rebel design of destroying one of our corps, our driving them about a mile from their field of battle, leaving two hundred and twenty-four wounded and a few killed, and taking about three hundred prisoners. This morning the rebels have disappeared.

The 6th Corps crossed last night to support the 5th—*our corps*, as I now call it. Hancock crossed somewhere below yesterday, and judging from the booming of cannon all the morning, he must now be engaged with the enemy. The firing has been incessant for some hours.

The next fight, unless this operation of Hancock's brings it on to-day, will take place at Hanover Court House.

The work from here on is likely to be terrific.

Only be prepared for the new base. You don't know how grateful a thing it was to me to see almost every needy in the hospitals of the 5th Corps supplied with our shirts. Give us large supplies from the new base. I shall need Freeman for my own use.

Mr. Marsh is now taking the names of the wounded at the battle of North Anna.

Our clothing left by the wagons in the 15th Corps Hospital is doing splendid duty now.

The *New York Times* correspondent says, writing from Port Royal, May 28:

The wounded began to arrive on Wednesday evening, and as good luck or good management would have it, two steamers, two barges, a schooner, and a tug boat, all heavily with the stores of the United States Sanitary Commission, got here in advance, and more than a hundred willing men and women were ready to administer to the comfort of the suffering, who were faint and exhausted by a long ride of twenty or thirty miles from the front, some in ambulances, but more in the springless army wagons. Every wounded man was kindly cared for, and the good work has been kept up night and day, until now it is announced that all those wounded up to yesterday have been sent here, and that probably no others will come to this point. The men have been mainly left in the vehicles, until sent on board the arriving boats, to be carried direct to Washington. The Sanitary Relief Corps have gone from wagon to wagon carrying coffee, beef tea, farina, milk punch, &c., and giving out crutches, and affording other relief as needed. I estimate the number of wounded arriving here at about 2,000. As I said of both Belle Plain and Fredericksburg, I say here, that the relief and comfort afforded to the sick and wounded at this point alone have abundantly repaid all the efforts ever made to put funds into the treasury of the Sanitary Commission. I doubt not that hundreds of lives have been saved. If any others arrive, there are now complete hospital boats ready to receive them; and at least part of the Sanitary Commission forces and supplies will soon move to another point, (where you will announce in due time, if not proper now.)

* * * * * *

All seem cheerful and confident of success; even the wounded express unbounded confidence. Every inch of ground gained by our troops *forward*, whether for strategical or other purposes on the part of the army, gives confidence to the men. The next field of operations for the Sanitary Commission will probably be well toward Richmond. The present volunteer force have worked unceasingly night and day for three weeks, and many of them will continue in the field as long as possible. The present expenditures of the Commission are on a vast scale, the managers deeming it their duty to spare no expense to give the most prompt and efficient relief to every wounded man over the vast field now covered by our extensive military operations. Everybody connected with the Commission is, I know, too busy to stop to render any account of their stewardship just now. The soldiers and the country will owe them a great deal of gratitude for

the earnestness and fidelity with which they are executing their heaven-born trust.

Below I send you a list of soldiers buried at Port Royal. They are all buried in one spot, and their graves are numbered in the order that I have numbered the names below.

1. S. V. Martin, Co. I, 87th Penn.—died May 25.
2. Morris Cauain, Battery M, 7th N. Y. Artillery—died May 28.
3. James Ferrell, Co. C, 104th N. Y.—died May 26.
4 Serg't G. Pritchard, Co. D, 143d Penn. Vols.—died May 25.
5. Henry C. Merness, Co. C, 12th Ky., 2d Bat. U. S. Infantry—died May 26.
6. Michael Drew, Co. C, 91st Penn. Vols., of Richmond, Penn.—died May 26.
7. B. Merithan, (1st Serg't) Co. I, 4th Me.—died May 26.
8. Henry W. Toye, Co. A, 16th Penn. Cav., Venango County, Penn.—died May 26.
9. John Hannum, Co. D, 1st N. Y. Artillery—died May 26.
10. Capt. Henry W. Davis, 1st N. Y., Battery E—died May 27.
11. Alexander De Forrest, 10th Mass.—died May 27.
12. Unknown, 9th Mass. Vols., (residence, Malden)—died May 27.
13. Thomas B. Story, Co. H, 102d Penn. Vols.—died May 27.
14. A. P. Matton, Co. C, 105th Penn. Vols.—died May 27.
15. Joseph Vaughn, Co. E, 61st Penn. Vols.—died May 27.
16. Unknown, anchor and shield on left arm in India ink—died May 27.
17. Unknown, 7th Loyal Virginia Vols.—died May 27.
18. James Grace, 63d N. Y.—died May 27.
19 C. Lewis Franklin, Co. F, 7th R. I. Vols.—died May 27.
20. Unknown—probably of Howlyton, Broome County, N. Y.—died May 27.
21. Unknown.
22. Unknown.
23. Unknown.

The above were on their way home, and died before or after arriving at Port Royal. They were buried by the Sanitary Commission Corps, with religious services at the graves. The graves are neatly rounded up, with head-boards having the above markings. A beautiful large bouquet of fresh flowers was planted upon the head of each grave, and the whole left in the charge of George Smith, a good old colored man residing near, who promised to do all he would be allowed to to keep the graves inviolate and in order. A more interesting spot, and a more affecting interment I never witnessed. There, at least, is "sacred soil."

The following list of the principal articles carried to Port Royal by the United States Sanitary Commission on Wednesday evening, May 26, will show what is being done with the "funds," and what the Field Relief Corps have to work with among the sick and wounded:

425 bed ticks.	45 tin dippers.
265 blankets.	115 mattresses.
596 coarse combs.	148 candlesticks.
120 fine combs.	494 knives and forks.
132 medicine cups.	112 wooden pails.
80 pieces mosquito net.	90 stretchers.
331 pillows.	50 canes.
556 pillow ticks.	1,330 crutches.
210 towels.	2 bales oakum.
2,320 tin cups.	62 urinals.
650 tin plates.	264 chambers.
250 tin basins.	250 bed-pans.
115 tin buckets.	72 spittoons.
541 tin spittoons.	61 spit cups.

1,000 feet lumber.	3,132 pounds chocolate.
50 barrels cabbage or curry.	80 pounds dried apples.
218 barrels saurkraut.	325 gallons pickles.
5,676 cans tomatoes.	28 boxes corn starch.
443 pounds butter.	8 barrels white sugar.
455 pounds cheese.	8 barrels brown sugar.
24 barrels potatoes.	6 chests tea.
10 cases smoking tobacco.	132 bottles vinegar.
2 boxes pipes.	720 bottles brandy.
702 pounds tamarinds.	600 bottles wine.
168 lanterns.	1,360 bottles whisky.
571 woolen drawers.	47½ barrels porter.
874 canton flannel drawers.	120 bottles alcohol.
67 pants.	108 bottles Jamaica rum.
1,762 handkerchiefs.	108 bottles bay rum.
3,781 woolen shirts.	102 bottles cologne
290 canton shirts.	1,000 pills camph. et opii.
206 hospital shirts.	36 pounds chloroform.
84 blouses.	160 pounds candles.
492 shoes.	402 palm fans.
12 pairs low boots.	15 barrels bandages.
540 slippers.	13 barrels old linen.
2,470 woolen socks.	Splints.
313 wrappers of cotton.	15,500 envelopes.
4,032 cans condensed milk.	31½ reams paper.
1,728 cans beef.	157 dozen pen holders.
336 cans meats.	14 gross pens.
72 cans mutton.	168 bottles ink,
528 cans poultry.	300 new newspapers.
60 pounds extra coffee.	

A dispatch to the Associated Press from Washington, May 31, says:

The Sanitary Commission's steamer John R. Thompson, left Baltimore last evening with sanitary stores, (her second load,) bound for Bermuda Hundred, where she has been stationed for the past fortnight.

The propeller Elizabeth, one of the Baltimore and Philadelphia line, has also been chartered by the Sanitary Commission, and was last night loaded with some forty tons of ice and eighty tons of assorted sanitary stores, and dispatched to the James River, The Thompson and Elizabeth each carried its corps of relief agents. Three other boats in the employ of the Sanitary Commission left the mouth of the Rappahannock at daylight yesterday morning, for the new base of the Army of the Potomac.

DIARY OF A RELIEF AGENT ON THE RAPPAHANNOCK.

BELLE PLAIN, VA., *May* 23, 1864.

It was impossible to get a clearance and away before 9 A. M. I spent the morning in writing orders and digesting plans. On arrival at Aquia Creek, found every indication of an early, if not immediate relinquishment of that point. Mr. Clampitt had gone to Fredericksburg to come down with a train of wounded, and I was unable to see him; but left Mr. Wood and Chaplain Conwell with "Mac," to take care of matters. Arriving at this place, was greatly perplexed by finding that the tug which towed down the Hoboken was a Government one, and had gone off on Government business. Further, that nothing would be left here at 10 A. M., Tuesday. The Washington, Hoboken, and Kennedy, with all our stores and employees, would, if I followed your instructions, be left without any certainty of removal; and though

I earnestly feel the necessity for pushing on, yet, in view of the probability that the Kent will be at Port Royal on Tuesday evening, and in view of the unexpected state of things here, I assumed the responsibility of providing for the barges and the agents who have worked so faithfully, fearful that assistance from Washington might arrive too late, as you did not know the change wrought in twelve hours.

Being unable to find Captain Pitkin, I consulted his assistant in reference to towing the barges to a safe place, where you could pick them up; but, first, he couldn't tell where a safe place was; second, Government had more than use for its tows; and, third, we might leave to-night. Afterwards finding Captain Pitkin, he asked me about our barges, and said he wanted one, but wouldn't take her off our hands, as his necessities were but for a few days. I requested him to accept the loan of the Washington as long as he wished it, and if he would put freight, not men, aboard, part of the Hoboken was at his disposal. "Good! that's the way to talk! I'll tow all your barges to Port Royal for you," was the reply. I then, feeling that it was the best, though we may not need all the barges at Port Royal, handed over the Washington and Hoboken. The Rapley had already towed the Hoboken out beyond the gunboats, and was making for the upper wharf after the Washington, when Captain Pitkin ordered a little tug to countermand my order, which the little tug vainly supposed it could do by shooting off its shrill little whistle in all imaginable and non-imaginable manners. In the mean time, Captain Harris arrived, and accepted an appointment as superintendent of land transportation. I placed him in full charge of the trains, empowering him to appoint such assistants, and establish such regulations, as he may deem expedient. It will be his duty to take supplies from the water base, and to forward them to such point, or points, as may be conveniently reached by the Auxiliary and Relief Corps. He reported that his train of twenty-eight, I think, wagons was ready to start with supplies for Fredericksburg; also, that three horses and two wagons were unable to stand the trip; that every thing at his camp was removed, except some water casks. I ran up with the Rapley to take the wagons and horses on board; but finding Captain Strickland, Quartermaster, in charge, for whom Captain Pitkin had procured the Washington from me, and learning that he was sending stock to Washington, requested him to take ours along, which he promptly agreed to do. The last load of tents from Harris Camp was brought aboard the Rapley by Mr. Whittelsey, in the small boat Quinta, and we pulled for the lower wharf. Every thing had been gotten aboard, except the tent loaned to General Abercrombie, and one to the telegraph operators. As Mr. Williams had spoken to the General, I did not think it advisable to bother him again. Leaving Whittelsey and Freeman in charge of the Kennedy, together with Mrs. Spencer's men and our own laborers, Mr. Williams took aboard his corps, and we ran up the Aquia. I had been informed by Captain Clark that nothing was safe there long, and was in the act of pulling down Clampitt's tents, when I heard you asking questions about it. Clampitt was put aboard your tug, Governor Curtin. After you left, we were detained some time by a piece of old pile which got jammed between the arms of the port wheel and the hull; and, as we lay within hailing distance, were yelled at by some body, to the effect that fifteen hundred wounded would come down by railroad, and would need feeding. Fearing that there might be as many thousands at Port Royal awaiting us, and having been told by the surgeon that they were not suffering in the slightest, as you remember, I replied that you would be back in an hour on the tug; that our "small issue" barge was at Belle Plain, and that you would get them every thing they could possibly need. So soon as the wheel was cleared, we steamed off for the head of Kettle Bottom Shoals, and tied to a schooner, it being impossible for us to pass the shoals at night. Several barges were there, and by 12 o'clock all hands were asleep. Mr. Williams and I spent the evening in discussing our work and digesting details. We have twenty-six Sanitary Commission people aboard, and twenty-one of a crew. It is hard to tell which party has been worked the hardest; and the "human form divine" may be seen sprawled, knotted, and almost dangling on and from decks, boxes, bales of straw, and guards. They need it, poor fellows, for they have worked gloriously. It wouldn't have been a remarkable surprise to have seen some body asleep on top of the smoke stack. For myself, I succeeded in gaining a skylight for a pillow. The cabin was surrendered to Mrs. Spencer. To-day, Tuesday, May 24, we got away at 4.30; at 1, had Point Lookout abeam; and now, 3 P. M., are heading for the Rappahannock. Fortunately the bay is comparatively smooth, though there are some pale faces, and we are making a good run.

I have appointed Mr. Williams, General Superintendent of the work of the Sanitary Commission, at the water base on the Rappahannock, and Mr. Thompson, Superintendent of Special Relief at the water base—designing in case Mr. Fay should be with us there, to place Mr. T. under his orders, and in case he should not, to have Mr. T. supervise, and be responsible for the feeding of the wounded. He is authorized to appoint such assistants

and secure such aid as may be found necessary; and will be kept near at hand to us, ready for emergencies. He has selected nineteen of the force abroad, eleven to aid with himself, and the rest to be with Mrs. Spencer, who is under his charge. My plan is to divide the work into appropriate departments—place a reliable man at the head of each, and while giving him every facility possible, yet hold him responsible for the work. Accordingly, Mr. T. is directed to be able to detail at any moment, a captain, who can break in new men, and run a new squad. He is also directed to report semi-weekly all the facts and incidents of his department. He estimates that he fed 22,000 at Belle Plain. I have requested him to write up a report of that work. I shall, so far as possible, secure full reports from the various agents, in order that you may know what we are about.

About 4.30 P.M., we rounded the guardship at the mouth of the Rappahannock, and were ordered to anchor and await a convoy. The Medical Purveyor's tug was close by, and a Sanitary Commission pennant was fluttering from the Kent, alongside of which we anchored. Mr. Clark came aboard to report—I showed him my instructions; he had arrived Tuesday 24th, at 11 A. M., and received similar orders from the gunboats. Boarding her I found her tonnage to be 260; her invoice admirably selected and full; Mr. Clark in charge, with Capt. Gofts, as Quartermaster; Mr. Beck and Mr. Swan, as assistants, together with a crew of seventeen men—charter, $225. The saurkraut schooner had received orders to make sail from Fort Monroe for Rappahannock. She had not arrived, nor had any of our barges, but, doubtless, would obey her instructions, and anchor till further orders. I shall probably dispatch the tug Curtin for her, after the Kennedy is landed at Port Royal.

WEDNESDAY, *May* 25, 1864.

Obeying orders from the gunboat, we were under weigh at 5 A. M., with quite a respectable fleet of transports and tows, the gunboat Dragon acting as convoy. The river is broad, water good, and banks fringed with green foliage, which also acts as a beautiful frame to the occasional white farm-houses. About 8, the gunboat stopped to wait for the rest of the fleet, and the Rapley and Kent followed in the wake of a large transport sea propeller. The City of Albany is far ahead of the transport. I have had certain persons selected as suitable men to place on transports returning with wounded; and also, a table of supplies, calculated for one hundred men for one day. Should emergencies arise, we can speedily determine from the number of patients and their destination, the amount and kind of stores to be put on board, and the agent to go with them. On arrival, unless affairs at Port Royal change the decision, I shall have the cargo of the Rapley discharged into the Kent, retain the Kent until the barge arrives, and send back the Rapley in charge of Mr. Clark. Will most probably place Mr. Beck in charge of the Kent, and Mr. Swan as his assistant. Purpose to retain the Kent until the barge arrives, and then dispatch her, unless there is a great demand. I can't keep feeling apprehensive, and yet I agreed with Harris that, so far as we could tell, the Fredericksburg route was the safest and speediest. That Harris is a noble man. At 11 A. M., passed Rappahannock village. Some negroes waving handkerchiefs; the gunboats will probably pick them up. 4 P. M.,—are just rounding into Port Royal; have passed one of the most elegant houses on the South shore. Some ladies and a couple of gentlemen sitting on the veranda, waved handkerchiefs to them, "which, they didn't see it," as Artemus Ward remarks. Plenty of contrabands have welcomed us at many points, but no white people. Several vessels are lying at Port Royal, gunboats among others. Have passed some elegant places for guerrillas, but fortunately without disturbance. State of Maine just gone with wounded, saluted us. On arrival, directed Mr. Clark to lower his boat and visit the steamers in port, to see what ones would grant us transports, and what ones would need supplies. At the same time I took the Juniata, which we had towed from Belle Plain, and nailing a crutch, with a Sanitary Commission flag to her, put out to Port Royal in search of our men. Getting no trace, I crossed over the river, and proceeding to Gen. Abercrombie's headquarters, informed him of our arrival and desire to facilitate matters.

Learned from him that a train of wounded would likely arrive during the evening. Re-crossed the river; and, by the way, it was pouring rain all the afternoon and night. I succeeded in finding Dr. Cuyler, on a search for houses suitable for hospitals. He greeted us most cordially. We arrived an hour before his barges, and about an hour after General Abercrombie—long before his train was in. Dr. Cuyler asked me what we wanted, and, of course, we preferred a house, whereupon he assigned one to us; but finding from his staff, (Captains Pitkin and Clark,) that there is no probability at present of our remaining longer than four or five days, I have not yet used it.

On returning to the wharf, I met Mr. Le Baron, who had left Fredericksburg Tuesday evening, bringing a note to you from Mr. Fay, requesting that the Rapley be sent up to bring our agents off. Coming aboard, I directed Mr. Thompson to tak

ashore his corps, and proper material for feeding six hundred wounded about to arrive. Pulling to Captain Hookiss's gunboat, on which Mr. Le Baron had come down, had quite a talk with Captain H., and learned that the Weems would probably go up to-night. Returned, relieved Mr. Clark, and directed him to turn over the Kent to Mr. Williams. Requested Mr. Williams to proceed with her in the wake of the Weems, and, under convoy, to Fredericksburg. Wrote to Captain Harris and Dr. Douglas. Sent the Kent instead of the Rapley, because, first, she is larger, and is not so crowded with stores; second, has more coal; and, third, runs fast.

Captain Harris had arrived at Fredericksburg Tuesday, 10 or 11 A. M., and I am greatly perplexed to know what he ought to do. I think he had better come here, unless he has pushed on to Millford. I went ashore in hopes of finding him, and tramped all around the country. Thompson had got an old house; and lanterns, buckets of coffee and crackers were constantly accompanying pairs of legs in and out.

On the hearth was a bright fire of wood and a brighter fire of womanhood, both of them boiling coffee and dispensing cheerfulness.

The wounded were in army wagons, and had come from a point a mile and a half beyond the North Anna River, a ride of thirty miles. They had had nothing to eat, by their report, for some time.

Mr. Bloor came with the train. They were thoroughly fed, our men being at work until 3 A. M.

THURSDAY, *May* 26.

Kent sailed for Fredericksburg, in charge of Mr. Williams, at 5 A. M. Six hundred more wounded had arrived.

We have given out two thousand six hundred meals. At 12, seventy-five ambulances are reported as expected. We are all worked terribly. I pray that some of them may come from Fredericksburg to-night.

Dr. Cuyler wishes to supply us with stove, cauldrons, bread, &c. I accepted. Got a guard to bury six men who had died *en route*. Commissary is not issuing. Have had to supply Captain Pitkin and several quartermasters with food, also gunboats. Your dispatch is received. Curtin not arrived; when she does, will send the schooner back. You had better have a steamer, with cargo, anchored at mouth of York River, to go up as soon as White House is garrisoned. Appearances may change, but at present nothing indicates a week's delay here.

By midnight we will have given four thousand six hundred meals.

Key Port and Lizzie Baker just arrived from Fredericksburg; but no transports here to take off their wounded.

In great haste, yours,

J. A. ANDERSON.

N. B.—Hurriedly written to catch the mail. COPYIST.

GENERAL BANKS'S ARMY.

Dr. Crane writes from New Orleans, April 29:

Since writing you on the 22d inst., little has occurred here of interest. I have received from the front four letters—two from Mitchell dated on the 21st inst., one from Mitchell and one from Stevens dated on the 26th. These four letters I now enclose to you.

Mr. Chadwick, agent for the Cincinnati Branch, returned from Alexandria to-day. He gives good accounts of the work done by our agents. I shall send up to-morrow by Mr. Edgerly a pretty large supply of vegetables, dried fruit, &c., for general distribution in camp.

Mitchell, Stevens, Barnard, Foote, Miller, Hildreth and Reynolds, are at Alexandria. Edgerly goes on the Laurel Hill. Grant and Kimball are in the storehouse. Furniss attends to securing transportation, &c., &c. Boltwood is now in the storehouse awaiting transportation to Pensacola. The condition of the refugees at that station—women and helpless children—who have come within our lines, demands immediate attention. Gen. Asboth has written to me about it, and I have directed Mr. Boltwood to proceed to Pensacola and investigate the matter.

I have written somewhat at length about the subject to Dr. Jenkins. It is an important one, and I hope the Commission will feel it to be their duty to act upon it directly.

The Tempest has arrived, and we have been receiving her cargo to-day. The invoice is a splendid one; it measurably fills the great gap created by the recent run upon our stores.

The net result of the recent benefit and subscription list in our behalf was $2,052.25.

I send you a copy of the *Era* of the 26th inst., which will give you the former statement.

The weather is now quite hot and summer is in, and the demands for ice are frequent. It can be obtained in this city for 1½ cents per lb., delivered in quantities to suit. Should a shipment be considered desirable there will be no difficulty in obtaining an ice-house.

The accounts from the Red River are sad enough. Mr. Mitchell, writing from Alexandria, April 21, says:

As Mr. Foote was unwell, I concluded to send Mr. Chadwick with a large supply of stores to the front to communicate and act with Messrs. Stevens and Barnard. Yesterday I sent up to the Rapids on teams

for transportation to the army, a large quantity of potatoes, pickles, lemons, claret, condensed milk, beef stock, farina, bandages and other field supplies, which I knew would be needed in view of the abandonment and legitimate consumption of medical supplies during the two days' fight. In the evening, much to our annoyance, we received information that no stores would be sent forward until further orders. A boat loaded with commissary stores returned to the Falls still loaded, and it soon became quite evident that the intention of our commanders is to return at least as far as this point. The troops here were under arms until 4 A. M. to-day, and the Superior has just arrived here, having been fired into at Bayou Sara and 15 miles below this place, with artillery, killing two men of the 3d R. I. Cavalry and wounding sixteen.

The gunboats, numbering some twenty in all, with many of our large transports, will be unable to cross the Falls from above. The Navy I propose to look after, and to issue to it a large portion of our stores at the Rapids, which they may stand in need of, and which we cannot get to the army.

The potatoes by the Chateau are just unloaded to-day. I will issue them to-morrow to hospitals and troops. Have heard nothing from Stevens or Barnard Foote is sick. Chadwick is under orders to communicate with Stevens with stores, but, as I have explained, is unable to. I will retain him to assist at the storehouse until Mr. Foote is able to take charge. "Philip," "Jim" and "Charlie," are all kept busy. I have had not an hour unoccupied in daylight as yet, and this fact must apologize for my hurried and disconnected communications.

On the 26th, he adds:

Thanks to the courtesy of Capt. Welch, Quartermaster at this point, I turned over to him for transportation to Mr. Stevens, at Grand Ecore, a large amount of all kinds of hospital stores, potatoes, lemons, milk, farina, corn starch, sugar, ice, tobacco, pipes, clothing, &c., &c. All these were sent above the Falls on Friday, 22d inst. Mr. Chadwick was to have gone up with them, and to have aided Mr. Stevens in the distribution; he was also to have communicated with Mr. Barnard, to whom I sent word to return, that he might assist at this point.

On the evening of the 22d Capt. Welch told me that he had orders to send no more boats up the river. This, we concluded, meant that the army was to return. On the morning of the 23d I sent Mr. Chadwick to the Falls to distribute such of our stores to the gunboats at that point as they might need. He was prevented from accomplishing this, as the stores were sent back to me before he arrived there. Mr. Chadwick, however, succeeded in rendering aid to the 550 sick on board the Ewing, by distributing stores brought back for want of transportation by Mr. Barnard. Mr. Barnard was already on board, hard at work and faithful to his mission.

On the 24th inst. we were all busy in looking after the sick on the Ewing, the wants of the hospitals, and the various calls made on us by the detachments of sick on board some seven transports, sent down from Gen. Smith's fleet. We also issued to every company of Gen. Grover's command half a barrel of potatoes, for which we were often thanked.

The convalescent men on board the seven transports were sent to the Rest, where Mr. Reynolds was kept continually busy in providing them meals. Mr. Reynolds has had probably as many as 200 boarders at the Rest.

On board the Ewing, Mr. Barnard and Mr. Chadwick have worked incessantly. The ——— had made no provision for feeding his men. Philip made some 20 gallons of corn starch, and this, with cherry wine, crackers and claret punch, has been served out at every meal to all the men on board.

This morning the surgeon went with me to the Commissary's, where I drew full rations of fresh beef, potatoes, rice, flour, &c., &c. With Mr. Chadwick's assistance we set up a hospital cook-stove, lying unused on board, and having selected convalescent men on board, set them to work to prepare a good soup for all on board.

Yesterday morning Gen. Banks and staff rode in. Soon the army was coming in, and Mr. Stevens reported.

The Red Chief soon after came down, with a number of wounded on board, and then again all hands went at work. We gave to every man on board iced punch or brandy and water and soft crackers, before they were removed to the hospital. Mr. Mudge, of the Christian Commission, did valuable service, in washing and dressing the sore and sick men on board the Ewing. He is a good practical worker, and recognizes the need of administering physical comforts before spiritual exhortations to men suffering from empty stomachs and dusty persons.

To-day the army is all back here, having had to fight its way through a force at Caney River, while its rear was compelled to repulse continuous attacks. It was in a hazardous position, and we all thank God and Gen. Smith that it is here in comparative safety. It is said there was fighting near here this morning, and as I write I hear the booming of distant reports of artillery. There is also a small force of rebels opposite us at Pineyville; last night the gunboats here punished their audacity

by shelling them and killing a small number. What movement will next take place no one seems to know, although the general impression is that we will leave for New Orleans. We still have some supplies, but can use all you can send us.

Mr. Stevens was with the army during the retreat, and gives the following account of his operations during the march:

Your favor of 13th inst. was received upon my arrival at this place yesterday. During my stay at Grand Ecore I received from Mr. Mitchell two loads of supplies, and have been in direct communication with him since, as you suggest in your letter. My last to the office was dated the 15th inst. The next day I sent supplies per flag of truce to our wounded left behind at Mt. Pleasant, and made some other distribution to our forces around me, but being under marching orders, could not do much. On the 21st Gen. Smith took possession of Natchitoches, and next day at 5 P. M. we started on our retreat. On account of the burning of several houses the enemy must have been made aware of our movements, for they were soon pressing Gen. Smith in his rear. At the last crossing of Caney River, upon some high bluffs which commanded a wide range of country, we found seven or eight guns planted, thus menacing us in front and rear at the same time. Smith drove them back, while Gen. Berge, crossing the river and making quite a detour, took them by surprise, driving them away from their strong position. Our loss was about one hundred and fifty wounded. These were brought over and cared for, keeping us at work all night. I had a box packed with those things necessary and taken to the hospital, thus being ready before the wounded came in. The next morning, the enemy still pursuing, we hurried the men into ambulances and passed the river, stopping all night at Henderson's Hill, and arriving here yesterday about noon.

I found the Commission hard at work, and many are the words of praise I have heard from men and officers as well as surgeons. The men seemed to be astonished that the Commission could "come clear up here."

No one can tell how long we may remain here, or that "the object of the expedition is accomplished." The whole affair has been sad enough.

It would seem from the following from Mr. Mitchell that the Union still has some friends left even in Western Louisiana:

I have the gratification of acknowledging to you the receipt from William D. Primer, Esq., of Alexandria, La., of four gallons domestic wine, and through the Rev. Thomas Bacon, D. D., of the same place, the amount of the Easter contribution, viz., $14.20.

This, for a place not six weeks in our possession, encourages the hope that Unionism, genuine and devoted, still breathes at the South, smothered though it may be for a time by the strong hand of military despotism. The numerous enlistments in the "Louisiana Scouts," commonly called "bushwackers," indicates clearly that there are many men, who, having opposed this despotism as far as they were able unaided, are ready to fight for the Union, now that they have a support on which they can rally with confidence.

OUR OPERATIONS AT BELLE PLAIN.

The following reports contain a number of interesting details of our operations during General Grant's "Eight Days":

UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION,
WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 23, 1864.

DR. F. JENKINS,
General Secretary, &c., &c.:

DEAR SIR—I sent you a telegram this morning giving you a general summary. Yesterday we ran up to Aquia Creek and pitched our tents, for a relief station, near the old spot where a year ago we had our station for feeding the wounded. We left supplies there with five relief agents. The train went up to Falmouth at 4½ P. M., and it was thought that the cars might bring back the wounded.

Returning to Belle Plain, we found that in our absence of four hours, information had been received which indicated a speedy removal of medical quartermaster and commissary stores from Belle Plain to Port Royal, on the Rappahannock. We made our arrangements accordingly, leaving stores enough only at the upper wharf to load the trains of thirty wagons which will be there to-day for their last trip to be made to Fredericksburg.

The balance of stores upon the shore, together with the tents and material used at the feeding station, &c., &c,, are loaded on the barges to-day—provision still being made at the former relief station to feed any wounded who, by chance, may yet come in that way. Judging it important to make arrangements for another boat beside the Rapley, I came up last evening with Mr. Anderson, and have to-day found, by telegram, that the Kent is at Norfolk, well stored, still, after having supplied our boat on James River, the Thompson, which came down for stores a day or two since. I have ordered the Kent, with the schooner in tow, loaded with anti-scorbutic supplies, to go at once to Port Royal. After we arrived last night, at 1 A. M., the Rapley was coaled and loaded, and at daylight this

morning she started for the base. This afternoon I go down on a tugboat, Gov. Curtin, which I have chartered for as long a term as we need her. After supplying the demands at Aquia Creek for Fredericksburg, the tug will take one of the barges, the Kennedy, with her stores, to Port Royal. The Kennedy is the barge which has been at the wharf at Belle Plain, near the Medical Purveyor's boat, and which has been headquarters for the agents of the Commission while there, and also a distributing station. I should have sent this barge off early this morning, except for the fact that we had promised to receive from soldiers stationed in the vicinity, passing through Belle Plain, such valises and little packages as they found themselves unable to carry, or which they wished to deposit in a safe spot before going into battle—and so we wanted to let this storehouse remain till the last moment. I may just mention here, that during the past two days the aggregate of these packages and bundles which we have thus taken charge of, and which, in most cases, would have been simply abandoned—the men unable to march carrying the load—amounted to not less than twenty tons. Straight through the day and night there was one unbroken stream of men bringing what they wished to preserve. But to-night the barge, which had been such a comfortable home at Belle Plain, and which, beside our own agents, has "slept and fed" at least two hundred other State and local relief agents and those seeking wounded friends—to-night the barge goes for its new wharf at Port Royal. The relief agents who have fed the wounded as they arrived from Fredericksburg, will go on with the barge, and be ready to continue their work on the other river bank. It cannot be a more lovely spot than that where our tents and little frame house clustered under the great tulip tree all full of flowers, and covered with that enormous growth of vine. Mr. Anderson will take charge for the present at Port Royal of the work of receiving and forwarding our supplies, and establishing the stations for feeding the wounded as they come in by ambulance. Mr. Anderson's energy and wise judgment, united to a generous humanity and religious purpose, make him just the kind of man we want for that work.

The agents of the little feeding station at White Oak Church will fall back into Fredericksburg. You have no idea of the amount of comfort and relief which have been given at the rough-looking station during the past three days. Being half way between Fredericksburg and Belle Plain, all the slightly wounded who are sent on to walk down, getting, of course, much exhausted, have found here, in food and drink and a place to rest for a half hour, just the help which gave them strength to go on.

Captain Harris will take charge of the transportation wagons and get them over to Port Royal, except those needed for a while between Falmouth depot and Fredericksburg hospitals.

If we can get the Elizabeth, with her large capacity for storage, I propose to load her and let her take the place of the Kent, which, though large, is not conveniently arranged for carrying supplies.

The barge Hoboken will be left at Aquia Creek until we learn what the needs are there.

Truly yours, &c., &c.,
FRED. N. KNAPP,
Associate Secretary.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 14, 1864.

TO F. N. KNAPP, ESQ.,
Associate Secretary, &c.:

SIR—A brief report of some of the past week's work may serve as a record of what should not be forgotten.

Under your direction, I went to the Army of the Potomac on Saturday, April 30; visited the station at Brandy and the headquarters of the army, for such suggestions from the Provost Marshal General as might guide your work on the eve of battle.

These were fully communicated to the Board in session here, on my return, May 3. Every thing was in readiness to proceed at once to the scene upon the first news of battle.

On Sunday, at noon, having the only pass then issued, I proceeded on your order to Alexandria, with hospital supplies for Rappahannock Station. These were at once taken on board a train for the front, in charge of a band of fifteen nurses and attendants, under the orders of Surgeon Mitchell, in charge of the Cavalry Corps Hospital, who received me into his company.

Milk punch in bottles, crackers, soft bread, and coffee were prepared, in the hope of being able to supply them to the in-coming wounded and sick upon the train from the rear of the army.

We waited in the cars, hour after hour, for the signal to go forward, and I kept you constantly advised of the state of affairs.

Meanwhile the Lodge at Alexandria was thronged, and all things in active and abundant preparation for the tide of suffering expected.

As soon as it was ascertained on Monday that no wounded were to come in by rail, that Belle Plain would probably be the new base, I so advised you by telegram; and as I was ordered to Washington on Tuesday morning, your steamer and a barge, both well laden, and bearing your own wagons and horses for independent transportation, were ready at an early hour to go forward,

and moved off as soon as the necessary passes could be obtained for the large band of helpers who had been held here in readiness.

We reached Belle Plain at twilight; were soon moored at the temporary wharf, and every appliance was in instant requisition. The separate bands of young men, under their several captains, were assigned to various tasks.

A large hospital tent was pitched under a venerable tree on shore, and the fires soon blazed under the camp kettles, filled with coffee. The large supply of lanterns were a Godsend to the officers engaged in exploring the crowds of wounded who had been all day streaming in, and during the entire night in guiding them on board the barges, serving as lighters to convey them to the transports in deep water in the offing. This service of the young men, under the order of Mr. Fay—in forming a line of lanterns, assisting the crippled soldiers to the boats, feeding them, and going with them on the barges and aiding in removal to the transports—was cordially accepted by the officers in charge; and, as the hospital tents of the medical officers were directly opposite the tent under the tree, much and very welcome assistance and solace was furnished to it, both to surgeons and sufferers.

During the night a train of ambulances was gotten into line, loaded with stimulants, and having on board a band of surgeons specially deputed from several States. The intense darkness, and the badness of the roads, as well as their unguarded condition, detained this train until dawn, and our young men supplied the surgeons with lanterns, bread and coffee.

Nearly all of us were at work during the entire night, and all rejoiced in the abundant opportunity afforded of hard and tiring service.

With the break of dawn, the horses and wagons were brought on shore from the barge, and the work of loading them with assorted stores for Fredericksburg pressed forward, under the care of Dr. Steiner and Mr. Fay.

About noon Mr. Fay left, with this train and a portion of our sixty helpers, for Fredericksburg, taking with them seven surgeons, and Mrs. Husband and Miss Gilson, who had come down with us upon the steamer to take up again their invaluable work in the new scenes of suffering at Fredericksburg.

The entire freight of your steamer, the Mary Rapley, was transferred to the barge, and the steamer dispatched for another cargo and barge load to Washington.

Meanwhile other tents had been pitched on shore, and one wagon assigned to carrying supplies to the workers in and around them; and during the entire day, (Wednesday,) the crowds of wounded, either on or in the baggage wagons now thronging in for army stores, left no intermission of labor, and menaced exhaustion both to supplies and workers.

Bands of volunteers from various localities cheerfully took work in harmony with your organizations, and, lifting at the stretcher, supporting the crippled soldiers to the boat, aiding to dispose his shattered form upon the deck, carrying bread and crackers and coffee, bathing his wounds or readjusting his bandages, served to redouble the efficiency of all your means of succor; while, on the one hand, the officers of Government both accepted cordially your services and added in many things to your material, especially in supply of bread, soft as well as hard. The members of the Christian Commission harmoniously cooperated in all your work.

From Wednesday morning to Friday morning, when helpless exhaustion compelled me to go on board the Connecticut and return to the city, seems now one unbroken interval, in which rest was scarce thought of, and the varied activities which I have described went on continuously—chief officers of the Commission arriving to work, and counsel, and direct—new cargoes unloading, new bands of workers coming in; and the barge, over which floated the flag of the Commission, moored in the very focus of activity, forming the rendezvous for information, consultation, and supply.

I cannot close this hasty record without making mention, with admiration and gratitude, of the urbane and cordial temper in which (amid the distractions of the scene,) the Medical Director in charge, (Colonel Cuyler,) and the medical officers under him, welcomed and seconded your service and promoted its efficiency.

Of the energy and decision, tempered with humane consideration, of Col. Cuyler, and of his unflagging labor by night and day, all will bear witness. It was every thing to us and to the wounded soldiers—unraveling intricacies and shedding sunshine over the scene. The action of the entire medical staff was in harmony with this example.

The laborious and responsible duties of quartermaster were in the hands of Capt. H. B. Lacy, temporarily detailed from G Street Wharf, Washington, for the difficult occasion; and there are few men in his department with the heart and energy and administrative skill which enabled Captain Lacy to crowd the work of a month into a week.

Yours,

J. V. Van Ingen.

We have the following, also, from Mr. Abbott, in Washington, dated May 15:

Since my report of yesterday, three boats of wounded have arrived, viz.:

	Number.
Lizzie Baker	280
Connecticut	600
Utica	400
Total	1,280

Three-fourths of the whole number were severely wounded, and at least one-sixth part were cases of amputation.

The men were in excellent spirits, for men so severely wounded. We supplied them abundantly with every thing they needed, until they could be comfortably placed in hospital, for which they were exceedingly thankful. We fed this morning a detachment of one hundered men from the 1st Regiment of Veteran Reserve Corps, who have been sent down to Belle Plain to guard prisoners. They were unexpectedly ordered away, and did not have time to prepare themselves any food. To-night I will try and furnish you a report of the work accomplished for the week.

A PRISONER'S TESTIMONY.

NEW YORK, *May* 2, 1864.

I was taken prisoner at the battle of Gettysburg, and spent over eight months in Libby Prison, Richmond.

During my stay there I had the best practical knowledge of the beneficial working of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

To their kind offices, I and hundreds of others are indebted for almost every particle of decent food and all the delicacies that we enjoyed. To them we are indebted for all the clothing and blankets which we received while in the prison, as also our books, papers, and other reading matter.

STEPHEN KOVÁCS,
Major 54th Regt., N.Y.V., Paroled Prisoner.

LETTER FROM DR. H. S. HEWITT.

HEADQUARTERS DEP'T OF THE OHIO,
MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,
MORRISTOWN, TENN., *March* 17, 1864.

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, at this point, of 80 barrels of potatoes and 33 barrels of kraut, for gratuitous distribution to the forces of this Department now in the field.

This supply is timely and valuable, in a very high degree, and will be cordially appreciated by our soldiers.

With very great respect,
H. S. HEWITT, *Surg. U. S. V.,*
Med. Director.

M. M. SEYMOUR, *Agent U. S. San. Com.*

Disbursements in cash of the Commission during the month of May, $262,898.77. This does not include supplies received in kind.

THE WESTERN DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Read's reports to Dr. Newberry, from Chattanooga, gives the history of our operations with Sherman's army, down to May 18. Writing May 10th, he says:

Drs. Read, Seymour and Warren; Messrs. Hoblit, Bartell, Brundsitt, Fairchild, Tone, Hosford, Prindle, Murray, Crary, Place and Barrett, are at the front.

We have sent large supplies to Ringgold, and are now sending a car load a day to Tunnel Hill. Our line of communication with the front is complete, and we can have there all the teams we need or ask for. All we shall need now to have the work thoroughly done is a constant supply of stores. We have to guess how many of any kind we shall need. There was heavy skirmishing all day yesterday, and this morning orders have been sent to prepare for four thousand wounded in Chattanooga. Probably, a severe battle to-day. We telegraph as plainly as we are permitted to do. All our shirts, drawers and sheets, with the greater part of the rags and bandages have already gone to the front, beside the most of the concentrated milk, beef, tea, sugar, stimulants, &c.

We want all the milk and stimulants asked for, and a proportionate supply of clothing of all kinds for wounded men, large supply of dressings, a hundred barrels of crackers, two tons of butter—I deem this very important; five hundred pounds of green tea, a general supply of all farinaceous delicacies, a supply of flavoring extracts for the use of the ladies of the light diet kitchens, three or four thousand palm leaf fans; and, as there is, and can be no ice, a supply of tamarinds, and other articles for cooling drinks, with lemons and loaf sugar. Calculate on eight to ten thousand wounded, but I hope we shall not have so many. Every thing is yet uncertain, but we can scarcely fail of severe fighting.

Hospitals are established at Ringgold and Tunnel Hill, but we know nothing as to the numbers admitted.

Add bed-sacks to the above partial list, and consider it only a partial list, as we shall, probably, need every thing required to make wounded men comfortable.

And May 18th, after the battle of Resaca, we hear from him:

There is a lull in the battle. Our troops are marching on below the Resaca. They have taken two of the strongest places for defense in the world—Buzzard's Roost and Resaca. Our loss in wounded will be about 3,000. They were in all cases promptly attended to, their wounds dressed, and they themselves fed as soon as brought from the field; and in all corps, sanitary stores were ready for them, and in all but one in sufficient quantities. This one would have been supplied, had teams I obtained and sent with much labor, been loaded. This was a misfortune, but, as much the fault of the teamsters as of our agents. This corps had the fewest wounded, and so had less need of the stores.

* * * * *

The list of casualties has been perfected as far as possible on the field, and we have had a representative in every Division hospital.

The railroad bridge at Resaca is destroyed—will be re-built soon. Our policy is, to keep our goods, sufficient for the field, at the terminus of the road, and from that point we were to have transportation through the general supply train of the Medical Department. So far, I have obtained it much sooner than I could otherwise, by being on the field at the commencement of the battle. While the tents were being put up, I could obtain a Division team to go at once for sanitary stores, and they returned with them nearly as soon as the wounded of that day were brought in.

Dr. Thompson and his associates, were here just at the right time to see our work to advantage.

I say to all the agents of the Christian Commission, "You can have goods at any time, subject only to the rules required of our agents." And, although this gives them nothing more than they have always had, it puts it in such a form that they cannot object to us.

There were no goods on the field except ours, unless the Western Commission had some for McPherson's corps.

I return again at once to the front, and if my health permits—and I am better—shall remain there until the close of the campaign. * *

I commenced, feeling that the difficulties in obtaining transportation were so great that they could hardly be overcome. I found the Medical Director unusually kind, and more disposed than ever to aid us, and by hard work have succeeded much better than ever, in which you will rejoice with me.

Dr. Perin, the Medical Director of the Department of the Cumberland, has been relieved by request, but before leaving he sent the following testimonial to our agents:

MESSRS. A. N. READ AND M. C. READ,
Agents U. S. Sanitary Commission:

GENTLEMEN—In leaving the Department of the Cumberland, I feel it but due to you that I place upon record my approbation of your conduct of the affairs of the Sanitary Commission during the period that I have served as Medical Director.

I will simply say that this judgment is based upon personal observation of the ability, zeal and energy that have characterized your labors.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
G. PERIN,
Surgeon U. S. A.

The following is a list of our shipments down the river from Cairo to Vicksburg, Memphis and New Orleans, from May 7 to May 16:

28 boxes (100 lbs. each,) codfish,
850 barrels potatoes,
165 barrels and 35 kegs pickles,
125 barrels crackers,
19 kegs butter,
6 barrels cornmeal,
7 boxes milk,
3 barrels eggs,
3 boxes pearl barley,
4 barrels cracked wheat.

Another large shipment to Vicksburg was to have been made on the 17th instant.

A CRY FOR HELP.

The Michigan Soldiers' Aid Society says: Will not each farmer's household pledge at least one barrel of potatoes or onions for the soldiers? If barrels are not conveniently obtained, send them in sacks; we will return them, if desired, and barrel the vegetables. These articles are pressingly wanted, but not these alone. We quote from the appeal of the Soldiers' Aid Society at Cleveland: "It is a significant fact that rags, cotton and linen pieces, and bandages, are just now demanded in large quantities. Will not all housekeepers, and others, lay aside for us the old cotton and linen that in the spring house-cleaning and re-arranging are sure to come to light? Pieces of any size will answer, only let them be *clean* and *smooth*, and rolled into bundles."

"NEWBERN WAIFS."

THE VEGETABLE GARDENS.—Newbern and its surroundings is one complete vegetable garden. There are some fine gardens in town—that of Dr. Page, of the Sanitary Commission, is ahead of all competition. He has peas in full blossom and radishes, lettuce and asparagus ready for the table. His garden at the "Old Fifth" Camp is splendidly arranged, and will be very productive. He has arranged a "stealing patch"—a novel idea—where it is expected all soldiers will do their "lifting"—those who feel maliciously inclined can help themselves to green corn, watermelons, &c., and be entirely welcome. The soldiers will bless the doctor for giving them this opportunity to "help themselves," and "no questions asked."—*North Carolina Times, April* 27.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, *May* 8, 1864.

REV. F. KNAPP,
Sanitary Commission:

DEAR SIR—Inclosed please find $20—being a part of the sum of $100—which was sent to me by Mr. Goddard, our Consul General at Constantinople, at the instance of Mr. Emmanuel, who holds a subordinate post in the corps of officers attached to the office of the Consul General, which Mr. Emmanuel desires to have expended for the benefit of our sick soldiers.

It is proper that I should say that this sum of $100 thus contributed by this foreigner, who, at his distant post, has seen nothing of the sufferings of our gallant boys, which are so familiar to you, is one-sixth of his annual compensation. Who, of our own countrymen, holding office under the Government, have done more?

Yours, always truly, G. J. ABBOTT.

If I can be of service during this coming week, when our wounded boys arrive, please send me word at the State Department.

SOLDIER'S GIFTS.

The following letters explain themselves:

CHARLES R. FOSDICK,
Corr. Sec. San. Com., Cincinnati:

DEAR SIR—Inclosed please find draft on Wayne County Bank for one hundred dollars, being a donation from Lieut. Wm. Henderson, 9th Ohio Cavalry, to the U. S. Sanitary Commission. This Mr. Henderson enlisted as a private, and received the inclosed amount as his local township bounty, and he requests me to forward it as above, as he says he has seen so many evidences of the usefulness and good resulting from the efforts of the Commission, that he desires to aid in its good work. Will you please make me a written acknowledgment of the receipt of it, and oblige,

Respectfully,
D. ROBINSON, Jr.

WOOSTER O., *May* 10.

No. 1307 CHESTNUT STREET,
PHILADELPHIA, *May* 14, 1864.

To the Editor of the Sanitary Commission Bulletin:

DEAR SIR—Will you be kind enough to acknowledge, through the columns of your journal, the donation to the funds of the Commission of the sum of one hundred and fifty-one dollars, the amount of bounty and back pay due the estate of Samuel F. Bolton, deceased, late a sergeant in Co. H., 23d Regt., Penn. Vols., who died in action May 31, 1862. The claim was collected by this agency, for Joseph R. Bolton, Esq., of this city, the father of deceased, who generously gave it to the cause of our suffering soldiers. Such a gift certainly deserves of the Commission honorable mention.

Very respectfully yours,
W. N. ASHMAN,
Solicitor of War Claim Agency.

BACK PAY.

The following correspondence explains itself:

ALEXANDRIA, VA., *April* 15, 1864,
Prince Street Branch Hospital.

Your kind letter of the 11th instant I have received, and I beg you accept my best thanks for your favor. Concerning my pay I have to state, that I have not my descriptive list, (that is to say, it is not at the office,) and that I do not expect the same, as in all probability I shall be well enough to join my regiment in about two or three weeks. Should I be mustered on the hospital pay-roll, it is very likely that I am gone before the paymaster comes round to pay off the hospitals, which he generally does between the 10th and 15th of the month—not being then here, and not being mustered on the regimental pay-roll, I cannot draw my pay then, and, so you will perceive, how it comes that men have due to them their pay sometimes for six months. Now, if I am not asking too much of your kindness, please see the Paymaster, Major Webb, and ascertain if I can come to Washington and draw my pay and bounty. At the same time, I would ask you to procure for me the necessary permission to visit Washington.

Before concluding my letter, let me express to you the high admiration I entertain of this noble institution of yours. I have seen many armies of the European Continent, have served myself in the Polish and French Armies in Algiers, and I wish to God there would be only a shade of a like society, caring for the poor soldier like a mother only would do for her children, shielding soldiers from imposture and helping them along in almost any conceivable way.

Great as the American nation is, it brings forth only great things. Great, beyond comparison, is this unholy war; great, without parallel, the sacrifice and sufferings of the people, and great the noble institution of the Sanitary Commission, which I pray to God may prosper and accomplish their great and inestimable designs.

Accept the assurance of my highest esteem and respect, in which I remain

Your obedient servant,
JOHN WERNER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 16, 1864.

MR. JOHN WERNER,
Co. C., 5th N. J. Vols.,
Prince Street Hospital, Alexa., Va.:

SIR—Your letter in regard to your back pay is received. I have been to Major Webb, and he says that you are mustered all right for your pay and bounty, and that if you will come to his office he will pay you.

I have no doubt but that your surgeon will give you a pass to come for it on showing him this letter.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. B. ABBOTT.

A COMPLETE EXAMPLE OF SANITARY SCIENCE PRACTICALLY APPLIED IN CAMPS AND HOSPITALS.

"That the prevention of disease is possible, but its suppression difficult and uncertain,"* was the very first postulate laid down by the U. S. Sanitary Commission at the commencement of its labors. Acting upon this principle by most practical methods, and with an unflinching determination not to be thwarted in the purpose to insure for the soldiers in camp and in hospital all the means of sanitary protection which the combined intelligence and liberality of the Government and the people could apply, the results are such as will forever be remembered with gratitude by our people and by the philanthropic minds of every country.

The *first complete example* of practical application of *sanitary science* in camps and hospitals, during a long war, is now being wrought out in our Federal army. But Great Britain, in the recent campaign of its army in China, has furnished a very instructive illustration of the life-

* General Instructions for Camp Inspectors; Sanitary Commission, Document 51.

A writer in the *North American Review* states that, "In the Mexican war our volunteer forces lost, from disease alone, at the rate of 152 per 1,000 per annum, and the regulars at the rate of 81, from the same cause. In Wellington's entire campaign in the Peninsula, his losses from disease were 113 per 1,000 strength. In time of peace, our regular army lost annually at the rate of 26 per 1,000 strength; and the British infantry, serving at home, annually lost about 18 per 1,000 from disease, until Lord Herbert's great reforms were instituted; but by those reforms, which mainly consist in supplying fresh air and an improved diet, the annual loss is reduced to about 8½ per 1,000 strength; and the entire loss in the British army during the past four years, from *all* disease, is less than the annual loss previously from disease of the *lungs only.*" (See *North American Review*, April, 1864.)

saving power of the improved sanitary system that has been established in the British forces since the Crimean campaign, and we cannot more forcibly illustrate the practical value of that improved system than by quoting statements from Miss Nightingale's tribute to Sir Sidney Herbert's administration and the reform that he officially ordered. She presents the statistical evidence that even during the *first three years'* experience of that reform, viz., 1859, 1860 and 1861, the mortality among the "infantry of the line serving at home" was diminished from 17.90 deaths to 1,000 living, to 8.56 to the 1,000, which is less than half the standard death rate previous to the reform.* Truly does Miss Nightingale remark, that the "faithful records of all wars are records of preventable suffering, disease and death. It is needless to illustrate this truth, for we all know it. But it is only from our latest sorrow, the Crimean catastrophe, that dates the rise of any sanitary administration in this country." [Great Britain.]

The latest returns of sickness and mortality in the British forces, at those permanent stations abroad where the losses have always been quite uniform, present to us the most remarkable results, confirming all that Lord Herbert, Miss Nightingale, and the advocates of sanitary reform ever claimed, and proving that the work and purpose of the Sanitary Commission of our army are based upon soundest reasoning and the most philanthropic designs. We quote the following illustration of the latest results of life-saving in the British army by means of simple sanitary improvements in camps, barracks, hospitals, and the care of troops:

"The last official returns of sickness and mortality among the British forces present the best argument upon this subject. In Jamaica, the death rate from disease has fallen, since the recent reform was carried into effect, from 260 per 1,000 to 20; in Trinidad, from 106 to 0 (in 1860); in Barbadoes, from 58 to 6; in St. Lucia, from 122 to 1; in British Guiana, from 74 to 6; in Canada, from 16 to 10; in Nova Scotia, from 15 to 7; in Newfoundland, from 11 to 4; in Bermuda, from 28 to 8; in Gibraltar, from 11 to 7; in Malta, from 15 to 10; in Ionia, from 15 to 7."†

Here we see the mortality reduced, at ten military stations, from 70.5 to the 1,000 living, to 6.9. Let us now look at a summary of the results of the British Sanitary Commission's work in the Crimea during the years 1855-6.

For the following brief synopsis of the results of the operations of the British Sanitary Commission in the Crimea, we are indebted to a member of the United States Sanitary Commission.

The following tables exhibit the total and comparative statistics of sickness and mortality in the British army in the Crimean campaign, and the rate per cent. of the diseases and deaths of all the forces, for first, a period of six months just previous to, and at the commencement of the works of the Sanitary Commission, viz.: from January to June, 1855; and, second, a period of six months, from January to June, 1856, after those works for sanitary improvement had produced their legitimate results. [All sickness and deaths in the Medical Staff, among Commissioned Officers, the Land Transport, and the Mounted Corps, *as well as all martial wounds or deaths in battle*, are excluded from these tables; also nearly 5,000 cases of sickness that failed to be properly registered during the early period of the campaign.]

Return showing total sickness and mortality from Disease in British Army in the East, from April 10th, 1854, to July 1st, 1856.

NUMBER OF CASES OF SICKNESS.		DEATHS.
From Fevers	31,230	3,452
" Diseases of Lungs	12,382	644
" " Bowels	55,765	5,950
" Cholera	7,574	4,502
" Scurvy	2,096	178
" Ophthalmia	3,301	.....
" Ulcers and Boils	12,542	37
" all other diseases	37,553	3,295
Total number cases..	162,473	18,058

The rate per cent. of the entire army—sick and dying from disease—during two periods of six months each, as above stated.

	1855.		1856.	
	Rate p'r cent. sick.	Rate per ct. of deaths.	Rate p'r cent. sick.	Rate per ct. of deaths.
January	34.8	9.78	9.3	—.18
February	23.0	8.16	7.7	—.08
March	19.3	4.68	8.1	—.09
April	14.3	1.86	7.–	—.07
May	16.2	1.69	6.–	—.06
June	28.3	2.65	3.6	—.02
Total	135.9	28.82	41.7	—.5 *

Thus the fact is demonstrated, by the most unerring statistics, that during the period beginning eight months after the commencement of reforms by the Sanitary Commission in the Crimea, the sickness in the army was reduced to *less* than *one-third* of that which prevailed until those reforms were inaugurated, the exact ratio of that decrease being as 1,359 to 417, or 139-453! While the mortality—which is the more significant test of the utility of sanitary improvements—presents the marvelous contrast of 28.82 to —.5, or 5,364 to 100!! *i. e.*, the rate of mortality from *disease* in the army, after the work of sanitary reform had been fully inaugurated, was *less than one fifty-seventh* of the rate of mortality that prevailed during the same length of time preceding the reform.

It is worthy the remark, that, while the statistics show that considerable sickness continued to prevail during the latter or improved period, the records of the army hospitals exhibit the fact that the particular diseases that were *most remarkably diminished* were those which sanitary measures are known to prevent or greatly diminish, viz., the zymotic diseases, such as fevers, and those

* See *North American Review*, April, 1864. † Ib.

* This (—.5) shows that the mortality during those last six months was only half of *one per cent.*, or at the rate of exactly *one per cent. per annum*, which would give ten deaths to every 1,000 men in service.

maladies that are so largely represented in the list given in the foregoing table.

That this wonderful improvement in health, which was the salvation of the British forces in the Crimea, was directly and positively dependent upon *sanitary works and preventive hygienic measures*, is a fact confessed alike by the military and medical officers of those forces.

And in further corroboration of that fact, it should be stated that while the British troops were thus being rescued from the fatal disease that had threatened to make their encampment a Golgotha, the French camps, though located more favorably, and within a rifle's range of the British, continued to grow more and more sickly during all the time of the grand improvement in the camps of their allies. In the latter, the best sanitary board, while in the former (the French camps) such regulations were utterly neglected, "until," as a distinguished historian of the war has said, "with the French army, *peace become a military necessity.*"

The Crimean Sanitary Commission consisted of three gentlemen, viz., Dr. Sutherland, Dr. Milroy, and Mr. Rawlenson, a civil engineer. *Each of these commissioners had, for several years, made sanitary science and its applications a special study.* They proceeded to the Crimea in April, 1855, taking with them upwards of thirty skilled assistants and laborers, together with such implements and apparatus as they knew would be required in the ventilation and sewerage of hospitals and barracks, the cleansing and drainage of encampments, and the purification and disinfection of transports and ships. Among these means were pipe tubing, drainage pipes, filters, ten thousand square feet of perforated zinc plates for ventilation, hinges, pulleys, window fixtures, a ship load of peat charcoal, &c., &c. Immediately upon arrival on the Bosphorus and in the Crimea, the sanitary works were commenced; first, by thorough cleansing, both within and without, the hospitals, barracks, and tents, and in these works nearly one hundred men were employed for many months; old sewers were cleaned and flushed; new drains were made; surface filth, refuse, and decaying materials by *thousands of cartloads*, were removed, and such sources of offense as could not be *removed* were deeply covered with dry earth and peat charcoal. Water courses, springs, and the water supply were cleansed and controlled; the tents and camping grounds were rigidly inspected and purified, and an abundant supply of fresh air and pure water was every where secured in hospital and in camp, and, so far as practicable, the diet and general comfort of the soldiers were improved.

The results of this simple and inexpensive labor astonished the world, though sanitary science has always promised, and its advocates prophesied just such results.

Says Miss Nightingale: "It is the whole experiment of sanitary improvement upon a colossal scale. * * * * * We had, in the first seven months of the Crimean campaign, a mortality of sixty per cent. per annum among the troops *from disease alone;* * * * we had in the last six months a mortality not much greater than among our healthy Guards at home."—*From Narrative Sanitary Commission, Appendix E.*

THE HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

Of the magnitude of this work some idea may be formed from the following "Summary of the Superintendent's Report," which was presented at the late meeting of the Commission in Washington:

Number of hospitals now reporting.....	88
Number of regiments reported.....	968
Number of names on record.....	360,060
Whole number of inquiries.....	10,984
Whole number of successful returns....	7,523
Number of personal inquiries answered.	6,111
Number of inquiries by letter.....	2,231
Number of inquiries by letter answered.	1,412
Number of letters written regarding inquiries.....	5,081

These regiments are distributed among twenty-five States, beside twenty-nine from the Regular Army. There are, also, about three hundred and fifty names from Colorado, twenty-five hundred from the Navy, and thirty-five hundred of the rebels upon the books of the Directory.

It would be impossible to estimate the amount of comfort which the establishment of this source of information has given to the friends of the soldier left at home, uncertain of his fate.

THE SITUATION IN THE WEST.

Our readers will, perhaps, not be displeased to have us give them a brief summary of the recent progress and present condition of our work in all parts of the field. In no other way can they get a clear idea of the state of the great enterprise in which, probably, the most of them are taking an active part. We therefore present for their consideration an outline sketch of the present attitude of our sanitary affairs; referring all those who have sufficient interest in the subject to lead them to pursue it further, to the detailed reports of geographical districts or departments of our work, which will be published hereafter.

Let us premise by saying, that for several weeks and months, an unusual degree of quiet has prevailed throughout nearly all the military departments, the whole energies of the Government being devoted to preparation for the great struggle known to all to be impending. This state of things has produced a certain degree of monotony in our work, which, for the most part, has consisted in the supply of the current wants of hospitals and camps, the maintenance in full strength and activity of our constantly increasing system of Special Relief, our Hospital Directory and Inspectorial Department. With the exception of the ill-fated Red River expedition, there has been really no military movement calling for special action on our part, and the only emergency which we have been called on to meet is that, if it may be so called,

created by the discovery of a wide-spread, indeed, almost universal, scorbutic taint among our troops. This cause, though operating insidiously, was most pregnant of evil, as it sapped the very foundations of health and vigor in those who were to need so much of both, for the arduous duties assigned to them. Unless corrected, this scorbutic tendency would not only impair the efficiency of our troops in every movement, but would increase the mortality from wounds received on the battle-field to a frightful degree. This impending evil was so formidable, that it demanded the most energetic measures for its eradication.

In this effort, the army officers of every grade united in the most harmonious co-operation with the Sanitary Commission, and through the combined efforts of the people at home, the Commission in the field, and the military and medical authorities, the tide of evil was arrested and rolled back.

The part taken by the Sanitary Commission in this great work may be inferred from the amount of their issues of anti-scorbutics, which have been made since the 1st of January in the Western Department, as follows:

80,640 gallons of kraut, 33,702 gallons of pickles, 25,000 bushels of potatoes, 4,600 bushels of onions, 8,500 gallons of ale, 25,143 pounds of cod-fish, 158,828 pounds of dried fruit, 43,477 pounds of condensed milk, 27,108 pounds of condensed beef, 16,343 cans of fruit; 1,160 bushels of fresh fruit, 1,500 gallons of apple-butter, 1,676 pounds of tea, 19,560 pounds of sugar, 83 boxes of oranges and lemons, 747 cans of oysters, 10,500 pounds of butter, with various other articles which might be properly included in this category, furnished in smaller quantities, but which need not be enumerated. From all sources we have testimony that this liberal supply of anti-scorbutics has been most efficient in checking the progress of scurvy, and in preparing our men for the hardships and casualties of the impending campaign.

The quantities cited above will doubtless appear respectably large, and yet, when it is remembered that they have been distributed to an army of two hundred thousand men, it will be seen that each one's share has been small indeed. In former times our efforts were limited to that portion of our army occupying the different military hospitals, but the splendid liberality exhibited by the people has, more recently, enabled us to reach with our gifts a large part of the troops in the field; among whom the vegetables, kraut, pickles, dried fruit, &c., enumerated in the list given above, have been distributed with a generous hand. With all our resources, and with every effort, however, we have not been able to reach all, and have fully supplied the wants of but few. Let no one, therefore, who has failed to receive any share of the gifts of the Commission, or has received what he has thought an inadequate quantity, not hastily conclude and assert that the Sanitary Commission is a humbug, but remember how immense is the demand it is expected to supply, and how many there are whose claims upon its charities are no less valid and pressing than his own.

In Kansas, the extreme limit of the western operations of the Commission, there has been prolonged quiet. Most of the troops have been removed farther south. Some forces, however, are left at important points. To the soldiers stationed near Leavenworth and at Fort Scott, our agent, Mr. J. B. Brown, assisted by Dr. Slocum, has distributed whatever stores he has had control of. These have not been equal, by any means, to the demand. It is hoped that with the progress of the season his supply will increase. Mr. Brown's labors have been much enlarged by the multitudinous calls made upon him by the contrabands and Southern refugees who have flocked into Kansas, without support, and utterly dependent upon charity.

In West Virginia, Mr. Price still acts as agent at Wheeling. A new agency has been established, and storehouses opened by Mr. Fracker, at Gallipolis.

Mr. Butler superintends the distribution of stores as well as the Soldiers' Home at Camp Nelson, where Rev. A. Payson has been assigned to duty as hospital visitor, and is doing excellent service.

At Cairo, Mr. Shipman has been thoroughly occupied with the large and numerous shipments made for points on the river below. No steamer has been in the charter of the Commission since Dr. Warriner's recent visit to Vicksburg—an account of which we gave in the last number of the *Reporter*. Goods are now sent from Cairo as often as possible by the regular boats. Most of them go no farther than Vicksburg, although some have been forwarded to New Orleans. The Cincinnati Branch has sent to that point a liberal supply.

To his varied and engrossing duties as general agent at Cairo, Mr. Shipman adds that of superintendent of the Soldiers' Home—no slight work in itself. Every one bears witness to the thoroughness, system and good order which characterize his management, and to his kindness and politeness to all who come in contact with him.

At Memphis, Mr. Carpenter still has charge of the storeroom, and Mr. Christy of the Lodge. The relative importance of Memphis has very much diminished, but the returns show that the Lodge is still enjoyed by a large number of soldiers otherwise unprovided for; and the issue of stores [illegible] aggregate.

The call from the hospitals there is likely to be large, as they will always have many inmates as long as battles take place below. Mr. Carpenter has recently left for Red River with all available stores, and it is hoped will do much to relieve the suffering in that comparatively remote region.

Mr. Way has charge of the storeroom at Vicksburg, and from this place or directly from Cairo, Natchez is furnished. At last accounts, there was a good supply at these places.

The hospital steamers that ply up and down the Mississippi frequently obtain supplies of vegetables and delicacies at Cairo. It is seldom that they make their appearance on the Ohio. A short time ago, however, the admirable and most comfortably managed hospital steamer R. C. Wood, after undergoing repairs at New Albany, was ordered to Red River to receive a load of the wounded in the late expedition. It was the privilege of the Commission to add to her supplies by such contributions as the surgeons and experienced female nurses made requisitions for.

In addition to the special efforts made to check the progress of scurvy, to which reference has already been made, our work in the Army of the Cumberland has, of late, been almost entirely what may be termed *current business.* This, consisting in the maintenance of the numerous stations with all the different departments of the Commission's labor represented by them, has now assumed proportions, which, compared with our operations in past years, renders them almost insignificant.

The agency at Nashville, under the general supervision of Mr. Root, Dr. Read having gone to the front, has been so managed as to elicit warm commendation from the military and medical departments, and from numerous civilians who have inspected its work, and, so far as known, without a lisp of criticism from any source. The storehouse has been, as in months and years past, under the supervision of Mr. Robinson, who, with his assistants, has received and shipped the immense amount of stores passing through his hands with an accuracy and dispatch in the highest degree creditable.

The Home, under the management of Capt. Brayton, has greatly grown in usefulness, and now accommodates in comfort, almost in luxury, about two hundred discharged and furloughed soldiers a day.

At Murfreesboro', Stevenson and Huntsville, our agencies, in the hands of a sufficient number of experienced and trusty men, have been doing each its part in the great work of the Commission.

At Chattanooga our operations have been constantly expanding, until it has now become second to none of the agencies of the Commission in magnitude and importance. Dr. Read, as Chief Inspector of the Department, has made this his headquarters, while the business affairs of the agency have been, as heretofore, under the supervision of M. C. Read, assisted by a large corps of our most efficient and faithful agents. Nowhere has the value of the Commission's work been more generally recognized than at Chattanooga, and nowhere have the medical and military authorities given us more unmistakable evidence of their appreciation and good will. The hospital gardens at this point are fully realizing our most sanguine anticipations. They embrace over two hundred acres now in cultivation, and are already furnishing large quantities of early vegetables for the use of the troops.

At Knoxville, the agency has continued under the direction of Dr. M. M. Seymour, and if we may believe the testimony of the Commanding General of the Department, his Medical Director, Dr. Hewitt, the surgeons in charge of hospitals, and others, it has done much for the comfort and well-being of the troops, both in camp and hospital, in that department.

The hospital garden of about a hundred acres at Knoxville, in charge of Mr. Culbertson, is said to be the admiration of all beholders.

Within the last few weeks the energies of the representatives of the Commission have been directed toward a thorough preparation for the struggle which seemed to be impending between the Union and Confederate forces in Northern Georgia. With this object in view, our force at Chattanooga and vicinity was largely increased, a relief corps organized to accompany the army, and a large amount of battle stores, gathered by contributions from our Branch Commissions and by purchase, transported to the front. The great battles expected have not yet occurred, but sooner or later they are sure to come. It is believed that our preparations are ample. Among the stores now held in readiness for this expected demand may be enumerated: 5,000 shirts, 5,000 pairs of drawers, with other articles of bedding and clothing in like proportion; 5,000 pounds of concentrated beef, 10,000 pounds of condensed milk, 100 barrels of crackers, 2,000 pounds of dried fruit, 5,000 bottles of wine and spirit, 2,000 pounds of butter, 500 pounds of tea, 1,000 pounds of sugar, with oranges and lemons, codfish, oysters, ale, farina, pickles, saurkraut, vegetables, eggs, compresses, bandages, and whatever goes to make up the long list of articles needed to mitigate the sufferings of those who are destined to fall in the struggle.

With the advance of the army, frontier stations have been established at Cleveland, Ringgold and Dalton, where, while we write, an efficient corps of field agents are, as we know, engaged in their work of mercy.—*Sanitary Reporter.*

A SOLDIER'S TRIBUTE.

The following poem was addressed to Mrs. ——, by a private of the 16th Regt. New York Vols. He had been in her care on board of a Sanitary Commission boat at White House, Va. After he returned to the regiment he sent her these lines. Surely no lady has ever received a more graceful acknowledgment of kindness:

From old St. Paul till now,
Of honorable women not a few
Have left their golden ease, in love to do
The saintly work which Christ-like hearts pursue.

And such a one art thou—God's fair apostle,
Bearing His love in war's horrific train;
Thy blessed feet follow its ghastly pain,
And misery, and death, without disdain.

To one borne from the sullen battle's roar,
Dearer the greeting of thy gentle eyes,
When he, aweary, torn, and bleeding lies,
Than all the glory that the victors prize.

When peace shall come, and home shall smile again,
A thousand soldier-hearts, in Northern climes,
Shall tell their little children in their rhymes,
Of the sweet saint who blessed the old war-times.

ON THE CHICKAHOMINY, *June* 12, 1862.

A DAY IN THE CENTRAL OFFICE DURING GRANT'S ADVANCE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 23, 1864.

I sit down for a moment. Mr. Editor, in the main business room of the Central Office of the Sanitary Commission, 244 F Street.

Groups of inquirers, in a steady stream—fathers, brothers, wives, sisters, mothers—are entering, and are referred to the spacious office, up stairs, of

THE HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

All night clerks have been engaged in enrolling in huge registers, of which each State has one or more, the names, received promptly and daily from the Medical Bureau, of the sick and wounded who have been brought in to general hospitals, and of the location and subsequent history of each. These are arranged under the *regiments* to which they belong, so that inquiries should always state the number of a wounded or deceased soldier's regiment, and, if possible, the letter of his company.

A sufficient force sits ready at the several desks to make the needed reference and reply. And each inquirer goes away relieved of suspense by certainty; and in a majority of cases a clue has been obtained to guide to the couch of the sufferer sought, or to the head-board of his new-made grave. Often it is suggested, when the individual name is not found, to take from the register a name or two from the list of his regiment, and so to learn from a wounded officer, messmate or kinsman, the last that was known of his fellow-soldier on the battle-field.

SUDDEN HEMORRHAGE.

I am called away. A soldier, furloughed at a hospital, in hesitating compliance with his longings for his home in ——, (A—— B——, —th —— Vols.,) has been suddenly stopped, while in search of his pay, by hemorrhage of the brachial artery. A bullet had gone through his arm above the elbow, diagonally, while he was putting a cap upon his gun-lock, and there is a call for lint and bandages, with the words, "I knew the Sanitary Commission would take care of him." He has been carried into Dr. Stone's office, and is soon kindly cared for by him, and then conducted to the Lodge on H Street, where he will be put all right and in due time forwarded on his way. He is pretty well bleached by loss of blood, and his hard hand lily-white.

"I *wanted* 'em," he said, "just to cut in and tie the artery, and make all tight; but the women told the doctor they thought it would get on without; and he ought not to have minded them. I have it tied now, any way. They put off another fellow that way, till he bled and bled—and his arm mortified, and then they cut it off, and then he died."

Well, A—— will get his ligature and a new shirt into the bargain, and his transportation—perhaps his back pay, if the rolls of his regiment are in—and then in the fresh air of —— he will soon be "fighting his battles o'er again," and a hero.

By the way, in bandaging his arm there was a revelation that furnishes a hint to

MAKING OF BANDAGES.

I had started with a pocket full from the ready stores in the office; and, to the great annoyance of the operator, (though borne with a patience that satisfied itself with some allusion to "the inexperienced good intention of some country girl,") an entangling fringe of loose threads bothered prodigiously.

Bandages are to be made by tearing, *not by cutting*, the cloth; and, second, all the loose threads are to be *picked* away, either before or after rolling.

If the Directory for Sick and Wounded—constantly guiding inquiries by letter, by telegraph, and by mail—were the only instruments of the Commission's function, it would well repay all outlay.

An agent of the Christian Commission comes in, memorandum book in hand. He desires to learn the whereabouts of a list of wounded. He is asked by me to write out their names and belongings distinctly on a slip of paper, and then goes up to the Directory. He returns in five minutes. "Did you find your men?" "Yes, sir, all of them—all right."

"Three thousand gone already to-day."

Many bags, full of letters, are now in the process of being sorted in my sight. They have been handed in at the tents and sheds of the Sanitary Commission at Belle Plain and Fredericksburg—and at "White Oak Church Shanty," half way between—by the wounded, and by the reinforcements passing to the front, and brought up here in the steamers of the Commission.

Some have postage stamps; others, and a very large portion, have none. They are carefully assorted here, postage stamps are attached at the expense of the Commission, and they are forwarded without delay. What fitter return to the homes that have filled the treasury could be made?

JACOB ——, OF MICHIGAN.

Do you see that bright-eyed, well-formed boy, of ten years old—the quickest, gayest, aptest of the workers in the letter room—plying, with the

quick stroke of a trip-hammer, the Sanitary Commission stamp with his nimble hand, and whistling at his work?

It is "*Jacob.*" He came in here from a transport load of wounded, soiled, begrimed, and footworn; the son of a soldier, whom he had followed in the army, and who had fallen—leaving Jacob fatherless.

What could be done but to wash, and clothe, and welcome him, and give him tasks level to his powers? And, now, the brightest, happiest, most touching sight in the office is "Jacob ——, of Michigan." J. V.

CAMP COOKING.

Below is an order issued over a year ago to the Army of the Cumberland. It contains some hints of great value to the new troops who are now taking the field.

A great military chieftain once said, that "beans had killed more men than bullets." If this be true, it is not because of any inherent unwholesomeness in the beans, but because of the imperfect manner in which they were then and are now usually prepared for use. Very few of the articles used for food are deleterious in themselves; there are none which may not be made so by improper preparation or combination. Perhaps there is no one mode of cooking more universal and more mischievous than that of frying instead of broiling, and we respectfully suggest this as the point scarcely second in importance to the proper preparation of "soup"—which, according to the French maxim, "makes the soldier":

General Orders, No. 76.

To preserve as far as possible the health of the troops of this army, the following regulations, in regard to diet, are prescribed:

I. When in camp, cooking will be done by companies instead of squads.

II. Soup, made according to the following recipes, will be served up to the men, as follows:

1st. Beef soup, when fresh beef can be procured, twice a week.

2d. Soup made from beans or peas, twice a week, or oftener if desired by the men.

Beef and Vegetable Soup for Fifty Men.

Beef, (cut in pieces of 4 or 5 pounds each)	35 lbs.
Desiccated vegetables	3 lbs.
Rice	4 lbs.
Flour, sugar and salt, each	¾ lb.
Pepper	½ oz.
Water	8 lbs.

Directions.—Soak the desiccated vegetables from reveille until after breakfast. Immediately after breakfast put all the ingredients into kettles at once, except the flour; set them over the fire, and when beginning to boil diminish the heat, and simmer down until eleven o'clock, then add to the soup the flour, which has been first mixed with enough water to form a thin batter, mix well together, and boil until noon. Sufficient hot water may be added from time to time to replace that lost in boiling. The soup should be stirred occasionally, to prevent burning or sticking to the sides of the kettle.

Note.—To make good beef soup, it must be borne in mind that the ingredients are put into cold water, and the heat gradually applied until near the boiling point, then simmer for several hours. By brisk boiling the exterior of the meat is hardened, and its juices will not be mixed with the water, but retained. The meat will also be tough and unpalatable. The desiccated vegetables should be well separated when put in water to soak.

Bean Soup for Fifty Men.

Beans	3 qts.
Bacon or pork	15 lbs.
Onions	3 do.
Pepper	½ oz.
Water	8 galls.

Directions.—Soak the beans over night; at reveille in the morning put them into vessels carefully cleaned, and boil steady until noon; then mash them with a spoon, or masher made for the purpose, and strain through a cullender if practicable.

Immediately after breakfast put the bacon, (or pork,) cut in pieces of from three to five pounds each, into another kettle with water, and boil for an hour; pour off the water, add the bacon to the soup, with onions (chopped fine) and pepper, and boil until noon. Remove the bacon, and cut into smaller pieces, suitable for serving with the soup.

Note.—In the preparation of this soup, soft or rain water should be used where practicable, and if a less quantity than that directed be put into the vessel, or if it becomes necessary, from long boiling, to add more, it should be boiling and not cold water. The bacon, after par-boiling, can be placed near the fire if the beans are not sufficiently soft to mash well. The reason for directing that the bacon be added after the beans are done, is that grease of any kind hardens them.

When peas are used in lieu of beans they should be treated in the same manner.

III. All commanding officers are charged to see that these orders are strictly enforced, and, that there may be no negligence on the part of company cooks, company officers will inspect the cooking every day, and see that it is properly done.

IV. The special attention of officers of the Inspector General's Department will be given to this matter, and they are directed to report the execution or neglect of these orders, by every regiment in the department, in their semi-monthly inspection reports.

V. The senior medical officer on duty with each regiment, will make a written report, on Monday of each week, to the Medical Director of the Department, through the intermediate medical officers, stating the number of times soup has been served to the men during the week, the kind, and the quality of the cooking.

The importance of wholesome food cannot be over-estimated, and the General Commanding enjoins upon the commanding officer of every regiment the necessity of enforcing these orders.

Improper and badly cooked food, eaten at unseasonable hours, is the cause of much of the sickness which thins our ranks and fills our hospitals.

NOTES ON NURSING.

WHAT FOOD.

I have known patients live for many months without touching bread, because they could not eat baker's bread. These were mostly country patients, but not all. Home-made bread or brown bread is a most important article of diet for many patients. The use of aperients may be entirely superseded by it. Oat cake is another.

To watch for the opinions, then, which the patient's stomach gives, rather than to read "analyses of foods," is the business of all those who have to settle what the patient is to eat—perhaps the most important thing to be provided for him after the air he is to breathe.

Now the medical man who sees the patient only once a day, or even only once or twice a week, cannot possibly tell this without the assistance of the patient himself, or of those who are in constant observation on the patient. The utmost the medical man can tell is whether the patient is weaker or stronger at this visit than he was at the last visit. I should therefore say that incomparably the most important office of the nurse, after she has taken care of the patient's air, is to take care to observe the effect of his food, and report it to the medical attendant.

It is quite incalculable the good that would certainly come from such *sound* and close observation in this almost neglected branch of nursing, or the help it would give to the medical man.

A great deal too much against tea is said by wise people, and a great deal too much of tea is given to the sick by foolish people. When you see the natural and almost universal craving in English sick for their "tea," you cannot but feel that nature knows what she is about. But a little tea or coffee restores them quite as much as a great deal, and a great deal of tea, and especially of coffee, impairs the little power of digestion they have. Yet a nurse, because she sees how one or two cups of tea or coffee restores her patient, thinks that three or four cups will do twice as much. This is not the case at all; it is, however, certain that there is nothing yet discovered which is a substitute to the English patient for his cup of tea; he can take it when he can take nothing else, and he often can't take any thing else if he has it not. I should be very glad if any of the abusers of tea would point out what to give to an English patient, after a sleepless night, instead of tea. If you give it at five or six o'clock in the morning, he may even sometimes fall asleep after it, and get perhaps his only two or three hours' sleep during the twenty-four. At the same time, you never should give tea or coffee to the sick, as a rule, after five o'clock in the afternoon. Sleeplessness in the early night is from excitement generally, and is increased by tea or coffee; sleeplessness which continues to the early morning is from exhaustion often, and is relieved by tea. The only English patients I have ever known refuse tea, have been typhus cases, and the first sign of their getting better was their craving again for tea. In general, the dry and dirty tongue always prefers tea to coffee, and will quite decline milk, unless with tea. Coffee is a better restorative than tea, but a greater impairer of the digestion. Let the patient's taste decide. You will say that, in cases of great thirst, the patient's craving decides that it will drink *a great deal* of tea, and that you cannot help it. But in these cases be sure that the patient requires diluent for quite other purposes than quenching the thirst; he wants a great deal of some drink, not only of tea, and the doctor will order what he is to have, barley water or lemonade, or soda water and milk, as the case may be.

It is made a frequent recommendation to persons about to incur great exhaustion, either from the nature of the service, or from their being not in a state fit for it, to eat a piece of bread before they go. I wish the recommenders would themselves try the experiment of substituting a piece of bread for a cup of tea or coffee, or beef-tea, as a refresher. They would find it a very poor comfort. When soldiers have to set out fasting on fatiguing duty, when nurses have to go fasting in to their patients, it is a hot restorative they want, and ought to have, before they go, not a cold bit of bread. And dreadful have been the consequences of neglecting this. If they can take a bit of bread *with* the hot cup of tea, so much the better, but not *instead* of it. The fact that there is more nourishment in bread than in almost any thing else, has probably induced the mistake. That it is a fatal mistake, there is no doubt. It seems, though very little is known on the subject, that what "assimilates" itself directly, and with the least trouble of digestion with the human body, is the best for the above circumstances. Bread requires two or three processes of assimilation before it becomes like the human body.

The almost universal testimony of English men and women who have undergone great fatigue, such as riding long journeys without stopping, or sitting up for several nights in succession, is that they could do it best upon an occasional cup of tea, and nothing else.

Let experience, not theory, decide upon this as upon all other things.

Lehman, quoted by Dr. Christison, says that, among the well and active, "the infusion of 1 oz. of roasted coffee daily will diminish the waste" going on in the body "by one-fourth," and Dr. Christison adds that tea has the same property. Now this is actual experiment. Lehman weighs the man, and finds the fact from his weight. It is not deduced from any "analysis" of food. All experience among the sick shows the same thing.

In making coffee, it is absolutely necessary to buy it in the berry and grind it at home. Otherwise you may reckon upon its containing a certain amount of chicory, *at least*. This is not a question of the taste, or of the wholesomeness of chicory. It is that chicory has nothing at all of the properties for which you give coffee. And therefore you may as well not give it.

Again, all laundresses, mistresses of dairy-farms, head nurses, (I speak of the good old sort only—women who unite a good deal o hard manual labor with the head-work neces-

sary for arranging the day's business, so that none of it shall tread upon the heels of something else,) set great value, I have observed, upon having a high-priced tea. This is called extravagant. But these women are "extravagant" in nothing else. And they are right in this. Real tea-leaf tea alone contains the restorative they want; which is not to be found in sloe-leaf tea.

The mistresses of houses, who cannot even go over their own house once a day, are incapable of judging for these women. For they are incapable themselves, to all appearance, of the spirit of arrangement (no small task) necessary for managing a large ward or dairy.

Cocoa is often recommended to the sick in lieu of tea or coffee. But, independently of the fact that English sick very generally dislike cocoa, it has quite a different effect from tea or coffee. It is an oily, starchy nut, having no restorative power at all, but simply increasing fat. It is pure mockery of the sick, therefore, to call it a substitute for tea. For any renovating stimulus it has, you might just as well offer them chestnuts instead of tea.

An almost universal error among nurses is in the bulk of the food, and especially the drinks, they offer to their patients. Suppose a patient ordered 4 oz. brandy during the day, how is he to take this if you make it into four pints with diluting it? The same with tea and beef-tea, with arrowroot, milk, &c. You have not increased the nourishment, you have not increased the renovating power of these articles, by increasing their bulk—you have very likely diminished both by giving the patient's digestion more to do, and most likely of all, the patient will leave half of what he has been ordered to take, because he cannot swallow the bulk with which you have been pleased to invest it. It requires very nice observation and care (and meets with hardly any) to determine what will not be too thick or strong for the patient to take, while giving him no more than the bulk which he is able to swallow.

BED AND BEDDING.

A few words upon bedsteads and bedding; and principally as regards patients who are entirely, or almost entirely, confined to bed.

Feverishness is generally supposed to be a symptom of fever—in nine cases out of ten it is a symptom of bedding. The patient has had re-introduced into the body the emanations from himself which day after day and week after week saturate his unaired bedding. How can it be otherwise? Look at the ordinary bed in which a patient lies.

If I were looking out for an example in order to show what *not* to do, I should take the specimen of an ordinary bed in a private house: a wooden bedstead, two or even three mattresses piled up to above the height of a table; a valance attached to the frame—nothing but a miracle could ever thoroughly dry or air such a bed and bedding. The patient must inevitably alternate between cold damp after his bed is made, and warm damp before, both saturated with organic matter, and this from the time the mattresses are put under him till the time they are picked to pieces, if this is ever done.

If you consider that an adult in health exhales by the lungs and skin in the twenty-four hours three pints at least of moisture, loaded with organic matter ready to enter into putrefaction; that in sickness the quantity is often greatly increased, the quality is always more noxious—just ask yourself next where does all this moisture go to? Chiefly into the bedding, because it cannot go any where else. And it stays there; because, except perhaps a weekly change of sheets, scarcely any other airing is attempted. A nurse will be careful to fidgetiness about airing the clean sheets from clean damp, but airing the dirty sheets from noxious damp will never even occur to her. Besides this, the most dangerous effluvia we know of are from the excreta of the sick—these are placed, at least temporarily, where they must throw their effluvia into the under side of the bed, and the space under the bed is never aired; it cannot be, with our arrangements. Must not such a bed be always saturated, and be always the means of re-introducing into the system of the unfortunate patient who lies in it, that excrementitious matter to eliminate which from the body nature had expressly appointed the disease?

My heart always sinks within me when I hear the good house-wife, of every class, say, "I assure you the bed has been well slept in," and I can only hope it is not true. What? is the bed already saturated with somebody else's damp before my patient comes to exhale in it his own damp? Has it not had a single chance to be aired? No, not one. "It has been slept in every night."

The only way of really nursing a real patient is to have an *iron* bedstead, with rheocline springs, which are permeable by the air up to the very mattress, (no valance, of course,) the mattress to be a thin hair one; the bed to be not above 3½ feet wide. If the patient be entirely confined to his bed, there should be *two* such bedsteads; each bed to be "made" with mattress, sheets, blankets, &c., complete—the patient to pass twelve hours in each bed; on no account to carry his sheets with him. The whole of the bedding to be hung up to air for each intermediate twelve hours. Of course there are many cases where this cannot be done at all—many more where only an approach to it can be made. I am indicating the ideal of nursing, and what I have actually had done. But about the kind of bedstead there can be no doubt, whether there be one or two provided.

There is a prejudice in favor of a wide bed—I believe it to be a prejudice. All the refreshment of moving a patient from one side to the other of his bed is far more effectually secured by putting him into a fresh bed; and a patient who is really very ill does not stray far in bed. But it is said there is no room to put a tray down on a narrow bed. No good nurse will ever put a tray on a bed at all. If the patient can turn on his side, he will eat more comfortably from a bed-side table; and on no account whatever should a bed ever be higher than a sofa. Otherwise the patient feels himself "out of humanity's reach;" he can get at nothing for himself; he can move nothing for himself. If the patient cannot turn, a table over the bed is a better thing. I need hardly say that a patient's bed should never have its side against the wall. The nurse must be able to get easily to both sides of the bed, and to reach easily every part of the patient without stretching—a thing im-

possible if the bed be either too wide or too high.

When I see a patient, in a room nine or ten feet high, upon a bed between four and five feet high, with his head, when he is sitting up in bed, actually within two or three feet of the ceiling, I ask myself, is this expressly planned to produce that peculiarly distressing feeling common to the sick, viz., as if the walls and ceiling were closing in upon them, and they becoming sandwiched between floor and ceiling, which imagination is not, indeed, here so far from the truth? If, over and above this, the window stops short of the ceiling, then the patient's head may literally be raised above the stratum of fresh air, even when the window is open. Can human perversity any farther go, in unmaking the process of restoration which God has made? The fact is, that the heads of sleepers, or of sick, should never he higher than the throat of the chimney, which ensures their being in the current of best air. And we will not suppose it possible that you have closed your chimney with a chimney board.

If a bed is higher than a sofa, the difference of the fatigue of getting in and out of bed will just make the difference, very often, to the patient (who can get in and out of bed at all) of being able to take a few minutes' exercise, either in the open air or in another room. It is so very odd that people never think of this, or of how many more times a patient who is in bed for the twenty-four hours is obliged to get in and out of bed than they are, who only, it is to be hoped, get into bed once and out of bed once during the twenty-four hours.

A patient's bed should always be in the lightest spot in the room; and he should be able to see out of window.

I need scarcely say that the old four-post bed with curtains is utterly inadmissible, whether for sick or well. Hospital bedsteads are in many respects very much less objectionable than private ones.

There is reason to believe that not a few of the apparently unaccountable cases of scrofula among children proceed from the habit of sleeping with the head under the bed clothes, and so inhailing air already breathed, which is farther contaminated by exhaltations from the skin. Patients are sometimes given to a similar habit, and it often happens that the bed clothes are so disposed that the patient must necessarily breathe air more or less contaminated by exhalations from his skin. A good nurse will be careful to attend to this. It is an important part, so to speak, of ventilation.

It may be worth while to remark, that where there is any danger of bed-sores a blanket should never be placed *under* the patient. It retains damp and acts like a poultice.

Never use anything but light Whitney blankets as bed covering for the sick. The heavy cotton impervious counterpane is bad, for the very reason that it keeps in the emanations from the sick person, while the blanket allows them to pass through. Weak patients are invariably distressed by a great weight of bed clothes, which often prevents their getting any sound sleep whatever.

One word about pillows. Every weak patient, be his illness what it may, suffers more or less from difficulty in breathing. To take the weight of the body off the poor chest, which is hardly up to its work as it is, ought therefore to be the object of the nurse in arranging his pillows. Now what does she do and what are the consequences? She piles the pillows one-a-top of the other like a wall of bricks. The head is thrown upon the chest. And the shoulders are pushed forward, so as not to allow the lungs to expand. The pillows, in fact, lean upon the patient, not the patient upon the pillows. It is impossible to give a rule for this, because it must vary with the figure of the patient. And tall patients suffer much more than short ones, because of the *drag* of the long limbs upon the waist. But the object is to support, with the pillows, the back *below* the breathing apparatus, to allow the shoulders room to fall back, and support the head, without throwing it forward. The suffering of dying patients is immensely increased by neglect of these points. And many an invalid, too weak to drag about his pillows himself, slips his book or anything at hand behind the lower part of his back to support it.

LIGHT.

It is the unqualified result of all my experience with the sick, that second only to their need of fresh air is their need of light; that, after a close room, what hurts them most is a dark room. And that it is not only light but direct sun-light they want. I had rather have the power of carrying my patient about after the sun, according to the aspect of the rooms, if circumstances permit, than let him linger in a room when the sun is off. People think the effect is upon the spirits only. This is by no means the case. The sun is not only a painter but a sculptor. You admit that he does the photograph. Without going into any scientific expositions we must admit that light has quite as real and tangible effects upon the human body. But this is not all. Who has not observed the purifying effect of light, and especially of direct sunlight, upon the air of a room? Here is an observation within everybody's experience. Go into a room where the shutters are always shut. (in a sick room or a bed room there should never be shutters shut,) and though the room be uninhabited, though the air has never been polluted by the breathing of human beings, you will observe a close, musty smell of corrupt air, of air *i. e.* unpurified by the effect of the sun's rays. The mustiness of dark rooms and corners, indeed. is proverbial. The cheerfulness of a room, the usefulness of light in treating disease is all-important.

A very high authority in hospital construction has said that the people do not enough consider the difference between wards and dormitories in planning their buildings. But I go farther, and say, that healthy people never remember the difference between *bed*-rooms and *sick*-rooms, in making arrangements for the sick. To a sleeper in health it does not signify what the view is from his bed. He ought never to be in it excepting when asleep, and at night. Aspect does not very much signify either, (provided the sun reach his bed-room some time in every day, to purify the air,) because he ought never to be in his bed-room except during the hours when there is no sun. But the case is exactly reversed with the sick, even should they

be as many hours out of their beds as you are in yours, which probably they are not. Therefore, that they should be able, without raising themselves or turning in bed, to see out of window from their beds, to see sky and sunlight at least, if you can show them nothing else, I assert to be, if not of the very first importance for recovery, at least something very near it. And you should therefore look to the position of the beds of your sick one of the very first things. If they can see out of two windows instead of one, so much the better. Again, the morning sun and the mid-day sun—the hours when they are quite certain not to be up, are of more importance to them, if a choice must be made, than the afternoon sun. Perhaps you can take them out of bed in the afternoon and set them by the window, where they can see the sun. But the best rule is, if possible, to give them direct sunlight from the moment he rises till the moment he sets.

Another great difference between the *bed*-room and the *sick*-room is, the *sleeper* has a very large balance of fresh air to begin with, when he begins the night, if his room has been open all day as it ought to be; the *sick* man has not, because all day he has been breathing the air in the same room, and dirtying it by the emanations from himself. Far more care is therefore necessary to keep up a constant change of air in the sick room.

It is hardly necessary to add that there are acute cases, (particularly a few ophthalmic cases, and diseases where the eye is morbidly sensitive,) where a subdued light is necessary. But a dark north room is inadmissible even for these. You can always moderate the light by blinds and curtains.

Heavy, thick, dark window or bed curtains should, however, hardly ever be used for any kind of sick in this country. A light white curtain at the head of the bed is, in general, all that is necessary, and a green blind to the window, to be drawn down only when necessary.

One of the greatest observers of human things, (not physiological,) says, in another language: "Where there is sun there is light." All physiology goes to confirm this. Where is the shady side of deep vallies, there is cretinism. Where are cellars and the unsunned sides of narrow streets, there is the degeneracy snd weaklines of the human race—mind and body equally degenerating. Put the pale withering plant and human being into the sun, and, if not too far gone, each will recover health and spirit.

It is a curious thing to observe how almost all patients lie with their faces turned to the light, exactly as plants always make their way towards the light; a patient will even complain that it gives him pain "lying on that side." "Then why *do* you lie on that side?" He does not know—but we do. It is because it is the side towards the window. A fashionable physician has recently published in a government report that he always turns his patient's faces from the light. Yes, but nature is stronger than fashionable physicians, and depend upon it she turns the faces back and *towards* such light as she can get. Walk through the wards of a hospital, remember the bed sides of private patients you have seen, and count how many sick you ever saw lying with their faces toward the windows. —*Miss Nightingale.*

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Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
A. E. Shiras, U. S. A.
R. C. Wood, Assistant Surg.-Gen'l U. S. A.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., New York.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clarke, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, Jr., Philadelphia, Penn.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Prof. Fairman Rogers, Philadelphia, Penn.
C. J. Stillé. " "
Ezra B. McCagg, Chicago, Ill.

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A. D. Bache, LL.D., Vice-President.
George T. Strong, Treasurer.
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J. H. Douglas, M.D., Associate Secretary.
F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary.

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George T. Strong.
William H. Van Buren, M.D.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D.
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The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 4th Street, Pittsburg, Penn.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, Ohio.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

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Soldiers' Home, near Baltimore Railroad Depot, Washington, D. C.
Soldier's Lodge, 76 Kingston Street, Boston.
Lodge No. 4, H Street, between 13th and 14th Streets.
Lodge No. 5, Maryland Avenue, near Railroad Station.
Nurses' Home, Washington, D. C.
Soldiers' Home, Third Street, east of Broadway, Cincinnati, Ohio—Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill.—C. N. Shipman, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky.—James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn.—L. Crane, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio———, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio—Clark Warren, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn.—C.W. Christy, Sup't and Relief Agent.
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Total Amount of Assets, January 1, 1864	$3,140,930 80
Total Amount of Premiums	3,252,256 76
Excess of Earned Premiums over Losses, &c.	1,137,063 33
Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies	441,206 49
Guaranteed Cash Dividend to Dealers, (holding certificates of same) on Paid Premiums Earned during the Year, whether Loss has Accrued or not	269,614 80
Scrip Dividend to Dealers, on Earned Premiums	15 per cent.
Dividend for the Year to Stockholders	26 per cent.

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DEALERS WITH THIS COMPANY will be allowed the option (to be signified at the time of application for insurance) of receiving in lieu of scrip, at the end of each year, RETURNS IN CASH, (guaranteed by certificate) of premiums paid and earned during the year, whether loss accrues or not, upon all new risks under the NEW YORK FORM OF POLICY, as follows:

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Loans on Bond and Mortgage, being first lien on Real Estate, worth over Fifty per cent. above the amount loaned	$173,160 00
Stocks, Bonds and other Securities owned by the Company, market value	365,960 00
Cash in Bank and Office	24,232 15
Loans on demand with collaterals	71,400 00
Premiums due and outstanding	3,820 81
Cash in Agents' hands in course of transmission [business of April received]	13,491 57
Interest accrued on Securities	21,684 60
Other Property of Company	1,265 00
	$675,014 13
Losses unadjusted	$10,500 00

Insures Property against Loss or Damage by Fire at usual rates, and returns three-fourths of the net Profits, each year, to the Assured.

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A fine assortment of Stereoscopic Views of the Battle Fields, &c., of the present War.

THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. NEW YORK, JUNE 15, 1864. No. 16.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall Street, or No.* 823 *Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

THE MONTH'S WORK.

Subjoined is a statement of the disbursements made by the Commission, during the month of May, for the national forces in Virginia. It will be seen that of $328,351, there has been expended in cash drawn from the Central Treasury $236,349, or over two-thirds of the total amount. And it must be remembered, too, that this is for the relief of only one of our armies. It does not include any portion of the outlay incurred on behalf of General Sherman's army in Georgia, or on behalf of General Banks's army in Mississippi. Nor does it include the expenses of the "Homes" and "Lodges" scattered all over the country, nor of the work of sanitary inspection. It has, in fact, been called forth by the sick and wounded of the forces in Virginia, and during only the opening month of what promises to be a long and bloody campaign.

We call attention to these facts for the benefit of those—and their name is legion—who are possessed with the belief, that, inasmuch as the Commission has received a million and a half from the fairs, it has now money enough, and the tide of public charity may be turned in some other direction. A quarter of a million is gone in Virginia alone in four weeks. At this rate, the fund now in the treasury, or likely to come into it, would not nearly meet all the wants of General Grant's army only between now and the first of November, for we are constantly forced into extending the field of our operations. There is constantly a vast deal of suffering which the Medical Department cannot prevent, and which we, let us be ever so well supported by the country, cannot nearly relieve.

On a subsequent page of the present number will be found a statement in detail of the issues of supplies in Virginia during the month of May, as well as of the anti-scorbutic stores, now on hand, that have been forwarded to our depots in Maryland and Virginia. About the latter we will only say, that they fall very far short of meeting the call upon them. One of the greatest dangers with which the army has to contend, is the scorbutic tendencies created by the want of vegetables. We have so often set forth in these pages the effects upon the soldier's health and efficiency, and his recuperative power when wounded, of the scorbutic taint, that it is not necessary that we should now go over the ground again. But we must once more earnestly appeal to the public for contributions of onions and potatoes. It is safe to say that every barrel of either of these vegetables forwarded to us may be the means of saving a life. With such a vast extent of fertile soil as is at the command of two-thirds of our population, there ought to be no difficulty in obtaining more of these things than we can possibly use. Will, therefore, everybody who has either a garden or a farm, remember that a very small patch of it may, by a very small amount of labor, be made to rescue a soldier from death?

—

Statement of Disbursements during the month of May, 1864, for the National Forces in Virginia:

Supplies.		
Amount paid for purchases at—		
New York	$57,942 38	
Washington	28,758 58	
Baltimore	43,404 64—	$130,105.60
Distribution.		
Expenses, including subsistence, transportation and compensation, of over two hundred Relief Corps Agents; forage for horses; materials necessary for the work of agents		17,150 17
Horses, Wagons, and Harness,		
Amount paid for		31,755 43
Transportation.		
Amount paid for Charter—		
Steamer "Kent," 20 days, to June 1st	$4,500 00	
Steamer "J. B. Thompson," 27 days, to June 1st	3,375 00	
Steamer "Mary Rapley," 24 days to June 1st	2,400 00	
Steamer "Phœnix," 7¾ days, to June 1st	690 00	
Barge "Washington," — days to June 1st	420 00	
Schooner "Ridley," 15 days, to June 1st	300 00	
Steamer "Gov. Curtin," 8 days, to June 1st	800 00	
Barge "Hoboken," 10 days, to June 1st	275 00	
Coal, labor, &c.	2,373 21—	15,133 21
Special Relief.		
Amount during the month		4,206 80
Estimated value of additional supplies contributed to the Commission and issued to the Army in Eastern Virginia		130,000 00
Total,		$328,351 21

THE SANITARY COMMISSION AND THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The following letter has been addressed to the editor of the *Washington Chronicle*, by Mr. Knapp, our Associate Secretary:

My attention has been called to the tone of exaggeration in which some persons speak of the work of the Sanitary Commission, as if the Commission was doing everything and the Government nothing for the wounded soldiers. These statements do not emanate from, nor are they endorsed by the Sanitary Commission. On the contrary, while the Commission records, and is glad to be able to record, the aid it has rendered to the wounded, and while it seeks by public reports to assure the people that it is alive and worthy the trust placed in its hands, it is never found depreciating the vastly greater service rendered by the Government, through the regular channels of aid and supply.

The Sanitary Commission gives no countenance to that tone of wholesale denunciation in which "visitors" to the army speak of the neglect and utter delinquency of public officers in caring for the wounded. The Commission sees what it considers defects, and it is forced to recognize in individual officers and on specified occasions what it believes to be delinquencies and neglect, and the suffering consequent; but it also sees and recognizes, as few others can, the immense labor which devolves upon the Medical Department in times like these, and the immense work which is done. It realizes, as others may not, that the transporting of twenty-five thousand wounded men from the battle-field to distant hospitals, involves unavoidable delays and suffering; especially when, as now, the army is moving rapidly forward, with a frequent change of base, compelling, as a "military necessity," the instant transportation of wounded from the vicinity of previously occupied fields to general hospitals, no matter how severe may be the wounds, or how impassable the roads, or how deficient

the means of transportation at command. No man who has not been upon the ground, and day after day seen the labor to be undergone, and the difficulties to be met, can form the slightest idea of the terrific work laid upon the medical officers after a great battle.

Sometimes at a single wharf, as was the case at Belle Plain, a business equal to that of a city of fifty thousand inhabitants has to be carried on. There are the Quartermasters and the Commissaries, with their crowds of boats and immense stores, wagons in trains a mile long pushing in from the shore, and impatiently waiting to be loaded; re-enforcements, five to ten thousand men in one single day, arriving to be disembarked and moved forward to the battle-field; prisoners, by the thousands also, to be brought down to the boats under guard; and meantime, with it all, at this same wharf must place and time be found for receiving the wounded as they are brought in, two or three hundred ambulances and wagons at once, followed immediately by as many more—with a crowd of those men, who with wounds less severe, have walked in with slow steps from corps and division hospitals. This is a mere outline sketch, to be filled in with the breaking down of wagons on shore, blocking whole trains; tearing up the corduroy roads, opening thus the way to mud and quicksands; the arrival of unexpected wounded, and non-arrival of expected boats; the rush, and moving to and fro of these masses of men and teams and stores; the slow, cautious handling upon stretchers, borne down in long file, of men with amputated limbs or terrible wounds; the feeding of the hungry and trying to alleviate their sufferings; all this continued by night the same as by day, through the darkness and the rain. A person who has never been in the midst of all this, and who has not repeatedly been in the midst of all this, has no power and no *right* to judge of what the officers of the medical and of other departments are doing. Still less power or right to judge and criticise belong to the individual who with excited feelings of philanthropy goes from some quiet home of his own down to the "front," expecting by a week's work of humane and irresponsible labor to set everything to rights and relieve all suffering. To such a man the whole scene is, of course, confusion and neglect and ruin, while in reality it is simply WAR, with what in a great measure are its unavoidable consequences. The Sanitary Commission knows from long acquaintance with such scenes the work which the Medical Department has to do, and the embarrassments under which it labors.

With a steady hand in its own assigned place does the Commission seek to co-operate with the Medical Department. All the employees of the Commission are instructed not to criticise but to work; and to work subjecting themselves to military rule. So far as I know, a spirit of cordial good-will is felt by all the officers and real workers of the Commission in the field for the medical staff, with whom they have direct relations.

The Sanitary Commission in proper place and in authorized manner does not hesitate to point out the deficiences and neglects which it sees. It seeks honestly and earnestly to secure needed reforms; it advocates constantly what it constantly sees the call for, as, for instance, a *larger provision* for the sick and wounded, embracing a larger corps of surgeons and of nurses; more hospital transports, exclusively assigned for the whole term of war to the Medical Department; and an independent and ample transportation train, involving a large outlay, as entirely under the control of the Surgeon-General and his officers, as is the ambulance train. The Sanitary Commission thus points out what it considers defects, and seeks to secure reform; yet it works in good faith and cordial earnestness, in its own more humble way, with the Medical Department as a whole.

In order to illustrate this, let me call your attention to the following extracts from letters and reports concerning the work of the Commission, in which reference is made to Medical Officers. You will see that the tone is that of co-operation.

I will turn first to the last report received from the agent of the Commission in charge of the work at Port Royal, Virginia, a day or two since. He says:

"All day Friday we fed, and issued supplies to the wounded, without stint. All

the departments have treated us with a cordiality, and more than cordiality—a willing confidence and cheer—that makes one quite buoyant in approaching them and working with them. Dr. Cuyler, Dr. Phillips, the representative of Dr. Parlan, at this post, and Dr. McKay, have been especially obliging. Dr. Cuyler on finding us so diligently at work, told me to draw on him for anything I needed. He loaned us additional stores, cauldrons, furnished us beef stock and coffee to any extent that we desired, and facilitated our operations in all proper ways, giving us information of the arrival of trains freely and promptly.

"I have never before seen the organic and proper relations between the Medical Department and the Commission so smoothly, thoroughly, and harmoniously adjusted—It was official and responsible—we were supplementers not supplanters, and the attachés of each seemed to have a strong feeling of mutual respect and heartiness."—*Report of John A. Anderson, Port Royal, Va., May* 28, 1864.

To this, I add extracts from recently printed records—some of them official reports, some hastily written letters.

"*May* 11, 1864.

* * * "It should not be forgotten, however, that the labors of the Commission are subordinate, and only auxiliary to the vaster and more perfectly organized system of the Medical Department of the Army, with which it works in complete accord. Col. Barnes, acting Surgeon General, gives to the Commission and its agents such facilities as are asked for, and from the Quartermaster's Department valuable aid is received."

* * * *

"With these nineteen teams the supplies can go on to Fredericksburg rapidly, where there is need of them. I can assure you, although Government is making exertions to supply the need, and is constantly showing increased ability to put in practice what were before regarded as only experiments. Thus, the Government has prepared, and admirably, two large hospital transports, and has also arranged for feeding the sick on board some of the other boats which are not regular floating hospitals."

"*May* 22, 1864.

"Bands of volunteers from various localities cheerfully took work in harmony with your organization, and lifting up the stretcher, supporting the crippled soldier to the boat, carrying bread, crackers and coffee, bathing the wounds, or re-adjusting bandages, serve to redouble all your means of succor. The officers of the Government both accepted cordially your services, and added in some things to your material, especially in supplies of bread, soft as well hard, and the members of the Christian Commission harmoniously co-operated in your work."

* * *

"I cannot close this hasty record without making mention, with admiration and gratitude, of the urbane and cordial temper in which the Medical Inspector in charge, and the medical officers under him, welcomed and seconded your service, and promoted its efficiency. Of the energy and decision, tempered with humane considerations of Col. Cuyler, and of his unflagging labor by night and day, all will bear glad witness. It was everything to us, unraveling intricacies, and shedding sunshine over the scene. The action of the entire medical staff here present, was in harmony with this example. The laborious and responsible duties of quartermaster were in the hands of one competent to meet the demands of this difficult occasion, and there are few men in his department who could have discharged the duty with the heart and energy, and administrative skill which enabled him to crowd the work of a month into a single week."

The following is an extract from a letter of Doctor C. R. Agnew, of the Commission, dated May 24th, 1864, describing the work at Belle Plain:

* * * "Down the right hand side of the 'U'-shaped dock slowly moved a single file of army wagons filled with wounded men; at the end or corner of the dock, by the gangway of a large Government transport, stood that most efficient and admirable officer, Dr. Cuyler, acting Medical Inspector General U. S. A., receiving the wounded, and superintending their removal from the wagons to the deck of the transport, preparatory to their transfer to the hospital steamboats that lay in the offing. After each wagon had deposited its living freight, it passed around the end of the dock to the left-hand side, and then took in ammunition or fighting rations—the orders being imperative to return to the front only with full loads of these indispensable supplies. Crowding along the narrow margin of the dock were continuous lines of men carrying letters and stretchers, on which were such of the more severely wounded as had been removed from the wagons at the hospital tents, on the hillside above the plain; hour after hour, for several days, was this fearful procession kept up. It would not be proper for me to state how many thousands thus passed under Dr. Cuyler's inspection, but I cannot forbear mentioning the most distinguished zeal, energy, and self-devotion with which his arduous duties were performed. His administrative skill, his quick and ready humanity, his almost ubiquitous presence,

his self-denying exposure to the pelting rain while laboring to secure prompt shelter to the wounded, his night work and day work, his personal attention to even the little wants and minor discomforts of each individual sufferer, were the subjects of universal admiration. Dr. Brinton was also there, working with signal efficiency and vigor in the difficult undertaking of forwarding medical supplies promptly to Fredericksburg and the front."

"Capt. Clark, of the Quartermaster's Department, and Capt. Lubey, 15th Regiment N. Y. Engineer Corps, gave us most cheerful and essential aid in this work. Indeed, from all the officers of the post we received nothing but kind services and expressions of goodwill. Capt. Pitkin, of the Quartermaster's Department, provided every facility in his power, and from Gen. Abercrombie and Col. Cuyler down, everybody seemed to take pleasure in aiding us. From Monday, the 9th, until this time, incessant exertions have been made by the officers of the Medical, Quartermasters', Commissaries and Ordnance Departments to remove the wounded from the rear of the army, and replenish the trains for forward movements. No one at home can form any idea of the labors of the officers in these departments, day after day and night after night, oftentimes living, meanwhile, on the scantiest subsistence, such as coffee and crackers, and these hurriedly taken. We are oftentimes loud in our praises of military commanders for achieving victory, but seldom give due credit for the result to the quartermasters, who work with almost superhuman energy at some base of supplies, and on whose talent, energy and fertility in resources, the very existence of the army depends."

* * * * *

"I should say that at Fredericksburg the medical affairs were under the able management of Dr. Dalton, Medical Director, while large numbers of medical men from Boston, New York, Philadelphia and elsewhere, served day and night in the hospitals, aiding those devoted men, the army surgeons, in their exhaustive and most serious and self-denying duties. Who can sum up the value of the services of the army surgeons? Who can describe, in becoming phrases, a tithe of what they do for the thousands of suffering men thrown upon their care and skill by the fearful casualties of active campaigns. I never witness their conduct without a sense of the profoundest admiration, and a renewed conviction that the best work of our Commission is that by which we endeavor, even in an humble way, to strengthen their hands by supplementary assistance."

* * * * *

I add likewise this extract from a Special Relief Report of the Commission, dated October 1, 1863, expressing the feeling with which the Commission still regard the Medical Bureau:

* * * * * * "And in this connection I may fitly refer, both for the sake of justice to the Medical Department and as an apology for our own *existence*, to the frequent inquiry, uttered often in a tone of censure, How is it possible, if the medical officers do their duty, there can be any opportunity even for this supplementary work of relief?

"The question shows utter ignorance of the terrific weight of work, of the most complicated and delicate character, which the officers of the Medical Department have upon their hands, and of their constant liability to be called upon at any moment to meet great and unexpected emergencies. The fact is simply this, that while the Medical Department has made a larger and wider provision for the comfort of the sick and the wounded than the world ever before saw, there is not, and cannot be, a minuteness of detail and awaiting at every corner to give to a fainting soldier a cup of water, such as friends at home, in their anxious love, ask for.

"Yet this work needs to be done, and therefore we, who are simply the hands to the people's heart and bounty, do the work. But if the Medical Department were to attempt it in all its minutiæ of detail, their power for their own hundredfold greater work would be weakened in a way that would find no justification."

* * * * *

SHERMAN'S ARMY.

We must warn our readers that as long as active operations are going on in the field, it is impossible for our agents to forward full and correct accounts of what they are doing. Their energies are taxed to the uttermost night and day, in attending to the sick and wounded, so that we are obliged to wait for complete reports until there comes a lull. For the use of Gen. Sherman's Army, goods are constantly going forward. No pains are spared to make the supply ample.

During the month of May, in addition to the heavy shipments that have gone from Cincinnati, and other points by river to Nashville, there have been sent from Louisville by rail the following amount of articles, besides large supplies of those less essential at this particular time:

536 blankets and comforts, 127 bedticks,

703 pillows and 1,094 pillow cases, 2,86 shirts, 1,931 pairs of drawers, 1,480 coats and vests, 1,552 towels, 490 pairs of socks, 100 pairs of slippers, 495 cushions, 11,783 pounds of bandages and compresses, 839 cans of fruit, 5,675 pounds concentrated beef, 30,304 pounds condensed milk, 14,530 pounds of crackers, 840 pounds of tea, 2,861 pounds of sugar, 14,491 pounds of dried fruit, 25 boxes oranges and lemons, 3,161 pounds codfish, 1,718 pounds butter, 720 dozen of eggs, 7,449 bottles of wine and spirits, 4,715 gallons of pickles, 4,430 gallons of sauer kraut, 10,462 bushels of potatoes, 1,280 gallons of ale, 300 cans of oysters, 20 tons of ice and 2,000 fans.

The following letters have reached us from Sherman's front:

KINGSTON, GA, *May* 23, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY, *Secretary:*

MY DEAR SIR—I start this morning with the Army, not knowing where I am going or when I can return.

At Tunnel Hill we had our goods ready before there were any wounded at Buzzard Roost. At Resaca we had abundant supplies on the field. When the wounded were moved from the field to the railroad, our supplies were a little behind, but very soon brought up. Then I had abundant supplies on the way, but sent them back, with the exception of a good supply of milk, beef and whisky. Mr. Collins, of the Western Commission, had two car loads of very good stores. I joined with him in distributing to each corps or division as they would appropriate transportation. We gave all a large supply, and have but little left.

Dr. Kitto and Gen. Sherman advise sending all our stores not distributed back to Resaca until the result of this movement is determined, which we shall probably do.

We have now a storeroom at Dalton and Resaca, and have had one at Ringgold and Tunnel Hill, which we have abandoned as the army has moved.

My plan will be, as it has been, to keep stores at the terminus of the railroad, and by being with the army, I can obtain teams, at least have thus far, to bring forward goods as soon as wanted.

The weather is dry, dusty and hot. Dr. Webster, with Mr. Hoblit, Fairchild, and Pocock, go with the army.

Most truly yours,

A. N. READ.

IN THE FIELD, AND NEAR DALLAS, *May* 29, 1864.

MY DEAR DR. NEWBERRY—As I have written you, we loaded all the teams we could obtain at Kingston with sanitary stores, and by order sent the balance back to Resaca. We sent a load with each corps, and, in some cases, one with each division.

We have had more fighting here, and the battle, yet undecided, may be said to be in progress. We are very near the line with the hospitals. The goods of the Commission have come in good time, and the wounded so far have been well cared for except in transportation. Most have been sent back from Resaca, and to-day army wagons take back the slightly wounded and sick from here.

If you will give us the stores, we will make them useful, and will keep up the credit of the Commission. Our having them in the field, all the way from Chattanooga, and carrying them to the hospitals in the extreme front, and being fully represented by the agents of the Commission, has given it a new place in the hearts of many who had before doubted of its usefulness. But our supplies must be large. Each division, on the average, will use one box of milk a day to good advantage. This requires about 700 pounds per day.

The supply of fresh beef has been good, and promptly furnished, so that beef stock has not been in quite so much demand, but yet has been largely used. Rags and bandages are also wanted, as well as clothing. So are the arm-slings. As I write, a soldier comes in with his hand off, and he is supplied with one of them. They are of great value.

Most truly yours,

A. N. READ.

We have a depot at Dalton, Resaca, and shall open again in Kingston as soon as possible.

CHATTANOOGA, *June* 2, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY:

MY DEAR SIR—We have little time for writing, trusting to the telegraph, and send-

ing as definite information as we are permitted to do.

The demand for all battle stores and for laborers has vastly increased at the front. We have kept a good supply of stores at the front at all times, as near the army as we safely could, and on the first train to Kingston, after our army left that point, we sent forward three car loads. Three hundred car loads of army stores are ordered to that point now for yesterday, to-day, and to-morrow. We cannot have transportation to-day, but expect it to-morrow, and one more shipment will exhaust our stock. I have taken the liberty of telegraphing direct to Cincinnati, as the agents from there have requested me to do, and to Chicago, and Cleveland. All the stores you can send are needed.

Our stock of milk and whisky is now the largest of any, but we shall need more, and of everything else which will add to the comfort of sick and wounded men in the field and in the hospitals; we need large supplies as fast as they can be got through.

We are paying large amounts of postage to forward soldiers' letters from home, and packages from hospitals containing descriptive rolls and discharge papers.

I wish that through the BULLETIN, you would call especial attention of the friends of the soldier, to the necessity—

1st. Of sending no letters to the army without paying postage, under the idea that, if marked "soldiers' letter," they will go through and may be paid at the end of the route. In all cases they will be detained at the Postoffice here, and will be forwarded by no military postbag until the postage is paid.

2d. Of fully paying postage on all letters and packages. For all deficiencies double rates will be charged, and the mail matter detained until this double postage is paid.

In haste, yours truly,

M. C. READ.

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CHATTANOOGA, *June* 3, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY:

DEAR SIR—

* * * * *

I have been through the wards of the post hospitals to-day, containing the most severely wounded. There are very many whose lives will depend upon a constant supply of the most generous diet; and there are many, who, from their wounds, ought to die in accordance with the ordinary results of army surgery, who on a generous diet will get well—men with fractures, and amputations of the thigh, &c. Indeed, I never saw so many severely wounded men, whose prospects were so good, and the surgeon in charge attributes this, in a great degree, to the stores furnished through the Commission.

Yours, M. C. READ.

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KINGSTON, GA., *May* 22, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY, *Sec'y U. S. San. Com.:*

DEAR SIR—After a very active campaign of two weeks, we have come to a halt for a few days. In these two weeks we have marched about sixty miles, and fought four battles, in every case defeating the enemy. We have lost about five thousand in killed and wounded. It has been a series of successes. To-morrow morning the order is to march again, and with twenty days rations, leaving all who are not able for a long march. I have been with the army all the time from the first advance from Ringgold. At Tunnel Hill I immediately procured store room, and returned to Ringgold for stores and helpers. By the time the wounded began to come in to the Hospitals there, we were on the ground with our stores. Dr. Read soon came up, and all went on well. We fed hundreds of sick men, also those who were sent to the rear, and while they were waiting transportation to Chattanooga, we made and gave them coffee, &c.

At the battle of Resaca we were promptly on the ground, and with six loads of sanitary stores for those divisions that suffered most. Dr. Read and I rode through the army from the right toward the left. Monday morning, on arriving at the first Division Hospital, 4th A. C., the doctor remained, and I went on to find the 20th A. C. This was about 1 o'clock. Coming upon the extreme left, I found Hooker hotly engaged with the enemy, and just at that time the wounded were beginning to come in. I rode down toward the field of conflict, and discovered that the wounded were being brought off the field by the hundreds. (The loss in the Corps was

about twelve hundred.) I immediately found the Medical Director of the Corps, got an order from Gen. Hooker for three wagons, one for each Division Hospital, to return to Dalton, a distance of fifteen miles, and bring up battle stores. This was done promptly, and the next morning, by 8 o'clock, the stores were on the ground, and were, as many said, a God-send. I worked with all the surgeons that were within reach, those of the 4th Corps coming to assist, and also all our agents on that part of the field, till after midnight, in making the wounded com ortable. The battle ended Saturday night, after Hooker's storming and capturing the rebel fort.

The next day I went to Resaca and got rooms. The ambulances were bringing in the wounded, to be put on the cars and sent to Chattanooga. The cars were not there to receive them. The ambulances must return to the field by order of the General. There was no hospital. There were some buildings, but all were filled with rubbish. I got a detail of twelve men, and Dr. Hazen joined me in cleaning out a large building and putting the wounded into it. There were no stores, either medical or Sanitary, with which to feed the men. Neither were there at that time any commissary stores there, and the wounded were calling for something to eat. Oh, I *did* long for our stores. But the water-tanks had given out, and for a few hours the cars were detained. In the emergency, I went to the bridge building, and procured coffee for two hundred and fifty wounded, then lying on the hard floor.

The next day Dr. Coolidge came and had the field hospital brought up from Ringgold. Then I came on to this place. We have secured as promptly and fully as possible the list of deaths on battle-field and of the wounded. I shall return to my post in Nashville as soon as my place can be supplied here. I go out on this expedition with the 4th and 20th Corps. We are ordered to take thirty days' rations. This will be a long and hard march, and a very important campaign.

I must close, as Mr. Eno goes on the train to Chattanooga.

Yours respectfully,

J. C. Hoblit.

Nashville, *May* 27, 1864.

Dr. J. S. Newberry:

Dear Sir—At the request of M. C. Read, I write you to give a short synopsis of the Sanitary work at the front. Everything was done that could be before the advance, to hurry forward stores to Chattanooga, and have them ready to send to points most needed. Dr. Read kept well up with the advance, and secured room for stores the very day the army entered Ringgold, Tunnel Hill, Dalton, Resaca, and Kingston; besides this, several wagon loads were sent on to the field, and were on hand to be used when the first wounded were brought in. The Government was prompt in giving transportation, and stores were sent to each of the above places as soon as there were wounded to need them; and without the Sanitary supply, there would really have been more suffering. By the advice of the Medical Director, the stores at Kingston were returned to Resaca; at this place a sufficient quantity of staple articles will be kept to send forward at a moment's notice. There is a field hospital established, in which it is expected there will be at least one thousand for some time. On Monday there was one thousand in it, and Division Hospitals near by. The surgeons have drawn freely, and been supplied liberally; just now they are most in need of mosquito bars, ale, and sponges; there is not one sponge to ten men. These have been telegraphed for, and I hope will be forwarded.

At Dalton, the principal work has been to feed the wounded on trains passing up; they usually make long stops, and we found the men very thankful for hot coffee, beef-soup, and crackers; about fifteen hundred men were fed there last week. Mr. Barrett, a thorough worker, is there, and does the work well. I left Dr. Read at Kingston, prepared to advance with the army; there was also an agent to go with each corps.

Mr. Collins, of the Western Sanitary Commission, got two cars through to Kingston, which came very opportunely. He gave an equal portion to each of the corps. Dr. Read added milk, beef, and stimulants. It was pleasant to see the two Commissions co-operating and working cordially togeth-

er. This feeling I believe can be maintained, and each Commission be made to do its full share of good.

Very respectfully,
Your friend,
EDWARD I. ENO,
Illinois State Agent.

SCENES AT "THE BASE."

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 14, 1864.

DEAR MRS. ———, I have just come up from the rear of the Army of the Potomac, and there will at least be some variety in my correspondence with you if I tell you what I saw at Belle Plain, instead of, as usual, repeating my Oliver Twistian cry of "more! more!"

The day before yesterday I started from Washington with four volunteers, two ladies and two gentlemen, three of the party being from your city; and several being accustomed to army traveling and hospital nursing. One of the ladies is the wife of one of our generals, and the other is the writer of that excellent little pamphlet—"Three Weeks at Gettysburg." The steamer we were on was well loaded with supplies—somewhere about sixty tons—and a score or two of relief agents to reinforce those already on the field and at Fredericksburg. Reaching Belle Plain—so called from its being a series of high hills—just as the twilight was setting on the beautiful and varied tints of verdure with which the last week or two of summer weather have covered its slopes, we found a repetition of the scenes I have before witnessed, at the same place, in the spring of last year, and at various other places on the Peninsula and elsewhere, during the different campaigns of the war. A couple of rudely constructed wharves, a mile or two apart, jut out into the placid waters of the broad creek, and lying against these, four or five deep, are steamers and barges of all kinds and sizes, loading and unloading so busily that you might imagine yourself on the docks of Boston, New York, or Philadelphia. Boxes, barrels, and bales pass from the holds and decks of the vessels, on the shoulders of long strings of contrabands, or on trucks, along the crazy wharf of the beach, and are there transferred to army-wagons, which, after being filled, join the procession of similar vehicles, each drawn by four stout horses, that, with few gaps in the long road up the ascent and along its crest, wind slowly and toilsomely, as far as the eye can reach, towards Fredericksburg and the adjacent camps. So far as the vessels and wharf are concerned, the scene resembles the unloading of vessels in a seaport town; but in a seaport town one does not—in peace times at least—see hosts of uniformed and armed men tramp from the decks along the wharves to join the hosts preceding them; nor does one see regiments of troopers tugging at the reins of unmanageable horses that plunge fiercely among the swaying masses of humanity and the unflinching masses of merchandise that line their way. But what can there be to load vessels with in an out-of-the-way creek, running up into a country, from the hills of which one may look all round to the horizon without one's eye resting on a human habitation?—a permanent habitation, I should say, for every strip of land in sight that is not covered with trees is dotted with tents and bivouacs and army-wagons, beneath the canvass and boughs of which are sheltered—as much as may be in the fast-falling rain—multitudes of weary men, as if collected into houses and streets would fill many villages, and turn the wilderness into a populous town. Thank goodness, when the spectator next watches the loading of a vessel in a commercial town, he will see nothing of what he now sees at this warfaring port of Belle Plain. All day long, and the day before, and several days before that, the ascending procession of wagons filled with rations, and of infantry and cavalry that have gone to reinforce Grant, have been met by a parallel line—a little way off, for the impromptu roads are too narrow to admit of vehicles passing each other—of ambulances filled with wounded men; and it is with these men, carried on stretchers from the ambulances, that the "outward bound" vessels are loaded.

It is indeed a sad sight; but there is a great satisfaction in reflecting that one is standing in the midst of all kinds of comforts and delicacies to reinforce the stock which has already been provided for these very men; and in recognizing within hailing distance a handsome flag, inscribed

with the words, "U. S. Sanitary Commission," streaming from its staff on the deck of a portly barge, comfortably lined with numberless good things for wear and diet, at that very moment—we can imagine with a strength equal to conviction, for not even "with the aid of a powerful glass" can our point of sight enable us to discern behind the intervening boxes and barrels—under process of distribution to the poor fellows as they are carried past to the boats that are about to convey them to Washington.

It is now dark. The rain has somewhat abated, but even if it poured as much as ever it would not be possible to restrain the ladies from entering at once on their self-imposed duties. So I help them into a boat and we are rowed to the dock, and are soon on board our barge, or storeboat as it is called. But the procession of wounded men is over for the night; and those that have come before are on their way to Washington, while those *in transitu* from the battle-fields are resting in wayside stations, or in the ambulances conveying them—a poor way for wounded and sore men to pass the night, but such as the cruel necessities of war render unavoidable. Dr. Steiner tells us that the nearest of the Commission's feeding lodges is some half mile up the hill, and that its capacity will not admit of any more attendance than that which is already supplied. As the ladies came to render aid where it is needed, not to supplant that which is previously provided, they think it advisable not to wade up to the lodge knee-deep in Virginia mud, nor do they consider the cause of humanity demands the waking up of some poor fellows who are waiting the next boat, and the administering to them of pound cake, pies, and surreptitious draughts of bad whisky; so we presently get into the row-boats, and ladies are before long occupying the pilot house—the polite and ejected captain seeking other quarters—while the men dispose themselves for the night upon the decks, those that have rubber coats or blankets to keep off the rain, now descending faster than ever—feeling their great advantage over those who, rubberless, vainly seek dry spots wherever there are no leaking places in the ceiled roof.

The next morning—very early indeed, sleeping accommodations offering few inducements to people of sybaritic tendencies—the relief agents are almost all started to Fredericksburg, and our small party enter the lists as relief agents on the spot. The scene of yesterday is renewed in all its details, and as the wounded men are borne in, hour after hour, in one long string, the pale and often blood-stained occupant of every stretcher is furnished, according to his needs, by one or other of the party, with crackers, beef-tea, coffee, wine, water, or lemonade. The wine and lemonade are given only on the advice of a medical man, and sometimes the one is intensified into brandy, and the other into the unmixed juice of lemon. But for men exhausted with lying on the battle-field for many hours, sometimes for a day or two, without food or drink, thence to the operating table and thence to the ambulance, the other things may be given, in most instances, in such quantities as they crave. Poor fellows, they clutch at them—but always with a "thank you"—as if they thought they could swallow the basket or bottle along with the contents, but a few mouthfuls is generally all they have strength to manage.

It is best for each one of such a relief party to confine oneself to the distribution of a single article, the cracker man never trenching on the lady's coffee pail, and the coffee lady leaving the beef religiously to another. Infinitely more may be done by systematically pursuing this plan of speciality. If, when the beef tea is being carried round, some poor fellow shakes his head and imploringly asks for water or stimulant, one must not set down the beef tea to be kicked over before one gets back, and rush off to spend half an hour in searching for water or stimulant, so depriving a hundred men of beef tea for the sake of trying to get something which will probably be furnished him by the allotted water or whisky bearer in three minutes after. One must humanely harden one's heart, and say with stern tenderness: "Yes, my boy, all right, a lady will be along with some delicious iced water in a minute or two," and he will probably smile and say, "Thank you, sir, all right—I can wait. Say, mister, there's a fellow right across there—that one with his leg off, and his

head bound up—he belongs to my company—he ain't had nothing to eat since the day before yesterday. I guess he'd like some o' that ere stuff. Won't you please give him some?"

But the giving of sustenance is not all the work. One man complains of his head being too low, and his overcoat has to be rolled up—or, failing in that, the straw round him has to be gathered up to form a pillow for him. (The pallets and bedding have given out, though the first boat's load sent off were as comfortably provided for as if in the wards of a general hospital, and the men we are tending are lying on the decks on straw, but this they count luxury after the battle-field and ambulance.) Another wants a handkerchief, and another a pair of socks. This man's shirt is all torn and bloody, and must be replaced by another. One man complains of the intolerable heat, and some of his clothing must be removed; another is shivering with cold, and more clothing or an extra blanket must be provided for him. Here is one who feels the hand of death upon him, and the head of that one of our party who is with him is bent down to catch from his white lips his last message to his friends. Five minutes after, the blanket is drawn smoothly over the face, and the quiet of the lately restless limbs shows that the weary soldier has fought his last battle, and entered into his rest.

Continually through the day our party has met others engaged in a like work, but all too busy and pre-occupied to notice each other, unless to render some necessary act of joint assistance to a sufferer, till one is met who labored with some of the party at Gettysburg, and, perhaps, elsewhere. He joins us in our rounds, and when at night I ask him if he knows what has been done with the bodies of those I have seen die through the day on the boats and on the wharf, he tells me that he has helped that day to bury—and has read the funeral service—over the bodies of over sixty soldiers. He is, or is going to be, a clergyman.

We have, thus, administering to the poor fellows' needs, traversed the decks and cabins and every foot of superficies, available for the outstretched or partially recumbent form of a man, of four vessels; and now for some cause there is a lull in the arrivals and the turmoil. This gives us time to look at our watches, and to our amazement we find it is five o'clock, instead of eleven or twelve, as we fancied. Thereupon we apprehend it is no wonder we are faint, considering we have been working so hard all day on our six o'clock breakfast of crackers and ham. A sumptuous repast of crackers is not indeed the magnificent Boston edible, but a softer and inferior sort—coffee is forthwith disposed of, and during the repast we discover that there is a suspension of ambulances and stretchers to allow the passage of some thousands of rebel prisoners from Dixie to the land of the free in Fort Delaware and elsewhere—the freedom of such strongholds being the kind they seem most to appreciate. Pretty soon there marched along, under guard, three men dressed in rebel grey and unarmed. Except for the black feather, cavalier fashion, across the front of the hat, and for the three stars on the upturned collar of one of them, they might have been taken, so far as dress was concerned, for privates, but these insignia showed the rank of a Brigadier-General in the Confederate service. This was General Stuart, a handsome fellow, some thirty-five years old, I should judge; and who endeavored to conceal his feelings beneath a jaunty and somewhat defiant manner. His older companion, wrapped up in a grey overcoat, without any insignia of rank visible, and whose grizzly hair showed through sundry rents in the most "shocking bad hat" I ever saw, is Major-General Johnson; and the third prisoner is his adjutant-general. Being brought to a halt they sit down on some boxes, and Johnson draws from his pocket a copy of the Washington *Morning Chronicle*, and picking out the war news, reads something in a low tone to Stuart, who nervously laughs. Not placing implicit confidence myself in the war news of most of our newspapers, I fancy they may have discovered some slight mistake, and therefore feel no inclination to resent their raillery; but the crowd around are not so lenient, probably thinking strongly on the subject of Belle Island and Fort Pillow; and the murmurs increase until there is, for a minute, dan-

ger of violence being offered to the prisoners; but a few stern words from the captain of the guard, and the ringing of the bayonets of the latter, soon restores order, and the Generals and Adjutant are marched quietly off to the boat that is to convey them to Fort Delaware or wherever else. In a little while they are followed by a multitude of rebel officers—four hundred in number, it is said—of every rank, from colonel to second lieutenant, but none with any marks of rank detectable except in few cases where the coat collar was turned up, where one or two more dandyfied than the rest had decorated the lapels of their coats with their insignia. At first I thought they were privates; for, even apart from their dress, they presented, in the mass, little evidence of superiority to the rank and file of our men: but I was told that the large body of their fellow prisoners of the rank and file who followed them—they came shortly after, but I was too busy to look at them—were decidedly inferior to them in all respects. One of them, almost a boy, entered into a political argument with one of his guard, an old sergeant from New York who stood by me, embracing the questions of slavery, the constitutional right of secession, etc.; and which, notwithstanding my suggestion that if verbal argument had proved of any avail to settle the difference between the North and the South they would not have been called upon to fight each other, finally grew general and warm, and was only finished by the party being marched off to their quarters.

The arrival of the prisoners had brought a new set of claimants on the stores of the Commission—not wounded nor sick, but very hungry men, who had been guarding the prisoners since the evening before, and many of whom had nothing to eat during that time. Considering that the mission of the Commission, like that of quinine, is not only curative, but rather and mainly prophylactic, I dispensed to them of crackers according to their needs; but they made no demand of course on the delicacies.

Meanwhile the rest of the party had renewed on another boat which was preparing to leave, and was fast being filled up with fresh arrivals of wounded, their labors of the fore part of the day. I returned hither with a boat load of wounded, leaving Belle Plain between 10 and 11 P. M., and getting to Washington in the early morning.

When I left it was quite dark, and after helping my last case aboard—a handsome boy who told me he would be "seventeen come next birth-day"—and changing the shirt he had not changed for three weeks, after washing away from a wound in his side the blood that soiled the skin, looking so fair and white beneath in contrast to his sunburnt face and neck, I watched for a few minutes the scene spread out before me as the vessel receded from the dock. All over the water twinkled the lights from the many vessels, some stationary, and some steaming to and fro, while far up the hillsides gleamed the lights through the canvas of the tents, giving the appearance of a large city illuminated for some festival, the effect being heightened by the broad and high flickering flames of innumerable camp fires, like so many *feux-de-joie*. So we steamed up the quiet river, passing by and by the house of the great man who so toilfully won for his national children the rich heritage some of them would now rend asunder; and the moon, struggling every now and then through the clouds which still sailed across the sky, looked down on the white faces and ghastly wounds of those whom their brothers had stricken down. The night watch was but a repetition of the work of the day, and during its weary hours the same wonderful fortitude amid their wounds and sufferings was observable; hardly a groan or sigh to be heard, except from two or three who were delirious; and even as I sat by the driver on the ambulance which conveyed some of them from the Washington wharf to the hospital to which they were assigned, I only heard a low moan now and then, as the horses struggled through the pitfalls of the city of magnificent distances.

My next letter will be written to you, I think, from Fredericksburg, and I will finish this by calling your attention to the care with which I have kept my promise of not asking for more. Nevertheless, after premising that the medico-military authorities caution us not to be too profuse at the beginning, for that the real fighting has not yet begun, I cannot do less than point

my story with a moral; but what the moral is, I will leave to your own reflections.

Very respectfully and truly yours,

ALFRED J. BLOOR,
Assistant Secretary.

ISSUES OF STORES TO THE ARMY IN VIRGINIA.

The following statement shows the issues made by the U. S. Sanitary Commission to the Armies of Virginia in the field during the month of May, 1864:

130 air cushions.
10 air beds.
3,541 bed ticks.
265 bed pans.
2,932 blankets.
271 chambers.
312 candlesticks.
2,508 combs, coarse.
1,720 " fine.
5,817 cushions.
110 head rests.
376 lanterns.
315 medicine cups.
288 " tubes.
268 pcs. mosquito netting.
162 rolls oil silk.
3,394 pillows.
1,424 pillow cases.
3,300 pillow ticks.
1,203 quilts.
654 ring cushions.
1,416 sheets.
265 spittoons.
494 spit cups.
7,798 towels,
7,406 tin cups.
1,225 tin wash basins.
1,893 tin plates.
262 urinals.
144 mattresses.
1,114 knives and forks.
2,905 spittoons.
45 stretchers.
100 dippers.
3,427 pcs. cotton drawers.
12,304 pcs. woolen drawers.
14,991 handkerchiefs.
2,950 forage, (oats) bushels.
15,000 lbs. hay.
6 bbls. salt beef.
6 cases dessicated veg.
1,857 lbs. ham.
12 shaving brushes.
12 razors.
127 lbs. lard.
67 pcs. cotton pants.
6,403 cotton shirts.
19,507 woolen shirts.
472 shoes.
2,909 slippers.
3,208 cotton socks.
9,451 woolen socks.
648 wrappers.
695 pails.
67 canes,
6 pocket flasks.
30 cots.
39 bbls. ale. [See porter.]
144 bottles ale.
181 bbls. dried apples.
100 lbs. arrow root.
8,165 lbs. beef stock.
2,514 bottles brandy.
4,532 lbs. canned meat.
2,254 lbs. canned fruit.
4,252 lbs. canned vegetables.
312 bottles cherry rum.
326 lbs. cocoa.
8,584 lbs. sweet chocolate.
1,266 lbs. ext. coffee. [See Coffee.]
949 lbs. dried beef.
22 hammers.
40 axes.
18 hand saws.
44 hatchets.
405 lbs. nails.
38 shovels.
9 spades.
3,106 lbs. ground coffee.
18,912 lbs. condensed milk.
353 bbls. crackers,
3,582 lbs. corn starch.
13 bbls. corn meal.
2 bbls. dried peaches.
2,628 bottles ext. ginger.
6,480 lbs. farina.
24 packages gelatina.
48 bottles gin.
62 bot. jellies and preserves,
408 boxes lemons.
600 bottles lemon syrup.
1,854 lbs. maizena.
350 lbs. mustard.
20 lbs. nutmegs.
2,344 lbs. oat meal.
942 gals. pickles.
70 bbls. porter.
60 " potatoes.
400 lbs. rice.
12 bottles N. E. rum.
1,068 " Jamaica rum.
11,868 lbs. sugar.
119 lbs. spices.
511½ gals. tamarinds.
1,488 lbs. black tea.
1,200 lbs. green tea.
3,306 lbs. tobacco.
268 gals. vinegar.
24 bots. raspberry vinegar.
3,960 bots. foreign wine.
119 coffee pots.
2 bbls. flour.
13 reams wrapping paper.
182 galls. molasses.
17½ galls. kerosene oil,
1 chisel.
1 screw-driver.
12 gimblets.
975 bottles domestic wine.
3,520 bottles whisky.
23 galls. whisky.
280 bottles alcohol.
38 bbls. bandages.
699 bottles bay rum.
1,047 body bands.
5 boxes books.
620 bottles cologne.
2,843 crutches.
7,750 fans.
51 games.
21 bbls. lint.
29 bbl. old linen.
2,266 slings.
953 lbs. soap.
309½ lbs. sponges.
1,945 lbs. candles.
3,858 lbs. butter.
1,645 lbs. cheese.
2,619 doz. eggs.
5,387 loaves bread.
735 papers pins.
21,325 envelopes.
320 bottles ink.
58 reams writing paper.
5,328 pencils.
1,288 pen holders.
1,288 pens.
1,300 lbs. oakum.
4,000 pipes.
540 lbs. chloroform.
45 bottles spirits camphor.
12 cook stoves and fixtures.
17 wall tents.
1 quire sand paper.
9 can openers.
49½ lbs. twine.
40 corkscrews.
242 prs. scissors.
8 pepper boxes.
10 lbs. saleratus.
70 lbs. pepper.
22 tin pans, for wash'g dishs
1,483 lbs. salt.
54 boxes oranges.
100 camp kettles.
17 frying pans.
44 rolls adhesive plaster.
4 nutmeg graters.
30 camp stools.
12 baskets.
6,000 feet lumber.
16,000 lbs. straw.
24 china plates.
20 yds oil cloth.
200 cathartic pills.
6,000 opium pills.
2,000 opium and camp. pills.
60 smoked tongues.
221 rubber blankets.
252 open links.
14 feed troughs.
9 boxes splints.
36 gross matches.
682 yds. rubber cloth.
17 oz. morphine.
20 yds. white flannel.
1,870 lbs. chloride of lime.
8½ lbs. ligature silk.
150 haversacks.
84 blowers.
100 hospital car loops.
8 water coolers.
2 lbs. bromine.
50 lbs. patent lint.
24 dressing fauceps.
16 papers tacks.
100 yards wire.
6 door mats.
1 gross needles.
55 lbs. mutton tallow.
1 piece sheeting.
1 refrigerator.
2 stove boilers.
20 boxes chlorinium.
6 boxes clothing.
6 rocking chairs.
57 bottles cider.
12 faucets.
2 faucet augurs.
1 pump.
224 canteens.
72 boxes blacking.
362 boxes sardines.
300 paper bags.
3 washing machines.
12 blank books.
97½ tons ice.
12 bottles copperas.
3 bottles chloride soda.
2 medicine chests.
6 stove brushes.
1 bbl. salt pork.
12 stew pans.
12 frying pans.
2,200 lbs. fresh beef.
36 four-horse wagons, with harness, whips, extra whiffletrees, &c., complete.
156 two-horse wagons, do.

The following anti-scorbutic stores were sent from New York and stored in Baltimore. About one-third of these were loaded on board the Ridley, and taken to Norfolk in tow of the Kent.

4,291 galls. pickled tomatoes.
51,812 lbs. canned tomatoes.
1,106 galls. curried cabbage.
671 bbls. dried apples.
15,168 galls. saur kraut.
4,162 galls. pickles.
3,580 galls. pickled onions.
12,060 lbs. apple pulp.
2,400 boxes portable lemonade.
1 tub apple butter.
1 doz. ginger wine.

REV. DR. WINSLOW.

A large circle of friends and the public will deeply mourn the death of the REV. GORDON WINSLOW, M. D., of the Sanitary Commission. He fell overboard from a transport, on the morning of the 7th of June, and was drowned in the Potomac. At the time he was accompanying his wounded son, Col. Cleveland Winslow, (Duryea Zouaves,) to Washington, and was engaged in various duties attendant upon his position.

DR. WINSLOW was born in Vermont, in 1804, prepared for Yale College at Andover, Mass., and graduated at that institution. Soon after his attention was drawn to the Episcopal Church, and he became rector of a church in Troy, New York, and subsequently in Annapolis. Afterwards, he was for many years rector of St. Paul's, Staten Island, and Chaplain of the Quar-

antine. At the outbreak of the rebellion he was appointed Chaplain of the Duryea Zouaves, and accompanied that regiment in all its trying scenes and hard-fought battles. He was distinguished for his bravery, and his services gained for him high credit and renown among the army. He also served on the Sanitary Commission, and when his regiment returned last year he was appointed Inspector of the Army of the Potomac. His efficiency and valuable services will not soon be forgotten.

Dr. Winslow possessed a fine social nature, full of good heart and noble soul. His traits of character were remarkably well blended. All his motives and plans were of a high and noble cast. His mind was acute, active and fertile. He was thoroughly conversant with literature and science, and he often contributed for the press and various literary publications. But he has departed, cut down in the midst of usefulness, and his loss will be felt by friends and the public. A pure and true-minded man, sincere Christian, noble soul, and generous nature have passed from earth to Heaven. Dr. Winslow leaves a wife and two sons, both of whom are officers in the army. He was a brother of the Rev. Hubbard Winslow, D. D., and of the eminent missionary, Dr. Myron Winslow.

THE PHILADELPHIA FAIR.

The buildings for the fair are enormous, occupying all of Logan Square, a space of nearly six by five hundred feet. There are ninety separate departments in the fair, and to travel through each will be about a two-mile walk to the anxious spectator. A fifty cent ticket admits a visitor to eighty-one of these departments, the other nine are extra. They are as follows, and the admittance to each is as specified:

Art Gallery	25	cents.
Horticulture	25	"
Indian Department	25	"
Signor Blitz	25	"
Arms and Trophies	20	"
Relics and Curiosities	20	"
William Penn Parlor	10	"
Skating Pond	10	"
Divan	10	"
Total	$1	70

For the sum of $2 20 a visitor sees the whole "sight," which may be truly designated a miniature world.

The buildings are light, airy, and comfortable; far more pleasant inside than their appearance outside would betoken. The decorations inside are most complete, the several wings being gaily plumed in red, white, and blue, presenting pleasing, patriotic, and beautiful pictures. Standing at the main or eastern entrance of the great arched building known as "Union Hall," we have to our right and left the sections for Delaware and New Jersey, and directly in front a continuous view to the extent of five hundred feet of Gothic archway, the base line being sixty-four feet, and the apex being an elevation of fifty feet.

The large collection of banners, flags, and paintings have been used with admirable judgment, and the firemen may well challenge comparison with the decorations in any other department. The goods offered for sale in this portion of the building are among the most attractive of the fair. Union Avenue centains a great variety of articles, and as the exhibitors have been left to their own fancy in the matter of decorations for the counters and shelves, the display is varied, and no better place could have been selected for the opening ceremonies.

For the accommodation of the speakers, invited guests, &c., a large platform was erected in the western end of the avenue, which was decorated in keeping with the main body of the hall. The crowd began to pour in long before the time announced for the commencement of proceedings, and when the hour of four arrived every spot along the whole avenue was occupied. The scene presented was most pleasing indeed, especially to those who were favored with a position on the platform, where they could freely scan all before them. The exercises were opened by music, "Hail Columbia," by a full orchestra.—*Philadelphia Inquirer.*

Dr. Alexander McDonald, Inspector United States Sanitary Commission, in letter of June 2d, Bermuda Hundred, says: "We have just arrived at the Hundred, 9 A. M. Stopped last night at Wilson's Landing, and left saur kraut, potatoes and onions for the forces there and at Fort Powhatan, and are now making arrangements for having supplies at Bermuda Hundred."

SOLDIER'S HOME AT CAIRO.

The reports for the five weeks ending May 2nd, show, that during that period 10,423 men were admitted; 7,941 lodgings, and 20,305 meals were furnished, while transportation was procured for 829.

The advance of Sherman's Army into Georgia, leaving a very long line through a wasted country in his rear, will render the establishment of a number of new "Homes" along it necessary.

OUR CONSULS ABROAD,

The European Branch in Paris of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, have frequently had occasion to acknowledge the valuable aid rendered by the American Consuls in Europe to the Commission, and have made particular mention, in this relation of James O. Putnam, Consul at Havre; Mr. Thaddeus Hyatt, at Rochelle; and Mr. James Lesby, at Lyons.

Our countryman, Mr. John R. Tait, resident at Dusseldorf, has, by unceasing exertions, obtained very large and valuable donations from a great number of nobleminded and generous artists in that place.

A LESSON WELL LEARNT.

From Charles Dickens's "All the Year Round."

When the shadow of death hung over the Italian campaign, from which Italy knew how to take more liberty than it was meant that she should have, a citizen of Geneva, M. Henri Dunant, had his heart strengthened for noble labors by the recollection of the work done by Florence Nightingale in the Crimea. If there must be wars, why may they not be fought out by civilized nations with common recognition of the common duties of humanity? What if there were a General European Sanitary Commission? By his energetic labor competent men of many countries were brought together last year in the International Congress upon this question at Geneva—our Inspector General of Hospitals, then representing Great Britain, by authority of our Secretary of War, with competent official deputies from France, and from Austria, and from Russia, and from Prussia, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Bavaria, Wurtemburg, Baden and Hesse, Hanover and Holland.

We know not what may come of the movement thus commenced, but we are glad to learn, from a little book called "A Woman's Example and a Nation's Work," (published by Ridgway,) that in the midst of all the miseries of civil war in America, the lesson taught by Florence Nightingale has not been lost upon a kindred people. The newspapers tell all the battle stories, and have enabled us to sup full of the horrors of the strife. Of the pity, and the deeds of mercy it engenders, we have not been told all we might hear.

The women on each side connected themselves at the outbreak of the war with the great work of healing and solace. The South has assuredly and certainly not been behind the North in generous self-sacrifice, but from the South few records come to us as yet; at present it is only of what has been done in the North that we can tell the tale.

The women began their work of mercy by filling churches, schoolrooms, and the large houses of many wealthy persons, with lint-scrapers, cutters, folders, and packers of the linen they gave to the use of the wounded. Then they organized themselves, first in New York, into a "Woman's Central Association of Relief;" like bodies were constituted elsewhere, and advice was sought from men of experience. They were advised to ascertain what government could and would do in the direction to which their work tended, then to work with it, and by their own liberality of gifts and labor, supplement its unavoidable short-comings. The clergyman of New York who was foremost in giving this counsel, the Rev. Dr. Bellows, accompanied by three of the chief physicians of New York, Drs. Van Buren, Harris, and Harsen, went, therefore, in deputation to Washington for conference with the Secretary of War. They represented not only the "Woman's Central Association," but also the Advisory Committee of the Boards of Physicians and Surgeons of the New York Hospitals, and the New York Medical Association for furnishing Hospital Supplies in aid of the Army. The three bodies were all acting harmoniously together in turning to the best account the free gifts from the city and State of New York, designed in aid of the comfort and security of the troops. They petitioned for some rigor in inspection of volunteers, that unsuitable persons might not be sent to certain death in the Army; the Woman's Association was about to send for service in the general hospitals of the Army one hundred picked and trained female nurses, and they asked that the War Department should be content to receive on wages during actual duty as many of such nurses as the exigencies of the campaign might require. They suggested, also, the appointment of a Sanitary Commission, which President Lincoln scoffed at as a "fifth wheel to the military coach." This memorial was very coldly received by the War Department and the Medical Bureau of the Army. The United States Sanitary Commission, which has by this time turned to right use in works of health and mercy, voluntary contributions amounting to about two millions of money, got its first lift towards existence in a note of recommendation from Dr. R. C. Wood, Acting Surgeon General to the United States Army.

The four delegates then at once sent in a sketch of the plan of such a Commission, specifying all they asked for it from the Government; no new legal powers whatever, and none of the public money; but simply official public recognition during the war, or until it should be found unserviceable, and a room in one of the public buildings in Washington or elsewhere, with station-

ery and other insignia of a recognized public office. The object of the desired Commission would be "to bring to bear upon the health, comfort and morale of the troops, the fullest and ripest teachings of sanitary science in its application to military life;" directing particular attention, for example, to the material of the volunteer force, and to such subjects as diet and cookery, clothing, and precaution against damp, cold, heat, malaria, infection, &c.; tents, camping ground, transports, transitory depots with their exposures, camp police; organization of hospitals, hospital supplies, regulations of the patriotic service of the capable women offering themselves as nurses; the questions of ambulances, of field service, of extra medical aid, and whatever else relates to the care or cure of the sick and wounded.

Reluctant consent was at last given to the establishment of such a Commission, in a document of which the last paragraph thus expressed the official contempt it excited: "The Commission will exist until the Secretary of War shall otherwise direct, *unless sooner dissolved by its own action.*" It is something to know that there is a circumlocution office across the Atlantic.

Yet at that time the army, suddenly quadrupled, was deficient in the commonest requisites of clothing, bedding, and hospital staff, while the local soldier's aid societies founded in different districts for the succor each of its own peculiar body of volunteers; bewildered by the marchings and countermarchings of the distant regiments, were wasting much good energy. One of the first difficult labors of the Commission was to prove to these local bodies the shortsightedness of their provincial allies, and get them to throw all their resources into the organization of one common national work. One by one the work of woman's love that strove to follow the particular fortunes of brothers and friends was gathered into one great national effort, and the local aid societies became branches of the Commission, with Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted for its secretary, that strove to secure the well-being of the Army, and detect the more unwholesome blots upon its discipline wherever they might be. Influential men in every part of the country now became unpaid advocates of the Commission as "Associate Members;" circulars, setting forth the wants of the Army, were widely diffused; sanitary agitation was kept up; directors of insurance companies were made to understand their interest in the well-being and the health of the volunteer.

Then it was found necessary to break down the exclusiveness of State sovereignty, and, for right organization of the conveyance of the bales provided for use of the sick, establish central depots for districts, determined not by political predilections, but by the course of railways, rivers and canals. One hundred and twenty towns thus became auxiliary to Cleveland in Ohio, and twelve hundred and twenty-six accepted the City of New York as their centre. The Commission sent also sanitary inspectors to the camps and camp hospitals, and has received and tabulated some fifteen hundred of their reports, each consisting of answers to a set of one hundred and eighty printed questions.

Meanwhile, the Government had taken no step towards the organization for war purposes of the Medical Bureau, beyond the appointment of a Surgeon General, who at once pronounced against the Sanitary Commission, and declared that "he would have nothing to do with it;" for it was "a perilous conception to allow any such outside body to come into being." The Commission, however, having been already authorized by Government, he consented to its action for the volunteers, on condition that it never meddled with the regular troops.

This wonderful gentleman confined himself to the maintenance of every old regulation, and resisted every attempt at "innovation" to adapt what might have sufficed for the case of a bush-fighting army of twelve thousand, to the greater needs of a tremendous civil war. So there arose civil war between the Sanitary Commission and the Surgeon General; and the Commission, working by deputations to the Government, complaints from Army officers, and memorials to Congress, procured the passing of a bill, drawn up by its own Executive Committee, reorganizing fundamentally the Medical Department of the Army, appointing a body of General Inspectors, and substituting for the old system of seniority, promotion for competency without regard to grade or age. This victory over routine having been won, the Commission itself sought the most competent man for Surgeon General, and endeavored to forestall any chance of an appointment by favoritism into which the Secretary of War might be tempted. The Commission again won its battle, and secured the promotion of Dr. W. A. Hammond, Assistant Surgeon on the Medical Staff, to the post of Surgeon General, an advance from the rank of first lieutenant, with charge of a single hospital, to that of brigadier general, with the entire control of the Medical Department of the Army. With its own man—a competent man, who had every reason to be grateful to it—thus in authority, the Sanitary Commission had its way made very straight. Dr. Hammond revised his list of subordinates with a bold hand, got rid of the obstructive and incompetent men, and honestly sought the best help in organization of hospitals, foundation of an army medical

school, and so forth. Before the civil war, the United States Army rivalled the Austrian in exclusiveness and firm adherence to routine; and who can tell what tales of pestilence we might have heard, but for the victory thus won on behalf of women's work in time of peril?

A part of the business of the Sanitary Commission was to diffuse gratuitously among the army surgeons, practical pamphlets of information upon military hygiene, and the most important points of army medicine and surgery. Such pamphlets were the "Directions to Army Surgeons on the Battle-field," by our own Guthrie, and the "Advice as to Camping," issued by the British Sanitary Commission at the time of the Crimean War; pamphlets on "Pain and Anæsthetics," and on "Hemorrhage from Wounds, and the best Means of Arresting it," by the father of American surgery, Dr. Valentine Mott; pamphlets on Army vaccination, amputations, treatment of fractures, scurvy, fevers, &c. The largely increased number of Army surgeons had to be drawn from civil life, and really needed information as to the new forms of practice in the field; while everywhere the teachings of Florence Nightingale were actively diffused. Again, over the wide surface of the States involved in war, there was great variation of latitude, and almost every imaginable difference of ground, producing local differences in the character and aspect of disease. Special investigation was made of this subject, not only for the information of the Medical Staff, but as a necessary guide to the right distribution of the requisite supplies.

When, at the beginning of the war, the lines of action corresponded with the course of navigable rivers, floating hospitals accompanied the armies. Here, with perhaps five hundred or a thousand sick soldiers arranged in a single river steamer, well-born American women and some English volunteers were fearless and faithful nurses. Let us see them at work. A lady speaks:

"We were called to go on board the Wissahickon, from thence to the Sea Shore, and run down in the latter to West Point, to bring off twenty-five men said to be lying there sick and destitute. Two doctors went with us. After hunting an hour for the Sea Shore in vain, and having got as low as Cumberland, we decided (*we* being Mrs. —— and I, for the doctors were new and docile, and glad to leave the responsibility upon us women,) to push on to the tug, rather than leave the men another night on the ground, as a heavy storm of wind and rain had been going on all day. The pilot remonstrated, but the captain approved; and if the firemen had not suddenly let out the fires, and detained us two hours, we might have got our men on board and returned comfortably soon after dark. But the delay lost us the precious daylight. It was night before the last man was got on board. There were fifty-six of them—ten *very* sick ones. The boat had a little shelter cabin. As we were laying mattresses on the floor, whilst the doctors were finding the men, the captain stopped us, refusing to let us put typhoid fever below the deck, on account of the crew, he said, and threatened to push off at once from the shore. Mrs. —— and I looked at him. I did the terrible and she the pathetic, and he abandoned the contest. The return passage was rather an anxious one. The river is much obstructed with sunken ships and trees; the night was dark, and we had to feel our way, slackening speed every ten minutes. If we had been alone it wouldn't have mattered; but to have fifty men, unable to move, upon our hands, was too heavy a responsibility not to make us anxious. The captain and pilot said the boat was leaky, and remarked awfully 'that the water was six fathoms deep about there;' but we saw their motive and were not scared. We were safe alongside the Spaulding by midnight; but Mr. Olmsted's tone of voice, as he said, 'You don't know how glad I am to see you," showed how much he had been worried. And yet it was the best thing we could have done, for three, perhaps five, of the men would have been dead before morning. To-day (Sunday,) they are living, and likely to live."

A plan for the swift construction of a good receiving hospital, the notion of great soup caldrons on wheels for feeding the sick and wounded after battle, scrofulous inspection, active agitation and investigation of the question of what is to be done in the future with the disabled soldiers of three years of war, are among the wholesome work of the Commission, which has been able, after every great battle, to dispatch a voluntary contribution of necessaries, in addition to the provision made by the Medical Department of the Army. Thus, after the second battle of Bull Run—when General Pope's army, with a loss of sixteen thousand in killed and wounded, was in retreat—the Confederates had captured forty-three wagon loads of medical stores. Within three days, sixteen wagon loads of drugs and medicines, the gift of the country through the Sanitary Commission, were at the disposal of the army; and at Centerville, on the road from Bull Run to Washington, the Commission's agents served out to the wounded, who came fainting in by hundreds, hot beef tea, soup and bread, and stimulants—gathered them into ambulances or hospitals—and otherwise helped them on to Washington. The Commission has always extended such help alike to friend or foe; the wounded Confederate who has been captured has been simply regarded as a sufferer.

These laborers on behalf of humanity, even work under fire in the field relief corps that trot up their light wagons with stores, bandages, or other aid to the surgeons, wherever men fall fastest, and after the battle hunt indefatigably for the straggling wounded. The Commission has organized, also, a distinct department of Special Relief for care of the sick among newly-arrived regiments; for providing temporary and gratuitous shelter and food to the soldier honorably discharged, while he is waiting in any city for his papers and his pay; for helping the helpless soldier in any conceivable way, by acting as his unpaid agent, or attorney; for protecting him against sharpers, or getting railway tickets at reduced rates. With such views soldiers' "Homes" have been established throughout the North, and at the principal Home in Washington, about a hundred thousand nights' lodgings, and three or four hundred thousand meals, have been gratuitously provided. The Commission has obtained Homes, too, for its own and the Army's nurses when not in attendance on the sick, or preparing to depart for distant stations. Finally, the Commission charges itself with the duty of seeing that every soldier is decently buried, with a headstone over his grave, and that a record is kept of the place of burial; or, that his body is forwarded to his friends.

The funds that support all this good work are voluntary gifts. The people of California sent, in one sum, the gold of their soil to the value of a hundred thousand pounds English money. Sanitary fairs have been lately held at different towns, at Chicago, Cincinnati, Rochester, Washington, &c. Brooklyn Fair lately contributed four hundred thousand dollars; and from the great fair held at New York, a million dollars were expected.

The Commission works openly; any one who will, may inspect its books. It pays its officers, buys wagons, charters ships, feeds horses and mules, pays rent of offices and warehouses, yet the entire cost of its management is under three per cent. of its income. When, at the battle of Gettysburg, a wagon load of the Commissioners' stores was captured, with three of its agents, the Secretary of the Commission asked and obtained from the Confederate authorities their release, on the ground that they were non-combatants, and that throughout the war "the Sanitary Commission had never made any distinction in its benevolence between friend and foe."

If any one would estimate the value of such work in pursuance of a good example, let him remember that Miss Nightingale and the Crimean Commission found the British army in the East dying from disease at the rate of sixty per cent., or more than half its whole strength, in the year; and that, sanitary care having been taken, the death rate was reduced in the last five months of the campaign to twelve in a thousand! The army was made fifty-two times healthier! Our whole average yearly loss by disease in the Peninsular war, was a hundred and thirteen in a thousand; and the sanitary reforms made by Lord Herbert in the home life of our infantry are saving us now, every year, one life in every hundred men. The whole loss in our army by all diseases has been less in each of the last four years than it used to be from diseases of the lungs alone.

Most nobly have the American people struggled to amend this part of the record of their own disastrous struggle. We read much of sharp trading and selfish grasping, of boots with paper soles, and other cruel dealings of the wooden nutmeg school; but the support given by the American people, (not the American contractors,) to their armies, through the Sanitary Commission, tells a nobler tale. Thus, for example, it may seem a small matter that the Commission makes part of its preventive work to consist in the raising of fresh vegetables for Army use; but without fresh vegetables troops can hardly be saved from scurvy. Dr. Frank H. Hamilton, a distinguished Medical Inspector in the army of Rosencrans, expressed, in a report, his full belief that "one barrel of potatoes per annum is to the Government equal to one man." At one time, when the success of the Western Army, in a hazardous operation, was becoming helpless, by reason of scurvy among the troops, and when the consequent advertisement of a commissary for fifty thousand bushels of potatoes, and a corresponding supply of other vegetables, found no trader able or willing to be responsible for their delivery, the Commission set to work, and, collecting voluntary gifts in kind from the fields and gardens of the districts, supplied gratuitously, within a month, six thousand barrels of fresh vegetables, restored the health of the troops, and so, though a non-combatant, did really, by a brisk discharge of potatoes, change in that campaign the fortune of the war.

HOW BROOKLYN MONEY GOES.

To the Editor of the Brooklyn Union:

The undersigned citizens of Brooklyn and New York, sympathizing deeply with the intense interest that exists in the hearts of our citizens to know to what extent this institution has been enabled to afford aid and comfort to the sick and wounded of the Army of the Potomac, since they crossed the Rapidan, visited the Headquarters of the Commission during their recent visit to Washington, to solicit information as to the details of their labors, &c. Their records

were submitted to us for inspection, and every facility afforded to give us an insight into all the departments of their work. We feel it a duty as well as a privilege to lay before the public the information we thus obtained, especially as in consequence of the engrossing labors of the members—officers and agents of the Commission, night and day, the last three weeks—in providing for the emergency forced upon them, by the series of battles which have occurred, but little official information as to the extent and variety of their labors in behalf of the wounded and sick of our brave defenders has been made public. It is proper to say that we do this without intimation or solicitation from any one, and only because we believe the simple statement of facts communicated to us will give comfort and consolation to many anxious and bleeding hearts.

[The writers here quote entire the letter of Mr. Van Ingen, published in No. 15.]

The following extracts from the diary of one of the principal agents of the Commission at Washington will help the reader to form an idea as to the extent of the supplies furnished by the Commission:

"Monday, May 9.—Reliable information just received that the wounded were to come by way of Belle Plain. The loading of the Rapley, which had been already commenced, was completed, and a barge was chartered to carry horses and wagons.

Tuesday, May 10.—The Mary F. Rapley sailed with from eighty to one hundred tons of stores on board, and sixty relief agents, in charge of Dr. Agnew, Dr. Steiner, and Mayor Fay, of Chelsea. Mrs. Husband and Miss Gillson, who have long served with the army in the field, went also. The Rapley had in tow a barge loaded with twenty-one horses and five large wagons, for transportation of the stores from Belle Plain to the army.

Wednesday, May 11.—Three boat loads of wounded arrived and were fed. The barge Washington was chartered and loaded with sixteen horses, four wagons and forage, and sailed in the afternoon in tow of the tug Governor Curtin. Twenty-four relief agents went down by Government transport. In the afternoon the Rapley returned.

Thursday, May 12.—The Rapley sailed again, having been loaded in the night with from eighty to one hundred tons of stores. Dr. Fairchild went with her, in charge of thirty relief agents.

Friday, May 13.—Twenty relief agents went down in Government boat.

Saturday, May 14.—The steamboat Phœnix chartered, loaded with hospital stores, lumber, and a construction corps to build a small wharf, if needed, and storehouse.

Mr. Knapp went with the Phœnix, in charge of thirty-two relief agents. The schooner Sarah Lavinia was offered to the Commission free of charge, by a citizen of the place, for temporary use, and is being loaded. The Rapley arrived.

Sunday, May 15.—The Rapley loaded again this forenoon and dispatched. The Sarah Lavinia sailed.

Monday, May 16.—The Rapley arrived in the night, was loaded again to-day and sailed. The Phœnix arrived, was reloaded and sent off. The Rapley took down five wagons and twenty horses, besides hospital stores.

Tuesday, May 17.—All quiet.

Wednesday, May 18.—The Rapley arrived last night. The Phœnix also came in. No departures. Horses and wagons being bought to send to-morrow. Dr. Jenkins went to the front.

Thursday, May 19.—The Phœnix and Rapley sailed at about ten o'clock, the former with five wagons and twenty horses, the Rapley loaded with stores only.

A barge was chartered to be loaded with more teams.

Friday, May 20.—The barge sailed with ten wagons and forty horses. Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Agnew returned with the Phœnix.

So much for the work that has been done here, and besides all this our agents have been constantly on the watch at the landing for the Government boats, so as to be ready to feed the wounded as they arrived.

The surgeons of the hospital transports State of Maine and Connecticut expressed their gratitude to the Commission for what had been done on board their boats, the latter saying he did not know what he should have done without the Commission.

Our agents who were at the front say that the wounded at Fredericksburg depend largely and constantly upon the Commission. G. C. C."

On the 21st of May one of our company left Washington with Dr. Knapp, the Assistant Secretary of the Commission, on the steamer Mary F. Rapley, to visit Belle Plain, the base of supplies for our army. On our arrival there in the evening, some four hundred wounded soldiers were being transferred from the ambulance train to the barge, and the agents of the Commission were on hand, distributing to every ambulance all needed supplies of stimulants, food, &c. At six o'clock on the morning of the 22d inst., thirty-one wagons, fully loaded (four horses each) with sanitary stores, left Belle Plain for Fredericksburg. The Sanitary Commission had an ample supply of large tents at Belle Plain for the accommodation of their nurses, agents, and for preparing coffee, stimulants, &c., for the wounded, in addition to a large barge filled with assorted sanitary stores, and large tents to store their supplies as received from the steamers.

On the evening of the 22d inst., telegrams were received at Belle Plain that the base of supplies would be at once changed to Port Royal. We conclude with extracts showing, in part, the operations of the Commission since the 23d:

SANITARY COMMISSION, CENTRAL OFFICE,
No. 244 F STREET, WASHINGTON, *May* 27, 1864.

"A train of twenty-nine wagons having gone from Belle Plain to Fredericksburg with supplies, the balance of all supplies were loaded on the barges, the tents struck and stored, the wooden feeding station taken down and packed in the hold of the boat, the various lost boxes of the soldiers taken on board, and the Rapley started for Port Royal.

In the meantime, the wounded coming down from Fredericksburg by way of Aquia Creek, were fed there before going on to the boats, and supplies with relief agents put on board each of the boats going to Washington.

On the 24th, the tug-boat Governor Curtin, after carrying additional stores and agents to Aquia Creek for service on the boats of wounded, took the storeboat Kennedy, with eight more relief agents, and started for Port Royal, at 3 P. M., the other barge loaded being in tow of a Government tug.

At Fredericksburg the work of relief continued till May 26th, in the afternoon. The stores were then quite abundant and the numbers needing aid decreasing, yet relief was given each day to many.

The wounded gathered at Falmouth preparatory to taking the cars for Aquia Creek, were cared for day and night, and the suffering unavoidably incident to such a hurried move, greatly alleviated by various ministries.

Some twenty-six horses of the Commission with wagons, were furnished three days since to the Quartermaster to enable him to go out into the "Wilderness" to look up wounded, a report having come in that some of the wounded were still there. These wagons had not returned on the morning of the 26th.

26th.—All the wounded removed from Fredericksburg. A train of wagons is to start for Port Royal. The Kent and Rapley, both chartered by the Commission, run up for Port Royal to Fredericksburg and take on some of the relief corps. The Kent takes on also 100 wounded men.

Others of the relief corps go on two large hospital transports, which are admirably fitted up by Government, as nurses on the trip from Fredericksburg to Washington. At Washington, meantime, a corps of twenty relief agents have been busily at work on the boats running between Aquia Creek and Washington. These boats being called in for temporary service, were not fitted up by Government for transports, and had nothing but hay on board for the comfort of the men; consequently the lemonade, wine, crackers, &c., together with the personal ministrations of our men, were peculiarly serviceable. On most of these boats there were also members of the Christian Commission and of the various relief associations returning from Fredericksburg. They all took hold of the work at hand with cordial good will.

With large stores at Port Royal and more on the way, we wait to-morrow's work. What has been done during the past few days by the relief agents who move with the moving army, I cannot say, as no report has been received from them. They started with wagons well supplied."

When it is understood that the statements made above merely relate to the work of the Sanitary Commission in behalf of the wounded and sick of the Army of the Potomac this month, and that large supplies of sanitary stores have, during the same time, been forwarded to the Army of the Cumberland, Fortress Monroe, and other divisions of our army, the question asked by so many that have not seen Bulletins from the Sanitary Commission, What is the Sanitary Commission doing with their abundant stores at this crisis? is fully answered.

But for the length of this communication, we should take pleasure in enumerating details of the system of the United States Sanitary Commission, the keeping full daily records of all the sick and wounded of our armies received into Hospital at Washington or elsewhere, the time of their reception, date of their discharge, &c., so that by giving the name of any soldier, his regiment and company, full information can at once be obtained, and many an anxious inquiry answered.

We were also much interested in the Lodges and Homes of the Commission, where soldiers, disabled and discharged, or absent on furlough, are accommodated with meals, lodging, &c., while detained to perfect their papers, collect dues from the Government, &c. All back pay and pensions are collected by the Commission, and papers home furnished to the soldier without any charge. The extent of the labors of the Commission in this direction, may be estimated from the fact that the Commission have had, the last year, in all their lodges, at different stations, an average of two thousand soldiers on their hands every night.

We cannot close this report without expressing our gratification at learning of the cordial co-operation between the Sanitary and Christian Commissions. The delegates of the Christian Commission from Brooklyn assure us that all their requisitions for sanitary stores were most readily responded to.

The united testimony of the surgeons, agents, and delegates, of both the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, can leave no doubt that the timely sanitary stores so freely furnished on the front at Fredericksburg, Belle Plain, &c., have saved to their country and friends thousands of lives.

DWIGHT JOHNSON, Brooklyn.
JOSIAH O. LOW, Brooklyn.
GEORGE S. STEPHENSON, Brooklyn.
JOHN J. CRANE, New York.

THE POPE AND THE SANITARY COMMISSION.—A DONATION OF FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

From the following correspondence it will be seen that a liberal contribution has been received by the General Aid Society in Buffalo from the Pope:

BUFFALO, *May* 17, 1864.

MADAM—The Sovereign Pontiff Pope Pius IX., has, through his Eminence, Cardinal Barnabo, notified me that with the deepest sorrow and with the most fraternal interest he has heard of the number of gallant soldiers wounded in our many battles, and that he desires me to give in his name, and out of his private purse, $500, as some aid to alleviate their sufferings.

Your truly providentially organized society has done very much to aid our wounded soldiers; hence it seems to me that there can be no better means of accomplishing the kind and paternal wish of his Holiness, than to hand over to you this check for $500, with my humble and fervent prayers that God's blessing may not only rest on our gallant wounded soldiers, but also on the honored members of your Commission who aid them so generously.

Accept the expressions of respect and esteem with which

I have the honor to be,
Your most obedient humble servant,
† JOHN,
Bishop of Buffalo.

MRS. HORATIO SEYMOUR,
President of B. U. S. Sanitary Commission.

GENERAL AID SOCIETY FOR THE ARMY,
BUFFALO, *May* 18, 1864.

RT. REV. JOHN TIMON:

DEAR SIR—It is with no ordinary feelings we acknowledge the receipt at your hands of $500 from the Sovereign Pontiff, Pope Pius IX., for the relief of our wounded soldiers. Large contributions have been received from foreign countries for this humane object. We are deeply touched by such evidences of interest in our present struggle for national life, and the indorsement of this national channel for our charities, which we believe to be the most direct, humane, and efficient one through which the good will of a Christian people can be conveyed to the wounded patriots in field or hospital. Please present our thanks to his Holiness, and accept, for your part in this munificent act, the grateful acknowledgments of the society. With sentiments of the highest regard,

Yours truly,
MRS. HORATIO SEYMOUR,
President.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARMY.

[The following lines are from the pen of the Author of "A Rainy Day in Camp," as also of those exquisite verses on the "Death of a Massachusetts Sergeant," which we published a few weeks ago. Many of our readers are doubtless already familiar with this "Message from the Army," but it derives a fresh and touching interest from the fact that the gifted writer is no more. There can be no harm now in according her the honor, which, while living, she always shrank from claiming, by saying that it is to the late Mrs. Robert S. Howland that we are indebted for it. She was one of the most earnest, enthusiastic and accomplished laborers for the Metropolitan Fair, and we almost fear, we may add, one of its victims. Her interest in the war, and in the welfare of the army, was intense, but most of the many good deeds in which it was manifested, were done so quickly and unobtrusively, as almost to make them secret.]

OH, FRIENDS! our soldier-hearts cry out
From all the far-off camps;
From lonely watch-fires in the West,
From Southern woods and swamps.

Wherever in their windy tents
Brave boys are gathering,
There, sun-browned faces smile, and bless
Your Christ-like ministering.

Blow! blow, March winds! from mountain forts,
From gulf and river banks;
And carry to those Northern homes
Our thousand, thousand thanks!

And *we* who lie in narrow beds
All over the sad land—
From stricken rows, in dreary wards
We stretch a pallid hand,

And grasp the palm whose clasp we know—
The generous, tender palm!
Whose every touch on heart and head
Is spice, and oil, and balm!

And we whose beds are narrower yet,
Beneath the sun and rain;
Who never more may carry arms
Though spring has come again.

We too would tell how loving hands
Shut down our dying eyes,
And send a blessing from the dead
On all your sacrifice!

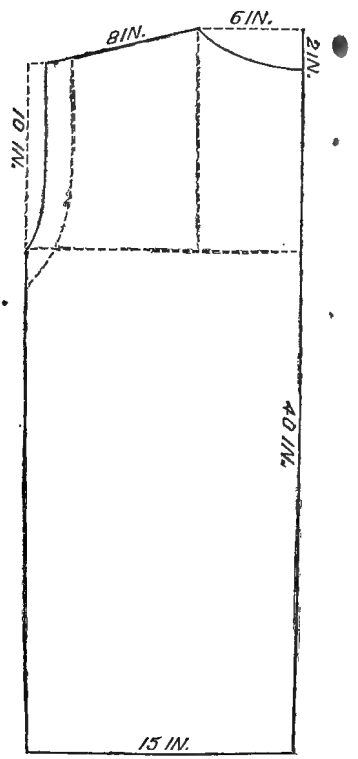
Oh earnest hearts! oh generous hands!
What better thanks can be
Than His, who said—"When I was sick
Ye came to visit Me!"

Work on! Pray on!—No heart may faint,
No hand shall work in vain,
Soon Pain shall conquer us a Peace
And Peace shall heal our Pain.

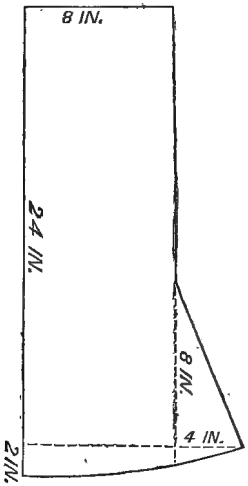
March, 1864.

HOSPITAL COTTON SHIRT.

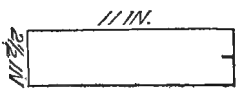
HALF OF FRONT.



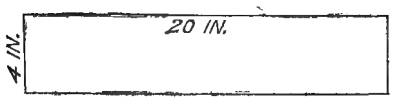
HALF OF SLEEVE.



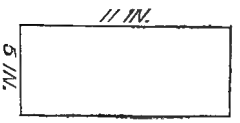
SHOULDER PIECE.



COLLAR.



WRISTBAND.



Required for each Shirt.

5 white bone buttons, (3 for front, 2 for sleeves.)

4 tape stays, 1 inch long, (for flaps and opening of sleeves.)

2 skeins thread.

The back of the shirt is cut by the same pattern as the front, though not sloped quite so much on the neck.

The opening in front is 15 inches long, faced on one side with cotton 2 inches wide, and hemmed on the other. The shirt is gathered into the collar both in front and behind.

The shoulder-pieces are faced under the shoulder seams, and cut down one inch at one end, as per diagram, to fit under the collar.

The arm sizes are strengthened with binders 2 inches wide, cut circular, as per dotted line in diagram. The sleeve is gathered into the wristband and gathered a little at the top.

Two gussets are added to each sleeve, as per diagram. The flaps are two fingers long.

The above pattern is for cotton one yard wide. After the front, back and sleeves have been cut out, a strip 6 inches wide will be left, out of which can be cut all the small pieces. Cut in this way it will take less than three yards of cotton.

Hospital Cotton Drawers.

Cotton drawers should be cut by the same pattern as flannel drawers, (for which, see BULLETIN, No. 13.) The pattern should be laid on the cloth in the same manner, the smallest part of one leg to the smallest part of the other, leaving a piece on each side for the double waistbands.

The diagrams allow for seams.

N. B.—Owing to blurred type, the dimensions on the lower line of diagram for flannel drawers, in No. 13 of the BULLETIN, are illegible. They should read 18 *inches.*

WESTERN SCENES, No. 3.

"WHERE THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S A WAY."

In nothing is this more strikingly exemplified, than in the history of the cause of hospital relief. While indolence, selfishness and disloyalty intrench themselves behind frivolous excuses, to shield them from doing their duty towards our sick and wounded soldiers, the generous, active and patriotic are fertile in inventions to obtain means for their relief, and glory in labors and sacrifices that carry plenty and comfort to the hospitals.

Some two or three months ago, a poor girl, a seamstress, came to the rooms of the Chicago Sanitary Commission. "I do not feel right," she said, "that I am doing nothing for our soldiers in the hospitals, and have resolved to do *something* immediately. Which do you prefer—that I should give money, or buy material and manufacture it into garments?"

"You must be guided by your circumstances," was the answer made her; "we need both money and supplies, and you must do that which is most convenient for you."

"I prefer to give you money, if it will do as much good."

"Very well; then give money, which we need badly, and without which we cannot do what is most necessary for our brave sick men."

"Then I will give you the entire earnings of the next two weeks. I'd give more, but I have to help support my mother, who is an invalid. Generally, I make but one vest a day, but I will work earlier and later these next two weeks."

In two weeks she came again, the poor sewing girl, her face radiant with the consciousness of philanthropic intent. Opening her port-monnaie, she counted out—how much do you think, readers of the *New Covenant?—nineteen dollars and thirty-seven cents!* Every penny was earned by the slow needle, and she had stitched away into the hours of midnight, on every one of the working days of the week. We call that an instance of patriotism married to generosity.

Some farmers' wives in the north of Wisconsin, eighteen miles from a railroad, had given to the Commission of their bed and table linen, their husbands' shirts and drawers, their scanty supply of dried and canned fruits, till they had exhausted their ability to do more in this direction. Still they were not satisfied. So they cast about to see what could be done in another way. They were all the wives of small farmers, lately moved to the West, living all in log cabins, where one room sufficed for kitchen, parlor, laundry, nursery and bed-room, doing their own house-work, sewing, baby-tending, dairy-work and all. What *could* they do?

They were not long in devising a way to gratify the longings of their motherly and patriotic hearts, and instantly set about carrying it into action. They resolved to beg wheat of the neighboring farmers, and convert it into money. Sometimes on foot, and sometimes with a team, amid the snows and mud of early spring, they canvassed the country for twenty and twenty-five miles around, everywhere eloquently pleading the needs of the blue-coated soldier boys in the hospitals, the eloquence everywhere acting as an *open sesame* to the granaries. Now they obtained a little from a rich man, and then a great deal from a poor man—deeds of benevolence are half the time in an inverse ratio to the ability of the benefactors—till they had accumulated nearly five hundred bushels of wheat. This they sent to market, obtained the highest market price for it, and forwarded the proceeds to the Commission. As we held this hard-earned money in our hands, we felt that it was consecrated—that the holy purpose of these noble women had imparted an almost sacredness to it.

A little girl not nine years old, with sweet and timid grace, came into the rooms of the Commission, and laying a five dollar gold piece on our desk, half frightened, told us its history. "My uncle gave me that before the war, and I was going to keep it always; but he's got killed in the army, and mother says now I may give it to the soldiers if I want to—and I'd like to do so. I don't suppose it will buy much for them—will it?"

We led the child to the storeroom, and proceeded to show her how valuable her gift was, by pointing out what it would buy—so many cans of condensed milk, or so many bottles of ale, or pounds of tea, or codfish, &c. Her face brightened with pleasure. But when we explained to her that her five dollar gold piece was equal to seven dollars and a half in greenbacks, and told her how much comfort we had been enabled to carry into a hospital with as small an amount of stores as that sum would purchase, she fairly danced for joy. "Oh, it will do lots of good, won't it?" And folding her hands earnestly before her, she begged in her charmingly modest way, "Please tell me something that you've seen in the hospitals." A narration of a few touching events, not such as would too severely shock the little creature, but which plainly showed the necessity of continued benevolence to the hospitals, filled her sweet eyes with tears, and drew from her the resolution "to save all her money, and to get all the girls to do so, to buy things for the wounded soldiers." And away she flew, revelling in the luxury of doing good, and

happy in the formation of a good resolution.

A ragged little urchin, who thrusts his unkempt pate daily into the rooms, with the shrill cry of "Matches! matches!" had stood watching the little girl, and listening to the talk. As she disappeared, he fumbled in his ragged pocket, and drew out a small handful of crumbled and soiled postal currency. "Here," said he, "I'll give you so much, for them ere sick fellers in the hospitals," and he put fifty-five cents into our hand, all in five cent currency. We hesitated. "No, my boy, don't give it. You're a noble little fellow, but I'm afraid you can't afford to give so much. You keep it, and I'll give the fifty-five cents, or somebody else will."

"Oh, no," he replied, "you keep it. P'raps I ain't so poor as yer think. My father, he saws wood, and my mother, she takes in washin', and I sells matches—and p'raps we've got more money than yer think. Keep it!" And he turned his dirty, but earnest face up to us with a most beseeching look. "Keep it—do!"

We took the crumbled currency—we forgot the dirty face and the tattered cap—we forgot that we called the little scamp a "nuisance" every day for months, when he had made us fairly jump from our seat with his shrill, unexpected cry of "Matches! matches!" and made a dive at him, to kiss him. But he was too quick for us, and darted out of the room, as if he had been shot. Ever since, when he meets us, he gives us a wide berth, and walks off the sidewalk into the gutter, eyeing us with a suspicious, sidelong glance, as though he suspected we still meditated kissing intentions towards him. If we speak to him, he looks at us shyly, and offers no reply—but if we pass him without speaking, he challenges us with a hearty "halloo, you!" that brings us to a halt instantly.

Had we space, we might continue similar narrations through half a dozen columns. All who will, can do *something* for our poor boys in hospitals. If it be little, "mony a mickle makes a muckle"—and if it be much, it will cause the blessing of many ready to perish to come on the donor. But all can do SOMETHING. "Where there's a will, there's a way."—*From the New Covenant.*

NOTES ON NURSING.

CLEANLINESS OF ROOMS AND WALLS.

It cannot be necessary to tell a nurse that she should be clean, or that she should keep her patient clean, seeing that the greater part of nursing consists in preserving cleanliness. No ventilation can freshen a room or ward where the most scrupulous cleanliness is not observed. Unless the wind be blowing through the windows at the rate of twenty miles an hour, dusty carpets, dirty wainscots, musty curtains and furniture, will infallibly produce a close smell. I have lived in a large and expensively furnished London house, where the only constant inmate in two very lofty rooms, with opposite windows, was myself, and yet, owing to the above-mentioned dirty circumstances, no opening of windows could ever keep those rooms free from closeness; but the carpet and curtains having been turned out of the rooms altogether, they became instantly as fresh as could be wished. It is pure nonsense to say that in London a room cannot be kept clean. Many of our hospitals show the exact reverse.

But no particle of dust is ever or can ever be removed or really got rid of by the present system of dusting. Dusting in these days means nothing but flapping the dust from one part of a room on to another with doors and windows closed. What you do it for I cannot think. You had much better leave the dust alone, if you are not going to take it away altogether. For from the time a room begins to be a room up to the time when it ceases to be one, no one atom of dust ever actually leaves its precincts. Tidying a room means nothing now but removing a thing from one place, which it has kept clean for itself, on to another and a dirtier one. Flapping, by way of cleaning, is only admissible in the case of pictures, or any thing made of paper. The only way I know to *remove* dust, the plague of all lovers of fresh air, is to wipe every thing with a damp cloth. And all furniture ought to be so made as that it may be wiped with a damp cloth without injury to itself, and so polished as that it may be damped without injury to others. To dust, as it is now practised, truly means to distribute dust more equally over a room.

As to floors, the only really clean floor I know is the Berlin *lackered* floor, which is wet rubbed and dry rubbed every morning to remove the dust. The French *parquet* is always more or less dusty, although infinitely superior, in point of cleanliness and healthiness, to our absorbent floor.

For a sick room, a carpet is perhaps the worst expedient which could by any possibility have been invented. If you must have a carpet, the only safety is to take it up two or three times a year, instead of once. A dirty carpet literally infects the room. And if you consider the enormous quantity of organic matter from the feet of people coming in, which must saturate it, this is by no means surprising.

As for walls, the worst is the papered wall; the next worst is plaster. But the plaster can be redeemed by frequent lime washing; the paper requires frequent renewing. A glazed paper gets rid of a good deal of the danger. But the ordinary bed-room paper is all that it ought *not* to be.

The close connection between ventilation and cleanliness is shown in this. An ordinary light paper will last clean much longer if there is an Arnott's ventilator in the chimney than it otherwise would.

The best wall now extant is oil paint. From this you can wash the animal exuvæ.

These are what make a room musty.

The best wall for a sick room or ward that could be made is pure white non-absorbent cement or glass, or glazed tiles, if they were made slightly enough.

Air can be soiled just like water. If you blow

into water you will soil it with the animal matter from your breath. So it is with air. Air is always soiled in a room where walls and carpets are saturated with animal exhalations.

Want of cleanliness, then, in rooms and wards, which you have to guard against, may arise in three ways:

1. Dirty air coming in from without, soiled by sewer emanations, the evaporation from dirty streets, smoke, bits of unburnt fuel, bits of straw, bits of horse dung.

If people would but cover the outside walls of their houses with plain or encaustic tiles what an incalculable improvement would there be in light, cleanliness, dryness, warmth, and consequently economy. The play of a fire engine would then effectually wash the outside of a house. This kind of *walling* would stand next to paving in improving the health of towns.

2. Dirty air coming from within, from dust, which you often displace, but never remove. And this recalls what ought to be a *sine qua non*. Have as few ledges in your room or ward as possible. And under no pretence have any ledge whatever out of sight. Dust accumulates there, and will never be wiped off. This is a certain way to soil the air. Besides this, the animal exhalations from your inmates saturate your furniture. And if you never clean your furniture properly, how can your rooms or wards be anything but musty? Ventilate as you please, the rooms will never be sweet. Besides this, there is a constant *degradation*, as it is called, taking place from everything except polished or glazed articles—*e. g.*, in coloring certain green papers arsenic is used. Now in the very dust even, which is lying about in rooms hung with this kind of green paper, arsenic has been distinctly detected. You see your dust is anything but harmless; yet you will let such dust lie about your ledges for months, your rooms for ever.

Again, the fire fills the room with coal-dust.

3. Dirty air coming from the carpet. Above all, take care of the carpets, that the animal dirt left there by the feet of visitors does not stay there. Floors, unless the grain is filled up and polished, are just as bad. The smell from the floor of a school-room or ward, when any moisture brings out the organic matter by which it is saturated, might alone be enough to warn us of the mischief that is going on.

The outer air, then, can only be kept clean by sanitary improvements, and by consuming the smoke. The expense in soap, which this single improvement would save, is quite incalculable.

The inside air can only be kept clean by excessive care in the ways mentioned above—to rid the walls, carpets, furniture, ledges, &c., of the organic matter and dust—dust consisting greatly of this organic matter—with which they become saturated, and which is what really makes the room musty.

Without cleanliness, you cannot have all the effect of ventilation; without ventilation, you can have no thorough cleanliness.

Very few people, be they of what class they may, have any idea of the exquisite cleanliness required in the sick-room. For much of what I have said applies less to the hospital than to the private sick room. The smoky chimney, the dusty furniture, the utensils emptied but once a day, often keep the air of the sick room constantly dirty in the best private houses.

The well have a curious habit of forgetting that what is to them but a trifling inconvenience, to be patiently "put up" with, is to the sick room a source of suffering, delaying recovery, if not actually hastening death. The well are scarcely ever more than eight hours, at most, in the same room. Some change they can always make, if only for a few minutes. Even during the supposed eight hours, they can change their posture or their position in the room. But the sick man who never leaves his bed, who cannot change by any movement of his own his air, or his light, or his warmth; who cannot obtain quiet, or get out of the smoke, or the smell, or the dust; he is really poisoned or depressed by what is to you the merest trifle.

"What can't be cured must be endured," is the very worst and most dangerous maxim for a nurse which ever was made. Patience and resignation in her are but other words for carelessness or indifference—contemptible, if in regard to herself; culpable, if in regard for the sick.

PERSONAL CLEANLINESS.

In almost all diseases, the function of the skin is, more or less, disordered; and in many most important diseases nature relieves herself almost entirely by the skin. This is particularly the case with children. But the excretion, which comes from the skin, is left there, unless removed by washing or by the clothes. Every nurse should keep this fact constantly in mind—for, if she allow her sick to remain unwashed, or their clothing to remain on them after being saturated with perspiration or other excretion, she is interfering injuriously with the natural processes of health just as effectually as if she were to give the patient a dose of slow poison by the mouth. Poisoning by the skin is no less certain than poisoning by the mouth—only it is slower in its operation.

The amount of relief and comfort experienced by sick after the skin has been carefully washed and dried, is one of the commonest observations made at a sick bed. But it must not be forgotten that the comfort and relief so obtained are not all. They are, in fact nothing more than a sign that the vital powers have been relieved by removing something that was oppressing them. The nurse, therefore, must never put off attending to the personal cleanliness of her patient under the plea that all that is to be gained is a little relief, which can be quite as well given later.

In all well-regulated hospitals this ought to be, and generally is, attended to. But it is very generally neglected with private sick.

Just as it is necessary to renew the air round a sick person frequently, to carry off morbid effluvia from the lungs and skin, by maintaining free ventilation, so it is necessary to keep the pores of the skin free from all obstructing excretions. The object, both of ventilation and of skin-cleanliness, is pretty much the same—to wit, removing noxious matter from the system as rapidly as possible.

Care should be taken in all these operations of sponging, washing, and cleansing the skin, not to expose too great a surface at once, so as

to check the perspiration, which would renew the evil in another form.

The various ways of washing the sick need not here be specified—the less so as the doctors ought to say which is to be used.

In several forms of diarrhea, dysentery, &c., where the skin is hard and harsh, the relief afforded by washing with a great deal of soft soap is incalculable. In other cases, sponging with tepid soap and water, then with tepid water and drying with a hot towel will be ordered.

Every nurse ought to be careful to wash her hands very frequently during the day. If her face too, so much the better.

One word as to cleanliness merely as cleanliness.

Compare the dirtiness of the water in which you have washed when it is cold without soap, cold with soap, hot with soap. You will find the first has hardly removed any dirt at all, the second a little more, the third a great deal more. But hold your hand over a cup of hot water for a minute or two, and then, by merely rubbing with the finger, you will bring off flakes of dirt or dirty skin. After a vapor bath you may peel your whole self clean in this way. What I mean is, that by simply washing or sponging with water you do not really clean your skin. Take a rough towel, dip one corner in very hot water—if a little spirit be added to it it will be more effectual—and then rub as if you were rubbing the towel into your skin with your fingers. The black flakes which will come off will convince you that you were not clean before, however much soap and water you have used. These flakes are what require removing. And you can really keep yourself cleaner with a tumbler of hot water and a rough towel and rubbing, than with a whole apparatus of bath and soap and sponge, without rubbing. It is quite nonsense to say that anybody need be dirty. Patients have been kept as clean by these means on a long voyage, when a basin full of water could not be afforded, and when they could not be moved out of ther berths, as if all the appurtenances of home had been at hand.

Washing, however, with a large quantity of water has quite other effects than those of mere cleanliness. The skin absorbs the water and becomes softer and more perspirable. To wash with soap and soft water is, therefore, desirable from other points of view than that of cleanliness.

CHATTERING HOPES AND ADVICES.

The sick man to his advisers.

"My advisers! Their name is legion. * * * Somehow or other, it seems a provision of the universal destinies, that every man, woman and child should consider him, her, or itself privileged especially to advise me. Why? That is precisely what I want to know." And this is what I have to say to them. I have been advised to go to every place extant in and out of England—to take every kind of exercise by every kind of cart, carriage—yes, and even swing (!) and dumb-bell (!) in existence; to imbibe every different kind of stimulant that ever has been invented. And this when those *best* fitted to know, viz., medical men, after long and close attendance, had declared any journey out of the question, had prohibited any kind of motion whatever, had closely laid down the diet and drink. What would my advisers say, were they the medical attendants, and I the patient left their advice, and took the casual adviser's? But the singularity in Legion's mind is this: it never occurs to him that everybody else is doing the same thing, and that I the patient *must* perforce say, in sheer self-defence, like Rosalind, "I could not do with all."

"Chattering Hopes" may seem an odd heading. But I really believe there is scarcely a greater worry which invalids have to endure than the incurable hopes of their friends. There is no one practice against which I can speak more strongly from actual personal experience, wide and long, of its effects during sickness, observed both upon others and upon myself. I would appeal most seriously to all friends, visitors, and attendants of the sick to leave off this practice of attempting to "cheer" the sick by making light of their danger and by exaggerating their probabilities of recovery.

Far more now than formerly does the medical attendant tell the truth to the sick who are really desirous to hear it about their own state.

How intense is the folly, then, to say the least of it, of the friend, be he even a medical man, who thinks that his opinion, given after a cursory observation, will weigh with the patient, against the opinion of the medical attendant, given, perhaps, after years of observation, after using every help to diagnosis afforded by the stethoscope, the examination of pulse, tongue, &c.; and certainly after much more observation than the friend can possibly have had.

Supposing the patient to be possessed of common sense, how can the "favorable" opinion, if it is to be called an opinion at all, of the casual visitor "cheer" him, when different from that of the experienced attendant? Unquestionably the latter may, and often does, turn out to be wrong. But which is most likely to be wrong?

The fact is, that the patient is not "cheered" at all by these well-meaning, most tiresome friends. On the contrary, he is depressed and wearied. If, on the one hand, he exerts himself to tell each successive member of this too numerous conspiracy, whose name is legion, why he does not think as they do—in what respect he is worse—what symptoms exist that they know nothing of—he is fatigued instead of "cheered," and his attention is fixed upon himself. In general, patients who are really ill do not want to talk about themselves. Hypochondriacs do, but again I say we are not on the subject of hypochondriacs.

If, on the other hand, and which is much more frequently the case, the patient says nothing, but the Shakespearian "Oh!" "Ah!" "Go to!" and "In good sooth!" in order to escape from the conversation about himself the sooner, he is depressed by want of sympathy. He feels isolated in the midst of friends. He feels what a convenience it would be, if there were any single person to whom he could speak simply and openly, without pulling the string upon himself of this shower-bath of silly hopes and encouragements; to whom he could express his wishes and directions without that person persisting in saying, "I hope that it will please God yet to give you twenty years," or, "You

have a long life of activity before you." How often we see at the end of biographies, or of cases recorded in medical papers, "after a long illness A. died rather suddenly," or, "unexpectedly both to himself and to others." "Unexpectedly" to others, perhaps, who did not see, because they did not look; but by no means "unexpectedly to himself," as I feel entitled to believe, both from the internal evidence in such stories, and from watching similar cases; there was every reason to expect that A. would die, and he knew it; but he found it useless to insist upon his own knowledge to his friends.

In these remarks I am alluding neither to acute cases which terminate rapidly nor to "nervous" cases.

By the first, much interest in their own danger is very rarely felt. In writings of fiction, whether novels or biographies, these death-beds are generally depicted as almost seraphic in lucidity of intelligence. Sadly large has been my experience in death-beds, and I can only say that I have seldom or never seen such. Indifference, excepting with regard to bodily suffering, or to some duty the dying man desires to perform, is the far more usual state.

The "nervous case," on the other hand, delights in figuring to himself and others a fictitious danger.

But the long chronic case, who knows too well himself, and who has been told by his physician that he will never enter active life again, who feels that every month he has to give up something he could do the month before—oh! spare such sufferers your chattering hopes. You do not know how you worry and weary them. Such real sufferers cannot bear to talk of themselves, still less to hope for what they cannot at all expect.

So also as to all the advice showered so profusely upon such sick, to leave off some occupation, to try some other doctor, some other house, climate, pill, powder, or specific; I say nothing of the inconsistency—for these advisers are sure to be the same persons who exhorted the sick man not to believe his own doctor's prognostics, because "doctors are always mistaken," but to believe some other doctor, because "this doctor is always right." Sure also are these advisers to be the persons to bring the sick man fresh occupation, while exhorting him to leave his own.

Wonderful is the face with which friends, lay and medical, will come in and worry the patient with recommendations to do something or other, having just as little knowledge as to its being feasible, or even safe for him, as if they were to recommend a man to take exercise, not knowing he had broken his leg. What would the friend say, if *he* were the medical attendant, and if the patient, because some *other* friend had come in, because somebody, anybody, nobody, had recommended something, anything, nothing, were to disregard *his* orders, and take that other body's recommendation? But people never think of this.

To me these commonplaces, leaving their smear upon the cheerful, single-hearted, constant devotion to duty, which is so often seen in the decline of such sufferers, recall the slimy trail left by the snail on the sunny southern garden-wall loaded with fruit.—*Miss Nightingale.*

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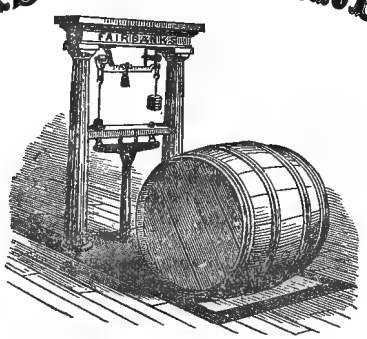
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THE

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall Street, or No.* 823 *Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

SHERMAN'S DEPARTMENT.

AFFAIRS AT CHATTANOOGA.

Dr. Read reports to Dr. Newberry, from Chattanooga, June 12:

For a long time events have so crowded upon each other, in this department, and my work has been of such a miscellaneous character, that it has been impossible for me to give you any detailed statement of that part of the work especially under my observation.

A brief allusion to the more prominent occurrences of the past, and to the lessons they seem to teach, would, perhaps, be all you would care to read during the stirring events of the present.

During the spring and summer of 1863, the Commissary's Department and the Commission furnished a large supply of vegetables to the soldiers in the field, and when in midsummer the army advanced from Murfreesboro', the men were in good condition, and though the long march to Chattanooga was a tedious one, over mountain roads, it was through a country where green corn, potatoes, fruits and berries were comparatively abundant.

In getting into Chattanooga, our army met the rebels in overwhelming numbers on the bloody field of Chickamauga, and though they retired from the battle-field, they won, at a terrible loss, a substantial victory, and Chattanooga was firmly held.

But our army there was really besieged; the soldiers there, to a great extent, had lost their clothing, tents, and blankets. The means of transportation were so limited, that the loss could not be supplied. During the cold wet weather that followed after, fences, shade trees, and all spare buildings were consumed. Camp fires were very

rarely kindled, either for warmth or for cooking, on account of the want of wood.

The severely wounded were returned here in crowded hospitals, sparingly provided with the articles of diet, clothing, etc., which such men need, although every available means was employed to get stores through from Stevenson, and the hospitals were much better supplied, than any other part of the army. I was enabled to get though a large supply of condensed milk, an article, in such an emergency, of inestimable value, used freely in tea and coffee, as a dressing for toast and rice, and for making milk punches; it alone I have no doubt, saved hundreds of lives, and this was the testimony of all the surgeons whom I heard speak of it.

In the meantime our brave soldiers have exhibited the highest types of heroism. Inadequately clothed, many without blankets, with leaking tents, or none at all, on half and quarter rations, of the current articles of diet alone; their pitiful allowance of hard tack, frequently wet and mouldy, gathering from the streets the scattering grains of corn "to parch," and thus eke out their scanty allowance; encamped in a sea of mud, exposed to the constant fall rains without fire; their encampments a daily target for the enemy's shells, their confidence in their cause, and in their commander was unshaken, and the determination to endure this and more, as long as it might be necessary, was universal. In riding through the camps complaints and murmurings were unheard, and I doubt not had the vote of the soldiers been taken, in the most untoward circumstances, the decision would have been nearly, or quite unanimous, "to die in Chattanooga, rather than abandon it."

The deliverance for which they waited, came in the series of brilliant battles in November, with such a loss as was of course inevitable; and our hospitals were again crowded with wounded. Communication was opened by river and by railroad, and the stores accumulated at Stevenson, Nashville, etc., were brought forward in abundance.

The hospitals were all supplied with all articles of necessity and luxury, yet the per centage of deaths from hospital was much greater than after the battle of Chickamauga.

After the battles of Chattanooga, the want of all means of transportation rendered another period of repose inevitable for that part of the army which was confronting the rebel Gen. Johnson, and an effort was made to vary the hard fare of the soldiers by the addition of potatoes, onions, pickles, etc.

Never before in this department were so large amounts of these articles distributed by our Commission; and they were made to reach the entire army. Larger quantities than are ordinarily issued were forwarded by the commissaries; and now when active operations are resumed, and our hospitals are again crowded with wounded, a marked change in the physical condition of the men is apparent. Patients are rapidly recovering from wounds now, who wounded in like manner, in the battles of November, would certainly have died.

THE LESSON OF EXPERIENCE.

The lesson it seems to me, we should learn from this, is one which has often been urged by the Commission, and cannot be repeated too often, "that the time to care for our wounded, is before they are wounded"—the time to care for wounds, is before they are made. This can only be done by a constant and liberal issue of vegetable food to the men in the field, and to be effectually done, and at the least expense, should never be deferred until the appearance of scurvy admonishes us that our work has been neglected.

It seems to me also, that during these periodic seasons of repose, we should accumulate larger supplies of "battle-stores," at the extreme front, or at the nearest place to the front where they will be safe.

The greater part of the stores which are of special necessity, during battles, and immediately after them, such as milk, beef tea, stimulants, shirts, drawers, rags, bandages, compresses, sheets, pillows, pads, arm-slings, etc., will keep an indefinite length of time, and it would be a great relief at all times, to those of us at the front, if we could feel that from the accumulation of these stores here, a rebel raid, the failure of a bridge, a military necessity, requiring all the transportation in the rear

for days or weeks, for troops, equipages, munitions or forage, would not deprive us of the power of aiding the wounded. The interruption of transportation for the past week, by the failure of a bridge, has seriously embarrassed us, by making it impossible to receive stores, which we are exceedingly anxious to ship to the front, where they are greatly needed, and which we could readily push forward at any time from this point.

THE DEAD AT CHICKAMAUGA.

After the extraordinary demand upon our stores and time, incident to the battles of November, had somewhat diminished, an inquiry was received with regard to an officer of a Missouri Regiment, who was supposed to have fallen on the battle-field of Chickamauga, accompanied by an urgent request from his father, a resident of New Jersey, that his fate be ascertained, and his body recovered, if possible. The task at first seemed a hopeless one, but after a little time such information was obtained as rendered success probable, and an expedition was started for the battle-field under command of Capt. Barber, of the Ohio Sharp-shooters, and an escort of his men. The Captain was also instructed by Gen. Thomas to bury any of our dead who might be found on the field, and make report on his return to the headquarters of the department. The expedition was successful, the body sought for found, and clearly identified, and is now deposited in the National Cemetery here.

But so many of our dead were found entirely unburied, and the work of previous burial parties so imperfectly done, (the rains having washed away the scanty coverings of earth, so that hands, feet, and skulls protruded from almost every grave,) that the Captain concluded not to attempt to finish the work, and returned on the second day, and made report of the condition of the field. This report induced the General Commanding to issue his order to Capt. Barber, to take the greater part of his command, proceed to the battle-field, encamp there, and continue his work until *all* the dead were buried. What I had seen on the previous expedition induced me to accompany this, to work with the Captain, and as far as possible identify the remains of the fallen, mark their resting places, and save for the friends all personal mementoes that could be gathered up. During the fifteen days spent upon the field, between 800 and 900 of our dead were buried; some had never been buried, and part had been imperfectly buried by our own men after the battles of November. The only instance indicating that the *rebels* had buried any of our dead, was, where the men were found buried in one grave, *all shot in the head*, a strap buckled around the arm of one and the legs of another tied together with a strap. It was evident they had been shot after they were captured.

The whole battle-field was carefully patrolled by Capt. Barber's men, a grave dug for each soldier, his remains carefully deposited and covered, and when by a careful examination of clothing, contents of pockets, or in any other way the identity of the body could be ascertained, the grave was marked with his name.

The inscription on the head-boards and the location of the graves of all who were buried by our men during the battle, or from the rebel hospitals, were also carefully noted, and the bodies of many have been thus recovered and forwarded to their friends through this office.

One instance will illustrate the nature of this work: Two miles south of Crawfish Springs we found the body of a man whose clothing indicated that he was a Union officer, a Lieutenant or Captain, as indicated by his coat; an artillery or cavalry officer, as indicated by his pants. Near him was found a private soldier, with a sutler's check of the 4th Ohio Cavalry in his pocket. A large number of the officer's teeth had been filled with gold. As these were loose in the jaws, only the skeleton and clothing remaining, they were taken, with a description of the light color of hair and every particular which could identify the remains. Upon our return to Chattanooga, I ascertained that Chaplain Van Horne had received a letter of inquiry from the mother of Lieut. ———, 4th Ohio Cavalry, who was supposed to have fallen in the neighborhood where this body was found. A minute description was returned, and in response a friend of the deceased comes down from ——— and clearly identifies the remains, and takes them to the mother.

Others were also identified, and many preserved mementoes gathered up which were sent to the Cleveland Fair, to be delivered to friends, if found.

During the first occupation of this place there was no general system of burials, and the dead were deposited in scattered groups, graves imperfectly marked, or not marked at all, and no general register kept any where. All this is now changed. A most desirable location has been selected for a National Cemetry, which has been placed in charge of Chaplain Van Horne, specially detailed by Gen. Thomas for that duty; the grounds are being regularly and beautifully laid out, with streets and avenues, the whole surrounded by a substantial stone wall, now nearly completed, the summit of the hill to be crowned by a suitable monument, and the whole of the grounds to be filled with ornamental trees and shrubs, at the proper season. A complete register of all burials is now kept, and every possible precaution taken to secure absolute accuracy.

The frequent loss of hospital records after the battle of Chickamauga, and the fact that there were many Division Hospitals at the post which did not report to the Medical Director, induced us to keep at our office a register of all hospital cases here, and adding to it so far as we could a record of all deaths in regimental hospitals and of the killed in action. This has been of so much service to us in answering special inquiries from the Hospital Directory, and from friends at home, that we have felt compelled to continue it, and keep at the office a full register of all patients at this post. We add to it also the location of all graves, as far as we can, from the regular reports, and from copies of the inscriptions of all head-boards of scattered graves.

MAIL MATTERS.

The detention of letters and papers in the post office here directed to soldiers and commanding officers of companies has been a great evil, and cannot be avoided, unless all will learn to *prepay fully* all mail matter sent to soldiers in the field, or unless some one will pay the daily postage on the packages underpaid. The letters to soldiers are usually from friends at home, and the failure to receive them frequently prevents the soldier from writing home. The packages to officers of companies very often contain descriptive rolls and discharge papers, and great loss and annoyance must frequently occur from their detention. Under your instructions I have already paid the postage on 6,130 letters and packages, which would otherwise have been detained, the postage amounting to $418.41, and have to-day also directed the postmaster to pay the postage on newspaper packages sent from the office of publication, which could not otherwise be forwarded. As it will require a large amount to keep up these payments, I trust you will call attention to the importance of having all mail matter to soldiers in the field, including newspapers and magazines from the offices of publication *fully* prepaid. This, also, should be borne in mind, that double rates are charged on all deficits, and that no postmaster has any discretion allowed him. He must collect it or lose it, or have the package on which it is charged in his office.

We have forwarded as requested from time to time, to various points in the North, the bodies of officers and soldiers who have been killed in action or who have died in hospitals, and I believe in every instance the remains have reached the proper destination in safety. You will see, however, from a General Order, which I send you, marked "A," that this part of our work must be suspended until after the 31st day of October next.

THE GARDENS.

Under some discouragements, and as the result of much labor, the hospital gardens of the Commission are proving eminently a success. The ground has not been accurately measured, but it is estimated between 150 and 200 acres, in addition to about 40 acres of vineyards of Catawba vines, which are now in good condition, and fruiting well. The general and special orders, of which the copies enclosed are marked B, C, D & E, will show how fully we have been aided and sustained in this part of our work by Major-General Thomas, commanding the Department, and by Major-General Steadman, commanding the post. An additional order was published in the paper here, which effectually prevents all trespassing.

We have one company of the 31st Indiana permanently detailed as a guard. Have about 30 men as a permanent detail for workmen and to gather the vegetables, and a daily detail from a colored regiment, of from 50 to 75 men. We have had made at the Government shop 1 roller, 1 hand and 1 horse "marker," 4 harrows, some 300 feet of hot-bed frames, and various other articles. Have received many tools from the country, and have a full supply of horses, harness, and all tools except hoes, of which we need two or three dozen more.

We have issued thus far only mustard, lettuce, radishes, peas and onions, and are now distributing of these to all soldiers in and out of hospitals at this post, and have shipped twice to the hospitals at Resaca.

The total issues to date have been 2,319 bushels. While entering up the issues for the day, last evening, an orderly from Department Headquarters brought in the note of which the copy is enclosed, marked "F." It is evident now, unless some unexpected accident happens, that the garden will furnish a continuous and full supply of vegetables for all the sick and wounded at the post, through the summer and early fall months, with a constant surplus for convalescent camps and men in the field. I send you enclosed a statement of the issues of this post, and of the shipments to the front, of the most important articles for the month of May. The aggregate of some of the articles are very large, but never before has there been such a large and long-continued demand for these articles, a demand which will continue and probably increase for many days to come.

Of the more recent work at the front, those who are on the field have or will give you full reports. As soon as it was evident that an immediate advance of the army was contemplated, a depot of stores was opened at Ringgold, forces called in from Nashville, Knoxville and Huntsville, all gathering at the point.

The details of the work there they will narrate. I will only add, that it is certain our stores have been of inestimable value. They have been pushed on from point to point, as the railroad has been opened, going on by the first train, and at every battle have been taken by teams from the terminal depot to the field and distributed to the wounded, frequently under fire, and always as fast as they were gathered into the Field Hospitals.

The steady advance of the army has prevented gathering complete lists of casualties; but the name, rank, company, regiment, and nature of wound of all who have been admitted into the temporary field hospitals, have been forwarded to you, with copies of the inscriptions of all head boards on the battle-field this side of Kingston, the lists of the deaths in hospitals at the front, etc.

All statistics are forwarded to the office of the Hospital Directory as fast as received, and every effort is made to bring up the reports of the changes in the hospitals here, which are now long in arrears. I have assurance that this difficulty will be immediately remedied.

My co-laborers here are Mr. Bartlett, Store-keeper, assisted by Mr. Rindle, Transportation Agent, Prof. H. B. Hosford, Hospital Visitor, Mr. Miney, and Mr. Houghton, who have charge of special inquiries and the reports for the Hospital Directory, and Mr. Thomas Wills, Gardener, all eminently fitted for the duties assigned them, and all laboring beyond their strength in the discharge of their duties. Mr. Werth is also here, and did good service as Transportation Agent, until sickness rendered him incapable of discharging the duties of his office. He is assisting in the store-room, but will leave soon for his home.

Our main want is now, a constant and large supply of all battle stores. We have sent everything to the front, and our agents and the Medical Director are calling for more. We expect six car-loads this P. M. from Nashville, and shall send at least four of them immediately to the front.

The ice you sent came in excellent condition, and I hope more will be forwarded. Of all we have, we need a larger supply than we have received for a long time, and of our cooking utensils, cups, plates, coffee boilers, camp-kettles, a large number are required. But you know fully our wants from the telegrams and letters already forwarded, and a repetition of them is unnecessary.

AT THE FRONT.

Mr. Read writes:

HOSPITAL FIRST DIVISION, 4TH A. C.,
NEAR DALLAS, *June 1st*, 1864.

Here we are and here we have been for eight days. Constant firing on our front and to the right and left of us. The enemy reached this place one day in advance of us, put up their works, and so far have stopped our progress. There are not unfrequent assaults on both sides, and each side has so far been repulsed. We are moving our line farther to the left and nearer to the railroad, while McPherson, who is on our extreme right, can neither advance nor get away; neither can the enemy drive him away.

I think we have had not less than —— wounded since we left Resaca. We have had no rain for a week, and the weather is very hot; thermometer 95° in the shade to-day.

Yesterday we received three loads of stores from Kingston. Pocock going after them, but he was compelled to leave them some nine miles back. The wagons had to take in ammunition, so that he came here leaving the stores under guard. I obtained other wagons of the Medical Purveyor.

The hospitals of the 15th and 16th Corps have been moved with their wounded eight miles to the left of where they were first established. This, of course, is hard and injurious for the bad cases. The light cases have been sent back to Kingston, and, in some cases, the very bad ones, but this was done but by order of Dr. Kitto. * *

By being on the field as we are, we can secure all needed transportation.

* * * * *

Dr. Hazen is in the sick train this side of Chattanooga; Fairchild with the 14th Corps; Brundsitt with the 20th; Hoblit with the 4th and 23d; and I go from one to the other, doing what I can. The lists of casualties have all been forwarded, and goods have been brought forward promptly.

—

CHATTANOOGA, *June 4*, 1864.

We have sent two car-loads of stores to Kingston to-day, and have but little left here. Thirty-six boxes containing shirts, drawers, rags and bandages, are on the way from Knoxville. I have purchased and had made $200 worth of cooking utensils, cups, coffee pots, pails, wash basins, &c., &c. and sent them to Kingston, where the wounded come in by thousands, and where, without this provision, little food could be prepared or served. Mr. Enos and Mrs. Dickinson have gone down to-day. I have asked Mr. Tone to take all available help and cooking utensils from Resaca to that point, turning over all needed stores to the General Hospital remaining there, and engaging some one connected with it to answer promptly all special inquiries and furnish us reports.

We need hospital and battle stores of all kinds. The call upon us has been larger than ever before in this department, and we have more nearly than ever before supplied the demand. The daily demand will not diminish, but rather increase for weeks. *Do not let us lack supplies.* The comfort of all and the lives of many will depend on the supplies you send us. When one man or a thousand actually needs our stores to-day, we cannot keep them for the thousands who will need them more to-morrow. We look for new shipments for them.

The continued rains interfere somewhat with gardening operations and the gathering of vegetables; but all the time the weather permits, from twelve to twenty men are gathering fresh vegetables, which are taken by our own men to the various hospitals, in quantities to reach all who carefully use them. And nothing we furnish is more gratefully received or more beneficial. Two double wagons are employed for this work, and are rarely diverted to any other duty.

We send you lists of deaths to date in Resaca hospitals, and additional lists of those killed in action near Resaca, gathered with much labor, by Mr. Tone, from the inscriptions on the headboards of the scattered graves.

* * * * *

THE HOSPITALS AT CHATTANOOGA.

The Rev. H. B. Hosford reports, June 12:

I can hardly call what I intended to write, a report, as I know of nothing which I have done, or failed to do, while connected with the Commission, which seems to me to be in any special manner, worthy of record.

I chose, therefore, to write of the hospitals of Chattanooga themselves, rather than anything which I have done or attempted to do in connection with them.

The recent movements of the army and the battles consequent thereupon, have wrought great changes in the hospitals at this point. The General Hospital has been enlarged by means of tents, near the hospital buildings erected, and left for our use by Gen. Bragg, upon the crest of a hill, a few rods west of the railroad depot, and also by the establishment of General Hospital, Division No. 8, located upon a high bank of the Tennessee river, about three-fourths of a mile north of the city. The number of patients in General Hospital this morning was ——.

A new hospital was also established upon Lookout Mountain, in which there are at the present time —— patients. The Officer's Hospital has been removed from its former location in Chattanooga to Lookout Mountain, and has —— patients. The Field Hospital near the base of Lookout Mountain has been much enlarged, and otherwise improved in accommodations, but not increased to any considerable extent in numbers, in consequence of the constant and large transfers made to Northern Hospitals. It numbers ———.

A new Field Hospital pertaining to the Army of the Tennessee, has been established and located about three-quarters of a mile east of General Field Hospital. There are also several convalescent camps, and hospitals connected with certain brigades, or detachments from brigades on duty at this post.

The daily changes made in transfers at all of these hospitals have been great, for a week or two past, in consequence of almost constant arrivals and departures of trains of sick and wounded from the boat, or to the hospitals at the North, especially at Nashville. All, with few exceptions, who are able to bear with safety the journey, are transferred, leaving the room and cots which they occupied, for those who should the same day arrive from the field. Many of the latter remain here but for a day. Others are sent immediately to the convalescent camps, from which some of them, are soon returned to duty.

The whole number now in hospital here and in the convalescent camps, is not far from ———, of which a very large proportion are very slightly wounded, or lightly affected by disease. Most, however, are in one way or another unfit for duty in the field, while many, very many, are lying upon their low cots dreadfully mangled and maimed, or wasting under the power of dangerous or fatal disease; most of them manfully bearing their sufferings, as for their country's sake, or manifesting day by day, by their patient fortitude, as much true heroism as it is possible for any man to manifest in the fore-front of the battle. Their cheerful hope and uncomplaining fortitude, as well as the intense earnestness with which they inquire for any news from the front which may indicate the progress of our arms, or launch forth their hearty invectives upon the enemies of our country, whether rebels in the field or sympathizers with them at home, show that the soldiers of the Northern Army are no mercenary horde, but are worthy of the proud position which they hold, not only as soldiers of the American Army, but as American citizens. After every battle they inquire eagerly what part their own corps has taken in it, if any; who of their own regiment, company or comrades have been particularly heard from since. They talk with subdued voice of the number of wounded; they say little of the numb rs killed, but the lines of their counte ances show that they are not forgetful

> "Of the brave hearts that never more shall beat,
> The eyes that smile no more, the unreturning feet."

The location of the hospitals at Chattanooga could not in the main be better. Most of them are upon high ground, fanned by the breezes from the mountains, and commanding views of scenery, which both by their intrinsic beauty and by their patriotic associations can but be health-inspiring to those who are able to look upon them from their narrow cots, or through the open door, or as with feeble and aided steps they take their seats upon the outside, and gaze, as they often do for hours in some cases, upon one of the most beautiful and otherwise interesting pictures ever spread out to the view of man.

From almost every point of the hill where

stands the General Hospital, and the same is true to a considerable extent of the other locations, there looms up in close proximity upon the south the bold and rocky front of Lookout Mountain, presenting to the immediate view below the palisades the slopes over which Hooker's brave soldiers charged upon the enemy and drove them from their entrenchments. Immediately in the rear of the General Hospital, and distant but a few hundred yards, flows the Tennessee, and doubling back upon itself, at the north end of Lookout Mountain, and presenting, as in a picture, the whole scene of that wonderfully successful midnight descent of the pontoon boats, with 1,250 picked men, directly under the rebel batteries, to the place where the boats were anchored, and our hosts went over to battle and to victory. All along in front stretches the ever-to-be-remembered Mission or Missionary Ridge, presenting to the looker-on the scene of that noble daring by which the rebels were finally driven from the strongholds of Chattanooga. The thoughts gliding at will over the ridge in a southeasterly direction from the hospital, dwell upon that plain of terrible interest to many a soldier, the field of Chickamauga.

Immediately in front of the Hospital, and near the base of Mission Ridge, too remote to suggest by any object which can be seen, unpleasant or saddening associations, and yet capable of being easily seen in its graceful outlines, and contemplated by those who may find a solemn pleasure in doing so, stands the National Cemetery, where thousands upon thousands are to lie in glorious dust. When ornamented by all that American genius or patriotism can furnish, through all coming time

> "The heavens their dews shall shed
> On the patriot martyr's bed,
> And the rocks shall raise their head
> His deeds to tell."

The hospitals of Chattanooga are almost without exception under the control and direction of able surgeons, who have a true and hearty interest in the welfare of those who come under their charge. Especially is this the case with the General Hospital. No one can pass through its wards from day to day, beholding everywhere order, cleanliness and quiet, and hearing from the lips of sick and wounded men lying there frequent and heartfelt expressions of gratitude for the kind attention bestowed upon them, needs any other testimony to the skill and fidelity of the surgeon in charge, and of those whom he has associated with him. The supplies by the Government, supplemented daily in no small degree by the contributions of the Northern Aid Societies, are ample for all that medicine, food and clothing can do for the comfort and recovery of the sick and wounded soldier. The distribution of reading matter, both religious and secular, in the hospitals is quite liberal, but probably might be largely increased with advantage among the convalescents.

A better system, or rather some system of securing good nurses and cooks, and possibly some other attendants for the hospitals, other than that of depending upon detailed soldiers, seems to me to be the most important thing wanting to make the hospitals at this point as nearly perfect as they can be. In regard to these there exists in almost all cases one or the other of two unhappy liabilities. Either the person detailed belongs to the great class of shirks, and is therefore morally unfit for the position, or he may be ordered to duty in the field at a time when his services are most valuable and needed in hospital. It has seemed to me worthy of consideration whether the expense of maintaining a small herd of cows, in connection with each hospital in a place like this, would not be abundantly and over and over again returned, in the healing and comfort which fresh milk would afford to the sick and wounded. There is, moreover, material enough daily wasted from hospitals—pieces of bread, vegetables, &c.—to furnish no inconsiderable portion of the keeping of cows.

The hospitals are now receiving in quite large instalments dividends from the gardens. Fresh salad, peas, radishes, mustard and onions, are daily gathered and distributed among the hospitals, at present averaging about 400 bushels per day, much to the comfort and health of the men. In conclusion, I would say of my observation of the working of the Sanitary Commission at this point during the last four months, has been on the whole to my own mind

satisfactory and gratifying. I know that great pains and indefatigable labor are bestowed by the agents here to secure to the fullest extent possible the proper care and distribution of the stores committed to their trust by the benevolent and patriotic friends of the soldier at home.

Whatever may in truth be said of waste and loss and misconduct of incompetent and dishonest men, occasionally in the employ of the Commission, pertains alike, though in many cases to a far greater degree, to all the operations of business connected with the army. The waste and loss which occur are in a great measure absolutely unavoidable, and compared with the good accomplished, not as much as the light dust of the balance.

Let carping pharisees cry, "Why was all this waste made?" It is enough for the friends of the Commission to know that they have wrought a good work, and that wherever the gospel of benevolence, patriotism and humanity shall be spread throughout the whole world, this which they have done shall be spoken of as a memorial of them.

VEGETABLES.

Mr. Seymour says, June 14:

Since my last report I have spent most of my time at the front, with the army advancing on Atlanta, until I was compelled to abandon the field on account of a severe attack of dysentery, from which I am now recovering. Before I left Knoxville, and since, we issued vegetables quite liberally, not only to men in hospitals, but to those in the field. On the moving of the Army from the Department of the Ohio to the Cumberland, under Gen. Sherman, we had just received from you a liberal supply of potatoes and kraut, and I succeeded in issuing the latter to the men before the army left. I was requested by Gen. Schofield not to issue the potatoes, as the men would be on the move the next day, and would not have means of transportation. Generals Cox and Judah were very anxious that their men should have them, as they were suffering for want of vegetable diet. They stated that at a certain day they should reach Charleston, about one hundred miles in advance, and hoped I should be able to reach them there with the potatoes, when they would rest a day or two. At the proper time I succeeded in procuring from Gen. Schofield an order for cars to transport to Charleston one hundred barrels of potatoes. I dispatched Mr. Crary in charge of them; he succeeded in reaching Charleston just as the army arrived, and, I assure you, he and the potatoes met with a hearty reception.

The troops remaining at Knoxville, London and Strawberry Plains, as also those in hospital, have been well supplied with vegetables, and the hospitals with fruit and other delicacies.

The garden of from seventy-five to a hundred acres, is progressing finely under the supervision of Mr. Culbertson. I left Mr. J. H. Milliken, a faithful and judicious man, assisted by two detailed men, in charge of the store at Knoxville. Mr. Crary is, for the present, at the front, rendering good assistance in that great field of labor in the Georgia campaign.

I proceeded to the front and remained with the army, rendering such assistance as was in my power, until after the battle of Resaca, when I was severely attacked with dysentery. After controlling the disease for three days, I was reluctantly compelled to abandon the field. I returned to Nashville, when I was confined for more than a week to my room, receiving from the members of the Commission there the most cordial sympathy and attention. I am happy to state that my health is now rapidly improving.

I have deemed it not within my province to enter into details of the working of the Commission at the front, it being in the department of Dr. Read, from whom you will undoubtedly have full particulars. Suffice it to say, that no intelligent and candid observer can say otherwise than that the Sanitary Commission has been to that army everything that a reasonable person could expect. There undoubtedly have been individual cases which the Commission has not reached. But that the great mass of our noble sick and wounded men have received bountifully of the munificent gift of our generous people, no one can in justice deny.

THE MISSISSIPPI.

Mr. Way writes from Vicksburg May 30:

Since the Red River expedition returned we have issued vegetables to the whole command, at the rate of one barrel to sixty men, which took all we had on hand. Since then we have received 250 bbls. and 75 sacks of potatoes, 50 bbls. of pickles, mostly pickled potatoes, and 25 kegs of assorted pickles.

I have just received a request from Surgeon Lace, Surgeon-in-Chief at Natchez, for Sanitary Stores. I immediately turned over to the Quartermaster ten sacks of potatoes, which held about a barrel each, and fifteen barrels of pickles, consigning them to the surgeon-in-chief.

Yesterday's mail brought me a notification from Mr. Shipman of the shipment of 200 bbls. and 500 sacks of potatoes, 50 bbls. and 20 kegs of pickles, 6 bbls. of eggs, 2

boxes of sheets, 2 boxes of butter, 7 boxes of dried fruit, 7 boxes of horseradish, and 1 keg of butter. All will come in good time.

I have issued freely of all the stores we had to the Red River expedition, as I thought the men were very needy. I now have vegetables enough to make another issue to the troops here, and expect to do so, for they will keep but a short time, it is so very warm. We are having much warmer weather than at this time last year.

Summary of Shipment of Supplies from Chicago made June 10, 1864, to Gen. Sherman's Army.

4,580 lbs. bandages and compresses.	780 doz. eggs.
6 bed sacks.	1,587 lbs. butter.
12 body wrappers.	5 galls. horse radish.
79 comforts.	324 lbs. green tea.
422 prs. drawers.	40 lbs. dried beef.
67 dressing gowns.	10,000 lbs. codfish.
1155 handk'fs and towels.	944 lbs. crushed sugar,
463 pads.	1,507 lbs. best brown sugar.
239 pillows.	50 lbs. cheese.
495 pillow cases.	40 lbs. herbs.
233 sheets,	80 lbs. candles,
1,009 shirts.	15 lbs. soap.
62 pairs slippers.	24 bots. spirits camphor.
151 " socks.	181 " domestic wine.
1 package pin cushions.	24 " bay rum.
1,043 lbs. barley.	120 " raspberry vinegar.
45 lbs. corn meal.	20 bbls. ale.
473 lbs. corn starch.	50 half bbls. ale.
550 lbs. farina.	324 bots. whiskey.
2,000 lbs. corn grits.	124 " catawba.
2.385 lbs. dried fruit, asstd.	2 washing machines.
735 lbs. dried peaches.	2 wringers.
3,188 lbs. dried apples.	21 doz. tea spoons.
1,793 lbs. dried blackberries.	2 cork screws.
1,028 lbs. prunes.	5 reams letter paper.
100 lbs. tamarinds.	5,000 envelopes.
5 gallons plum butter.	6 gross pens.
180 cans canned fruit.	1 gross pen holders.
10 boxes lemons.	12 doz. fine combs.
120 lbs. cider jelly.	36 doz. coarse combs.
3,754 lbs Boston crackers.	6 doz. bottles ink.
17,666 lbs. soda "	1 doz. Lanterns.
1,731 bushels potatoes.	1 doz. candlesticks.
1,175 galls. pickles.	500 3 cent postage stamps.
	120 cans cove oysters.

RELIEF WORK AT PORT ROYAL.

PORT ROYAL, VA., *May* 28, 1864.

Mr. Anderson reports:

I hardly know when I wrote to you last, what I said, what I did'nt say, or what remains to be said; things have been in such a brilliantly unsettled condition, expectations of sudden movements have been so strong, and uncertainties have been so abounding, that we have had a grand combination of the perplexities of establishing a base, those of breaking up a base, and those of doubt as to whether we should do either. You can fancy how much time one would have to write, and, not having written, how difficult it is to recall and systematise the varied events and doubts of each day. Bloor and Dr. Harris would have posted you, up to their departure. Dr. Harris arrived from Fredericksburg, Tuesday noon, as did Capt. Evans, in charge of Mr. Fay's Corps. They were a godsend, as the men whom I had organized under Mr. Thompson, were worn down by twenty-four hours steady labor, in feeding the wounded. Mr. Thompson's men were immediately relieved; and since then regular watches have been kept.

About 4 P. M., the Kent returned with Dr. Douglas, Mr. Fay, and all the Fredericksburg party, except Harris's train.

We had long and free interchanges of news and plans; and, as I could not well change your instructions, I retained the nominal charge of this as the water-base, but you must distinctly understand that whatever of success may attend our movements and operations is to be, in the far larger degree, ascribed to the experience, skill and maturity of Dr. D—— and Mr. F. All the feeding department was assigned unreservedly to Mr. Fay, and Mr. Thompson was instructed to report to him. Dr. Douglas, with his thorough willingness, does everything in and out of his general line that he can best do; and we hold council of war unceasingly. All day Friday we fed and issued supplies to the wounded without stint. All the departments have treated us with a cordiality—and more than cordiality—a willing confidence and cheer, that makes one quite buoyant in approaching them, and working with them. Dr. Cuyler, Dr. Phillips, the representative of Dr. McParlan, at this post, and Dr. McKay, have been especially obliging; and Dr. Cuyler on finding us so diligently at work, said to me to draw on him for any and everything. He lent us stoves, cauldrons, &c., furnished beef stock, coffee and milk, and facilitated our operations in all proper ways, giving us information of the arrival of trains, &c., freely and promptly.

* * * *

The journals have been kept up, and when there is time we will return to you full account of the feeding and burial departments—and indeed of all. I have no idea how many meals were given; but every wounded man, officers of trains, teamsters, in fact the army generally patronized us. The Commissary's small issuing boat, was not issuing for the first day or two, and in addition to supplying some of the quartermaster's and other messes, we had literally to take care of hundreds. They were brethen of our common cause in distress, and I treated them accordingly, as far as our supplies would permit. On the evening of Friday, the tug Curtin arrived with the Kennedy, and shortly after the Hoboken loomed up through the air. All apprehension of running short was removed—and except fears for Harris's safety, were in good position, and the same evening brought Mr. Briggs, and Dr. McMartee, of California—the former of whom I knew well in that State.

* * * *

I also took them up to the feeding station where six 60-gallon cauldrons, one stove and one large fireplace were turning out soup,

coffee, tea, farina, pork, &c.; some of the cauldrons had been filled four times that forenoon. Three times would, perhaps, be an average—giving 1,080 gallons of edibles. A train having arrived—at Dr. Douglas's request, I got it a good camp ground, and then a large party of us fed the wounded—our Californians seeing and doing regular work. It was 3 A. M. before we got done.

Saturday was spent in getting everything ready for the movement. Mr. Fay took charge of his establishment, also of determining whom we should take and who not.

* * * *

We are anchored at the mouth, and hope to start for Yorktown at 1 A. M. Ought to reach White House or the new base by 4 P. M., Monday. You can rely upon our being in among the first. Did I tell you that Harris arrived last night with all his train safe and sound. He was very tired, and had had a hard time. He rests to-day, and leaves to-morrow with the trains for White House, under escort of 2,000 or 3,000 strong.

* * * *

He has just brought in twenty-eight wagons loaded with stores, worth many thousands of dollars, and that, too, from a difficult region. Those that know his previous history, very well know that not once nor twice, but many times, he has risen superior to the emergency, and gotten supplies through, under great hazard.

THE ARMY SURGEONS.

The strong testimony borne to the character and qualifications of the Army Surgeons, by Mr. Bloor, in the admirable letters which we publish on another page, reminds us how strong and widely diffused is the prejudice against them. We have left nothing in our power undone to refute it, by the diffusion of the strong testimony on the other side which daily reaches us from our agents. And, in view of the tremendous responsibilities which are at this moment pressing upon the Army Surgeons, we think it may not be amiss to take this opportunity of republishing what one of their number, Surgeon Beach, of the 40th Regiment Ohio Volunteers, said on their behalf, before the Medical Society of General Granger's Army, nearly a year ago.

The character of army surgeons has been so misrepresented, and so misunderstood by the public, away from the scene of their labors, that a word from one of their number may be considered an apology for their shortcomings; but, notwithstanding this, I propose briefly to sketch their character as it is understood, and *as it is.*

No reader of the Northern daily papers during the last year can be ignorant of the opinion generally entertained of army surgeons, and of the management of the medical department of the army. Inefficiency, gross carelessness, heartlessness and dissipation are intimately associated in the minds of the Northern public with the medical officers of the army. Doubtless each surgeon has a circle of friends who exonerate *him* from these charges; but, as a body, this is the character attached to us by our Northern friends.

It may not be uninteresting to inquire, for a moment, what causes have led to this state of public opinion. First among the causes we will place the fact that in our vast armies large numbers die from disease. The public knows that four thousand of our soldiers are buried at Nashville; that ten thousand have found a final resting-place on the banks of the Mississippi; that twenty thousand more have sickened and died in our armies in Virginia; and at every place occupied by our troops the green hillock and narrow board alone tell of some friend who went out from the home circle but recently. Without knowing, or without stopping to consider, if the ratio of deaths be less or greater in our armies than in others, this large mortality is associated in the minds of the public with want of capacity, or want of attention on the part of surgeons.

Another fact is, individual cases in which there has been apparent neglect, and which from want of proper explanation are given as positive evidence of the heartlessness of our profession. As an example, an intimate friend of mine was wounded at Richmond, Ky., and died in hospital at Danville. "He died alone at night." I knew nothing of the circumstances attending his death, only that somebody wrote to his wife that the nurses found him dead in his bed, and nothing can ever eradicate from her mind the belief that he was totally neglected, and that the surgeons and hospital attendants were brutes. A case came under my own observation a few weeks since which, if reported without explanation, would cause the same feelings in the minds of friends as did the case above mentioned. Stopping temporarily at a large hospital in Kentucky, the surgeon invited me, late at night, to see two cases with him, both of whom were in a critical condition. We entered the ward, and stopped at the bed-side of patient No. 1. An examination and the opening of a large abscess probably occupied five minutes, and during those five minutes the only two nurses on duty at that time were required in attendance on the surgeon. Immediately after the operation, while the surgeon was absent from the room cleansing his

hands, I walked leisurely around the room, and stopped at the bed-side of patient No. 2. The man was dead. He had died "alone and at night."

In addition to these and similar cases, distorted facts, are the monstrous fabrications of the newspaper correspondents, which, more than all other causes combined, contribute to the character we sustain at home. It is but charitable to suppose that these gentlemen have some foundation in fact for their statements. It is scarcely credible that they would deliberately manufacture sensational letters of this kind, unless they had a grain of truth to fall back upon. We take it for granted, then, that they do not willfully trifle with a subject so intimately mixed with all the finer feelings of our nature, but that they take one case as a type of the whole. Adopt this rule, and how easily may injustice be done to our profession.

I remember distinctly the impression made in a community where I resided, a year since, by the statement of a Cairo letter-writer. The letter was a scathing article on the surgeons and the bad management of the hospitals at some point in the West; and among other statements that left the reader to dream of untold horrors, was one that a "patient in the last agony called the surgeon to him, raised himself in bed, struck the surgeon with all his force, and with a smile of content upon his face sank back and died." This was given as evidence of the feeling engendered by the brutality of surgeons. Now, supposing this incident really occurred, which is not at all probable, is it just that the act of a delirious man should be cited as an index of the feelings generally entertained by the patients in our hospitals toward their surgeons?

Another cause of this misunderstanding of our *true* character is found in the letters home of a certain class of patients, both in hospitals and out. They are chronic grumblers; disappointed applicants for a discharge or furlough; men who see only the surgeon between them and the accomplishment of their ends. I have very frequently been approached by this class of soldiers, and been told that their "doctors" paid no attention to the sick men; that "they would see a sick man die rather than to discharge him, or let him go home on a sick furlough." How much weight should be given such testimony?

And again: People of the North think they have the evidence of their own senses, and that they cannot be mistaken in the fact that army surgeons are careless, indifferent and heartless. A great many visit our large general hospitals, and of course find their sick friends very differently situated from what they would be at home. They find them in large wards, containing perhaps one hundred patients. Of this number, some are reading, some writing, others engaged in cheerful conversation; while, perhaps, the friend so anxiously sought for is dying. The whole scene is so different from anything they ever associated with the sick chamber, that they go away with painful impressions. Such, doubtless, would be the feelings of many upon visiting our elegant hospitals in Nashville; and how much more would their sensibilities be shocked could they visit some regimental hospitals, far away from sanitary supplies, and where the hospital supplies of bedding, etc., were insufficient for the proper accommodation of the sick. They would find them in rude bunks filled with straw, their bedding, their blankets, and with their knapsacks for their pillows. They would forget that the sick had the benefit of pure air, attentive nurses, and the best food that could be procured for them; they would forget that the sick themselves were contented; and would go away with the impression that this was horrible treatment of sick men, and that the surgeon in some way was responsible for it.

Such, gentlemen, I imagine, are some of the causes giving rise to the not very enviable reputation we sustain at home.

Before defining what I take to be the real character of army surgeons, we will inquire what character they might, *a priori*, be expected to sustain. In Ohio, and I believe in nearly all of the States, no physician can receive a commission as surgeon until he has passed a satisfactory examination by a competent board. To be admitted to this examination, the applicant must not only have graduated in medicine, but he must bring certificates that he has sustained himself creditably for a certain number of years as a practitioner, and that he is of good moral character. These conditions, if observed—and I believe they are, as a rule—offer almost perfect security to the public that no considerable number of army surgeons enter the service inefficient or dissipated. Ought we not to expect from a body of men who enter the army only on the presumption that they are of liberal education, skill in their profession, and of good moral standing in the communities in which they have lived, using industry and a conscientious attention to the responsible duties assigned them? Most assuredly: and such, I am convinced, is the character we sustain with those acquainted with all the facts connected with our position in the army.

My own term of service in the army extends through the past year. During that time I have been associated with the medical officers of the troops in Eastern Kentucky, those collected at Gallipolis, Ohio, last September, and more recently in Tennessee. And among them all I have met

with but one drunken surgeon, and but few who were not making use of all the means in their power to prevent disease and restore health. I have visited many hospitals where there was a lack of many things for the comfort of the sick, but none where the surgeons were careless or unkind.

I confess, gentlemen, that when ordered to this department I expected to find disorder and confusion—not from want of capacity or honesty on the part of surgeons, but as a necessary feature of a large army. I expected to find some grounds for the clamor against army surgeons in the want of accommodations for the large number of sick in the Army of the Cumberland. But in this I was disappointed. Instead of finding crowded and poorly furnished hospitals in Nashville, I found them arranged on the most magnificent scale, fitted up with every comfort, and in a style that is thought luxurious by soldiers accustomed to camp life. During a stay of some days in Nashville I visited many of the hospitals, and for my own satisfaction inquired of the many acquaintances I found there among the patients how they were treated; and the answer invariably was, "We are treated well; surgeons and nurses are very attentive."

Another grave charge against the surgeon is, the using for his own comfort and to gratify his own appetite the delicacies, etc., furnished by friends at home to the sick soldier! This charge is as void of foundation in fact as the charge of drunkenness and brutality, and arises from a want of correct knowledge of the manner such things are distributed to the sick. Through the agency of the Sanitary Commission these things are distributed to the various general and regimental hospitals, where they are served out to the men as the judgment of the surgeon would direct; the men consume them without knowing where they come from. In after correspondence with their friends the soldier is asked, "Did you get the box of" something? The answer is "No"—when the fact is, he had consumed it, if it was of suitable nature for him in his condition: and if not, he had used of some other soldiers' delicacies, while they had used his. All the potatoes, onions, dried applies, etc., used in this great army at this time, are not from the quartermaster, but from the Sanitary Commission, which is to the sick soldier as the good Samaritan to "him who fell among thieves."

The duties of the army surgeon are so many and various that it is impossible to more than mention them here. The surgeon who only attends to the sick and wounded of his command, and thinks he has done his whole duty, has a very imperfect knowledge of his obligations.

The first and most important duty of the surgeon is, to prevent disease; curing it is a secondary matter. The surgeon who prevents disease by a careful study of the causes operating to produce it, and who takes steps to remove these influences, is much more deserving of credit than he who thinks only of curing. In the discharge of this duty it often becomes necessary to change the locality of the camp, to make changes in the cooking and habits of the men, to enforce what seems to them a rigid system of cleanliness of their persons, the tents and entire camp—and in doing these things we are frequently brought into unpleasant collision with our officers. It is not every military commander that understands the laws of hygiene, or who has the leisure or inclination to study them very carefully; and the number is equally small who do not regard those surgeons who are always making changes and suggestions troublesome at least. Doubtless every surgeon present has at some time in his experience met with opposition from his commanding officer, or at least had his suggestions treated with an indifference almost insulting to himself. I acknowledge that I do not know exactly where our authority stops, or rather begins, in this matter; but I think I know what our duty is—and that is, never to yield a point that involves the health of the men under our charge.

One word as to our duty to the men themselves, and I am done. There is much in our daily routine of duties, and in our relative position to the men, calculated to make us abrupt in our treatment of them, unless we guard against it. We should treat a sick soldier with the same courtesy, and give the same attention to his complaints, that we would to a sick citizen. In the daily examination of three or four score of men we meet with a few humbugs—men who are trying to avoid duty by getting on the sick list. These old soldiers may be dismissed in a manner the circumstances may seem to require. But the soldier who is sick, or who thinks he is, is deserving of a careful examination that will allow us to prescribe understandingly, and not that hasty disposal of the case that I know I am sometimes guilty of myself, and which must be bitterly felt by a patient whose feelings are at all sensitive.

HOSPITAL CLOTHING.

Correction.—In the pattern for *Flannel Shirt* in No. 13 of the BULLETIN, the slope for the neck in "Half of Back" should be *one inch* instead of *three inches*, as given.

The drawing of the diagram for "Half of Sleeve" is erroneous as regards the slope at the top of sleeve. The *dimensions* as given, are, however, correct. Also, this sleeve should be faced at the wrist with *flannel* instead of silesia. In cutting sleeves, put the wrist of one against the wrist of another, and the long triangular

piece of flannel left at the side will cut a collar. Wrist facings, by joining in the middle, can be cut off the pieces cut out of the front of the shirt in arm size.

SCENES IN FREDERICKSBURG.

FRIDAY, *May* 20, 1864.

DEAR MRS. ——You have, I suppose, by this time, received the duplicate of a letter I wrote some days ago to one of the Commission's supply correspondents, giving an account of a trip I had just made to Belle Plain, with reference to the relief work of the Commission in the field.

I left Washington again on Tuesday morning, and getting to Belle Plain in company with Mrs. Gibbons, (of army hospital fame,) and of Rev. Mr. Channing, of Washington, and others; and there, in their company, feeding and ministering to the ghastly crowds that were lifted out of the constantly-arriving ambulance trains into the boats assigned to convey them to the hospitals in Washington, I passed to the hospital tents "on the hill"—a little way from the dock—two long parallel rows of them, commencing on the side with the kitchen and feeding lodge of the Commission, whence they were without trouble constantly supplied with hot coffee and beef tea, iced water and lemonade, milk punch, wines and stimulants, farina, and whatever else in the way of prepared sustenance was needed. Bedding, clothing, sponges, towelling, bandages, lint, utensils of all kinds and whatever else is required in a sick tent, were bountifully dispensed by Mr. Knapp—of long experience in the Peninsular campaign and elsewhere in similar work—and his assistants, from the store barge, a few yards off, alongside the dock—which barge is continually replenished by steamers from Washington to the amount of some fifty tons a day. The steamer on which our people principally relied during the Peninsular campaign, (the Elizabeth,) has become a household word among sanitarians, and I may therefore mention that, (true to all the experience of the Commission,) whether as regards the intelligent collectors and forwarders, or the inanimate vehicles of supplies, that the feminine element is their main support? The name of our new boat is the Mary S. Rapley.

It was an hour or two after midnight before I had gone the rounds of the hospitals, and then I had the satisfaction of seeing most of the inmates comfortably sleeping—after the refreshment of having their hunger and their thirst assuaged, their wounds dressed, and above all, perhaps, the cessation from their horrible journey over the rutty hills, and interlying quagmires between the battle-fields and their present place of rest. By six o'clock the next morning, (after a night mainly occupied, so far as I was concerned, in strenuous efforts to go to sleep in the midst of the hubbub, and in involuntary listening to the extraordinary remarks of the contrabands, who kept up a constant stream of boxes, barrels, conversation and guffaws past the place where I lay on deck,) we began the journey to Fredericksburg ourselves in empty returning ambulances, and as the hours and our bruises increased we had an opportunity of testing the probable feelings of wounded men undergoing such an ordeal. But the fault is in the roads, not the vehicles. I think the four-wheeled ambulances as good a compromise as possible between the conditions desirable for wounded men, and the impossibility of using lighter-springed wagons over army roads.

Arriving at Fredericksburg in the middle of the day, we found it one vast hospital. Its principal street is some mile or more in length, with several parallel and a number of cross streets, and nine out of ten of the houses and shops, and all the churches and public buildings that are not demolished by shell or riddled by bullets, are filled with wounded men. Even the store occupied by the "Embalmers of the dead," has many living subjects among the dead ones; though accustomed as they are to death on every side, the patients do not consider the proximity in such an unfavorable light as civilians would. A few doors from the house in which Washington's early days were passed, (and the garden of which was, I presume, the scene of the cutting of the fruit-tree by his juvenile hatchet,) Dr. Douglas, Chief of Inspection of the Commission, and the volunteer ladies and gentlemen who so zealously assist in the good work, have their quarters, and thither on the day I was there, a number of patients,

requiring the constant supervision of some of them had been removed. Through the open windows of the rear rooms float the odors of the flowers of early summer to the patients within, and those whose cool pallets are in the wide hall, with its old-fashioned panelling of wood meeting the wooden-black cornice of the ceiling, look out through the open back-door upon a wilderness of roses—a large basket full of which has just been distributed to the poor fellows throughout the town—most of them grasping at them more eagerly than at the milk-punch—by one of the kind hearted gentlemen of our party. If their time were not so much more valuable by the side of the impromptu cooking affairs and couches they have evoked from chaos, the roses should of course have been presented by the ladies—but at all events, they came originally from a lady: not one of "our" women, but the owner of the house—a widowed gentlewoman, who sighs that such evil days should have fallen on the close of her eighty years' pilgrimage—and, like Washington's mother, thinks that it may, perhaps, be a good thing to be a great general, but that for her part she thinks that Lee and Grant had both much better be at home attending to their farms than engaged in such dreadful doings. The North and South have lived in peace all these years, and why can't they continue to do so? What dreadful things she could tell me of the division of families caused by this wicked war. So and So has two sons in the Confederate army and two in the Federal. Such a happy family they were once, and now trying to take each other's life; and for her part she had been stripped of almost every thing. The houses and stores in the town from which she derived her income, have been destroyed, or are appropriated to their own uses, without payment, now by one army and now by the other. I heard similar talk in Culpepper while our army held it, and one hears it every where throughout the border States; and it is only here that the full horrors of this cruel war can be appreciated. It is impossible—as I think it would be unnatural—for the majority of the old people either North or South, to take the partizan view which is necessarily, for the purposes of Providence, taken by the young and middle-aged in the two contending sections.

Round the corner from the poor old lady's house is the store-house of the Commission, besieged every day on the arrival of our wagon loads of supplies—generally some twenty—from the base, with such crowds as compel an officer of the Commission to enter by the back way, if he wants to get in without waiting for an hour or two. Next door to this is a large store used as a hospital by one of our volunteer ladies; and at the back of both, conveniently accessible to both supplies and patients, is the tent she uses as a cook-house. A door or two off is a shop used as an office by the Relief Force, of which there are at present distributed throughout the army of the Potomac some two hundred members, under the superintendence of Mr. Fay, of Massachusetts, a volunteer throughout the war in such work. Several other ladies and a number of physicians from civil life have charge of hospitals in different parts of the town under the auspices of the Commission; and the Relief Agents zealously assist them in their labors, which are herculean, as each fresh train of ambulances arrives from the field, and in those hospitals where the Government supply of surgeons is generally equal to the demand on their skill, they still continue such ministrations as may be carried on without medical co-operation, and these are many.

We are in one of the church hospitals, we will suppose. The pews are set two together, and the backs taken off when necessary, to form couches for the patients. The vestry is turned into an operating room. In one corner of the church is a good woman who has not quitted the half-delirious patient whose brow she is bathing with bay water for one hour in the last twenty. The altar is put to one side, and in its place two pews cradle a young boy who does not seem to be over fifteen years old. He was brought in it was supposed in a dying condition; but the good Samaritan who is just directing to the far West a letter he has written to the boy's mother at his dictation, has, with his good things and better words, brought such a light into the boy's eyes that he expresses the utmost confidence that he will be able to write to

his mother himself the next day, and tell her that he is safe from the effects of this wound, and ask her to pray that he may be spared in future battles, and rejoin her and his sisters and brothers in their happy Wisconsin home "when his time is out."

Further down the town and not far from the unfinished tomb of Washington's mother, standing ostensibly as a monument to her worth, but practically as a monument to the genius of the universal Yankee nation for chipping and whittling, is a large old-fashioned mansion, rich in pannelled wainscoating, carved wooden chimneys, plaster arabesque ceilings and tablets, and landscaped wall paper; and in one of its rooms lies a gray-haired man, looking dreamily out through the open window by which his pallet is set, on a beautiful lawn thickly shaded with fine old trees, which slope down to the swampy meadow and heights beyond, which drank up so much precious blood in the terrible charge of December, 1862. Perhaps the fair scene before him is like that on which he has so often looked from the porch of his quiet house in his far off little Vermont farm. But he will never look on it again—at least, with his earthly eyes. He will never again look at the rising of the sun, which is now with its setting beams gilding the tree-tops and falling through them, checkered with waving shadows on the lawn beneath. The wound from which most of his life blood has flowed, has left him white and weak, but it does not pain him: so he looks quietly round, thanking one for having written his last letter to his "folks;" another for shading his eyes from the sun with the fan which, until complaining of the cold creeping over him has been used to cool him; and another for offering the further assistance which he does not need. He is only a sergeant, but "had as lief be a private in such a cause." He was a deacon in his town, and "done the biggest part in getting up a company" from it, the captaincy of which was offered him; but he thought he hadn't "edication" enough to do the "writin' part of the business," and declined. But, thank God, he had "edicated" his sons, and one of them who had entered the company with himself had been promoted, grade after grade, from the corporalship to the captaincy. His wife had dissuaded him from "jining" the army at that time—but after the Peninsular campaign, "he couldn't stand it no longer—had helped to get up another regiment in his township, and now here he was. Well, he was satisfied he was in the Lord's hands, and he would die in the faith that the Lord would stand by the Union and the stars and stripes to the end. He hadn't a speck of doubt about it." He'd like to know if his son, the Captain, whose regiment had been in the fight with his own, was still alive, but he couldn't find out; and he would give all he was worth to see his wife and daughter once more; but he had always told them to prepare for this, and hoped the Lord would give them strength to bear the news.

I had intended to tell you of many other incidents which would interest you, but time fails. A mail carrier is about to take his chance of rebel scouts and guerrillas, and this will go with him. If you get it, I will ask you to return me a copy when I let you know that I have got back to Washington.

I left Fredericksburg yesterday morning by daybreak, and am now seated a few rods from the head-quarters of Grant and Meade, in front of the tent of a hospitable young officer from your city. At this time yesterday, the woods around reverberated with the cannonading and musketry of the fight on the right of our line, between Gen. Tyler's Division and the enemy, and to-day, the surgeons have been busy with several hundred wounded men. Another letter, either to yourself, or in copy, when I get back to Washington, will tell you something more of what I have seen.

—

IN BIVOUAC, NEAR THE NORTH ANNA RIVER, VA.,
May 24, 1864.

My last letter gave an account of the way in which I "assisted," as the French would say, at the fight between the forces of Gen. Warren, of the 5th corps, with the help of part of the 6th, and the rebel Gen. Hill, on the evening of yesterday, the 23d inst. After our day-break breakfast the next morning I made my way to the hospitals, which had been established while the engagement was going on in an open grassy space, interspersed with bushes and young trees, and skirting the road which crossed the North Anna River about a mile and a

quarter (I should think) ahead. They consisted of a number of good-sized tents, spread with pine boughs, and scattered about the grounds were the operating tables, portable dispensaries, &c. I met a number of the wounded men I had helped along the night before, and was glad to hear many of them express their appreciation of the kindness and care with which they had been attended to by the surgeons. These latter had been up all night, but there was as yet no relaxation to their labors, for the ambulances were still coming in with the wounded. I do not know that I shall have a better opportunity than the present, and I desire therefore to record here my conviction, in opposition I think to the general impression in the community, and particularly to the female portion of it, that there is nowhere to be found a body of men, who, as a class, are more untiring, devoted and self-sacrificing in the discharge of duties—the most responsible, exacting and exhausting—than army surgeons. There are exceptions, too many of which I have encountered in an official intercourse with them of three years standing; but during that time my estimate of them as a body has steadily increased, and this my last experience with them in the field has confirmed and heightened all my previous good impressions. I take pleasure as a non-medical man, in expressing emphatically my opinion as to the high standard of mental and moral qualities they apply to their professional duties—(without being competent to judge of their professional qualities pure and simple)—the more so because my official correspondence has shown me how much they have been suspected and undervalued by the home-staying community—while in general culture they compare most favorably with any class of officers in the army.

Thanks to the untiring zeal of the surgeons and their assistants, and to their being well stocked in the field with Governmental medical supplies, those of the patients who had been already operated upon were lying on the fresh, soft fragrant pine boughs, with which the tents were thickly strewn, in a condition of tolerable comfort—those at least whose wounds admit of any comfort, and fortunately, where well cared for, these are the majority. Well washed, and dressed in clean shirt and drawers—every one marked with the "U. S. Sanitary Commission" stamps, for the lack of these was one of the gaps we had bridged over—and many of them enjoying their pipes or cigars, and chatting over their experience in the "imminent deadly breach" of the evening before—the scene of the whole, however terrible, was not altogether unrelieved in parts. It is amusing to see the affection they bear for their pipes. One man I saw seriously wounded in most of his limbs, lifted out of one of the ambulances that had just arrived. His first thought was for his pipe, but he had no hand in which to carry it, so he desired it to be put in his mouth, and carrying it between his lips was himself borne to the operating table.

One young lad I found reading a hymn book, which he said had probably saved his life the night before. It was in his waistcoat pocket during the engagement, and a minié ball, which would otherwise have gone into his breast, had glanced against its cover and fallen to the bottom of his pocket. He showed me the ball with much satisfaction, and told me he hoped he should live to get back to Wisconsin and show it to his mother, who had given him the hymn book. He had, however, a few minutes before been shot in the leg. A man lying with one of his arms off next the narrator, was very anxious that I should provide him also with a hymn book, but whether he was influenced most by pity or by prudence, I shall not pretend to say. There was one young fellow from your section of country—though I cannot recall the name of the town or village he mentioned—he was severely but not painfully wounded, who seeing some clean linen rag which one of the doctors had left on the ground a little distance off, asked me to tear him off a piece that would serve him as a pocket handkerchief. Thinking the surgeon might have set apart the linen for some special purpose, and preferring in any case to give him a *bona fide* handkerchief, if I had one left, I felt in my pocket, and there at its bottom was the last of my small store. It was rather a nice affair, the cambric not of the finest, but with

quite a stylish border round its edge, and he pronounced it "bully" as I handed it to him. The outside fold had, as usual, the Commission's stamp, but it soon appeared that there was still another mark on it, for he had scarcely unfolded it, and held it out for an admiring inspection, before he uttered quite a shriek of delight, and asked me if I knew his folks at home, and if they had given me the handkerchief to hand to him. It appeared that besides our mark, there was worked in thread the name of a relief society in his native place, and he gave sundry reasons for his positive assertion that the marking must have been done by none other than his little sister Lizzie. Without perhaps fully appreciating his arguments, I saw no good reason for disturbing his impression, and left him quite happy in its indulgence.

Passing from one tent to another, I found a Chaplain standing by two stretchers, the occupant of each lying, with stiff outstretched limbs, and the quiet upturned face covered with the blanket, which was now to serve as a winding sheet. Another Chaplain appeared in a moment, with two men bearing another stretcher, the corpse covered with the old grey overcoat which had shielded him from so many storms, and served him so often for blanket or pillow. The bearers pick up the stretcher, and they, the two Chaplains, and myself, are all that follow the warriors to their grave. A few paces off, in a little space between two clumps of bushes and saplings, the wide grave is being dug—there is but one for the three comrades in battle and death—by the three men, who take their turn in digging and resting beneath the burning rays of the unclouded overpowering sun. It is evidently a matter of pride and conscience with them to dig deep and make, as one terms it, "a handsome grave." Their oaths and rough talk are silenced. The youngest of them, rather a smart young sergeant, is obviously bent on making a good impression on the chaplains, and talks somewhat learnedly and sentimentally on the way in which they must have received their wounds, and on our all having to come to this, on the field or in our beds, he does not see that it makes much difference—but he talks quietly and soon stops, working steadily with the others, who have nothing to say except to interchange some undertoned remark as to the earth being loose in this spot, or a stone being in the way there. Just as they are giving the finishing strokes, some one hurries up, claims one of the bodies to be sent home to his friends, and the two men with him carry it off. The diggers agree to leave a third of the space unfilled with soil for some other body—"there will be a many graves wanted through the day"—they leap up from the grave and tell the chaplains it is ready, then lean on their spades and uncover their heads. We also uncover, and one of the chaplains reads aloud from his little pocket bible, "Now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept—for since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead," and the rest of the chapter. He is followed by the other chaplain in a short address, followed by a prayer, then the uncoffined forms are lowered, the fresh earth covers them more closely, (and more kindly it seems to me,) than a wooden box would—the empty space left by their side for whoever shall come next,—wooden boards inscribed with their names, companies and regiments, are placed at their heads, and there we leave them to their long rest, one wrapped in his blanket, while the other—

> "Lay like a warrior taking his rest,
> "With his martial cloak around him."

Coming out of the inclosure, I stopped to talk to several of a crowd—some three hundred—of rebel prisoners, who stood or sat in two groups under guard—some of them in great trepidation lest the shells sent by their own people should reach them. (The shelling and musketry, but more especially the cannonading, goes on, more or less, all the time.) One of them was a South Carolina Colonel, named Brown, I am told, who sat on the ground whittling a piece of stick with his penknife, which induced a fat officer who stood over him, and probably resented the cutting down from its maximum proportions of even a piece of wood, to inform him that he would certainly be taken for a Yankee if he persisted in whittling. The Colonel only grinned, however, and went

on paring; perhaps, beginning to entertain the idea that worse things might befall him than to be taken for a Yankee. One of them, an innocent looking, mild eyed young lad—as many of them are—is the son of the woman who lives in the log-cabin by the side of which I am now writing, and is now, therefore, a prisoner within a few yards of his mothers' house. The poor woman has been to see him and declares, with many tears, that he was led away by his neighbors against her entreaties. Her trouble is shared by the boy's grandfather, and by several young sisters, very pretty and delicate looking, notwithstanding that they have no shoes, and wear such uncrinolined gowns of striped home-made stuff as a Biddy would scorn to use for scrubbing cloth in the North, and live in a cabin of two rooms, log-ceiled, and log-walled inside as well as outside, and hardly anything in it but an old wardrobe, a ricketty table, a couple of beds, with the inevitable counterpane of checkered stuff, and equally inevitable spinning-wheel.

An ambulance train, loaded with wounded, leaves here probably this afternoon for Fredericksburg or Port Royal, whichever way is most free from guerrillas—and by this, if it goes, I shall seek an outlet from the field—but I shall trust this to headquarters' mail-bag rather than carry it myself to Washington, for I think it likely it will thus pass through there on its way to you sooner than I shall reach the place.

Very truly and respectfully yours,

ALFRED J. BLOOR,
Assistant Secretary.

LETTER WRITING IN CAMP.

A special aid strolling about the extensive grounds occupied by the hospitals, finds many duties presenting themselves, of a different character from the nursing and feeding which most pertain to his office; his badge brings him many a call from those who, far from home and friends, want to send "line" to those; for one he will write a letter, to another furnish mail facilities for a letter already written; another has gone so far as to indite as well as he can his messages of love to those at home, and wants it directed in a more legible hand; another wants a sheet of paper and an envelope. It is an important part of our duties in the hospitals to attend to the correspondence of the sick and wounded, and many a touching message are we called upon to convey. I was impressed by the simple honesty and prudence of a private who was lying in one of the tents, sick with a dangerous disease; I asked him if I should say to his wife that he was better? "No," said he, "don't give her anything to be laying out upon." He evidently thought his disease might prove fatal, and any encouraging words would be building up, perhaps, a false hope. There is great delicacy of feeling exhibited by many of these suffering men, and often a reluctance to divulge their private griefs, in strong contrast to the "mockery of woe," not unfrequently met with among the more educated classes. Let not this secretiveness be too summarily placed to the account of insensibility; the soldier is not apt to be a man of words; he is ashamed to betray a tenderness of feeling which may appear faint-hearted; as one said to me, when I spoke of his endurance under suffering, "it does not become a soldier to complain."

A regiment of infantry from the front, after a long march of seventeen miles on a dusty road, almost without food, passing our tent saw some of the aids with the badge of the Sanitary Commission on their hats, "Ah," says one wayworn veteran, "there's the Sanitary; that's what I've been wanting to see." These poor fellows immediately wanted soft bread, and in the absence of any supply of this, were provided with Boston soft crackers, to their great relief, washing them down with the best coffee, prepared at one of the feeding stations.

WHAT IS BEING DONE FOR OUR SICK AND WOUNDED SOLDIERS.

[From the Agriculturist.]

WHITE HOUSE, Va., *June 9th*, 1864.

[The readers will please give the entire credit of the June and July numbers of the Agriculturist to my worthy editorial associates, Prof. Thurber, Col. Weld, Mr. Fitch, and their assistants and correspondents. Five weeks ago today, I left home to personally aid for a few days in the care of the wounded. The days have lengthened to weeks, and I cannot yet consent to leave this important and interesting field of labor. I even begrudge the brief time devoted to this hasty letter, for every moment I can be in the camp gives opportunity to contribute something to the comfort of a suffering fellow. I may perhaps run home for a day or two, to attend to some important business, but with this exception, I feel it a duty, as well as the highest pleasure, to remain near the battle fields, so long as hundreds of men are almost daily struck down, and while so much can be done to allevi-

ate their sufferings. It is the more *my* duty, as my health continues very good, notwithstanding the severity of the night and day labor, the absence of regular wholesome meals, of beds, or of any of the comforts of home, or civilization even. I have so far felt none of the evil influences of these malarious regions, which seriously affect so many others. I doubt not our readers will readily excuse me for present inattention to correspondence, to business, and to the reading columns.]

My notes last month to my associates, which I see they took the liberty to print, left me at Fredericksburg. Since then we have been to Belle Plain again, to Acquia Creek, (May 22,) down the Potomac and up the Rappahannock to Port Royal, (May 25,) and to Fredericsburg again, (May 26,) to bring away the last of the wounded; back to Port Royal, then down the Rappahannock and Chesapeake, up the York River, and to this point, White House, on the Pamunkey River, where we arrived Monday, May 30, The work at these several points has been much the same, viz., the reception and care of wounded and sick, sent to the rear from the battle field. At each place, and especially at Fredericksburg and here, we have heard the almost constant roar of cannons, sometimes in too rapid succession to admit of counting the distinct discharges of the heavier guns, even, and we have almost learned to plan our work ahead for a given number of wounded, by the character and direction of the firing.

Of the character of our work, any one can judge, by thinking what would be done in a household where one of its members had been maimed by accident. How many attentions would be bestowed, how many comforts would be planned, how would the sympathies of the whole neighborhood be called forth for miles around. Here we have thousands of maimed men, some of them pierced and torn in every conceivable manner—not one in a house, but often a score or more, on the ground, under a single large tent. When soldiers are disabled, they are sent to the rear, where the surgeon performs such hasty dressing and other operations as may be most needed. As soon as circumstances allow, they are then sent to the base of supplies, in ambulances, (covered spring wagons,) or often in springless army wagons. The guerrillas that hover around the rear, make it necessary to send a strong military guard along with each train of wounded, and also preclude the attendance of civilians to feed and care for the wounded while on the way. Such help only is given as can be afforded by the drivers and the soldiers detailed to attend them. The comparatively few Sanitary Commission wagons and relief men allowed at the front, do what they can for the men before they leave the field hospitals. It is these famished, weary, hungry, often tired and fainting men, that we are trying to receive and provide for to the utmost of our ability. And God be thanked for the noble enterprise of the U S. Sanitary Commission, and for the patriotic hearts and hands that have supplied its treasury with the means for carrying abundant supplies to the points where needed. I have sent you a partial list of the stores brought to this point, which is but one of the fields of labor. I cannot begin to describe the work done. My note book, and the broader pages of memory, would furnish details enough to fill a hundred columns in the Agriculturist. A few items must suffice.

At Belle Plain a large force of men, in alternate squads, were occupied night and day, from May 10 to May 25, in feeding the men with coffee, milk punch to the fainting, soft bread and crackers, medicines, and many delicacies—in giving clothing, crutches, arm slings, blankets, etc.; in dressing wounds, in cheering the desponding, in conversing with the dying, in writing letters for those unable to write for themselves, in receiving and forwarding letters, parcels, etc.; in short, in everyway in which they could comfort the living, and in burying those who died when thus far on their way home. The work done at that point alone, a thousand times repaid all the great and small Sanitary Fairs ever held, and all the home efforts ever put forth.

At the same time, 32 four-horse wagons were engaged in hauling supplies to the army, and especially to Fredericksburg, where the same kind of work was going on, but on a still larger scale, if possible. Central distributing stores were established, and the city was districted off, and squads of relief men assigned to each district. (The agents of the Commission accompanying the army, are called the Relief Corps, and those at the rear with the wounded, are termed the Auxiliary Relief Corps.) These latter consist partly of regularly employed men, (who are previously trained to the work of dressing wounds, preparing food for the sick, etc.,) but more largely of volunteers, who give their time and best energies freely, but who work entirely subject to the regular Auxiliary Relief Corps.

These companies, with temporary captains to direct, went from house to house in their several beats, and commenced their good work. Though numbering over one hundred and fifty, there was at one time an average of nearly fifty

for each one to look after. Those skilled in that branch, assisted in dressing wounds; others carried around and dispensed prepared foods and drinks, etc., from the sanitary stores. The memory of the hours and days occupied in this will never dim. That clean, nice flannel shirt, made perhaps by your hands, gentle reader, or at least bought with your money or work, and put in place of a blood or dirt-soiled one, by the hand that writes this, perhaps comforted a son, or brother, or relative of the maker herself. I see a pair of bare feet of a noble man stretched upon the floor, unable to raise himself up; I hasten to put upon them a pair of home-knit socks. Who knit them? Perhaps the one that reads this. Somebody knit them for somebody's son—and that is enough. Never shall I forget one pair given. A mark on them indicated the knitter's name. The soldier took them in his hands, looked them over and over again—then kissed them, hugged them to his bosom, and turning upon his side, wept. I could not stay there, to ask what were his thoughts. These hands of mine are hallowed by the hundreds of pairs of socks, the shirts, the drawers, the arms-slings, the crutches, the pillows, the ring-cushions, the slippers, etc., that they have been permitted to give to such men during five weeks past. And every hand that has helped to make these things, or helped by work, or dimes, or dollars, to buy them, is a nobler hand therefor. I wish I could give a thousandth part of the items. I have said nothing of the tens of thousands of cups of good coffee, prepared with pure milk, brought condensed in cans, and sweetened with good sugar; of other thousands of cups of tea; of milk punch when stimulants were most needed; of farina, of beef or chicken broth, which modern invention enables us to carry fresh to the field. Imagine at least a hundred persons constantly preparing and bearing these things to our sick and wounded and brave men, far from home and home comforts and care, and again with me thank God that it was put into the hearts of the people, to work in fairs and at home for our soldiers, and that you and I have been privileged to bear some part in this noblest enterprise of this or any other age. Let us keep on doing. We are in the midst of the mightiest struggle the world has even seen. For thirty-six days an almost incessant battle has gone on, and the end is not yet. But I must hasten.

At Port Royal, Va., the same work was repeated for three days and nights. The Sanitary Commission steamer, loaded down with stores and with relief men, were on hand two hours before the first wounded man arrived, and we fed and cared for all who came in, until they were sent for from Washington, whither they were carried direct by water, in comfortable, commodious steamers.

At this point, (White House,) we arrived two days in advance of the wounded. You should see our eight distributing and feeding tents on shore, and the busy relief agents, cooking, hastening from tent to tent with pailsfull of the best nutriment, bundles of clothing, etc. Shall I speak of a single day's work of my own, in illustration? The men had for thirty-six days been away from their usual access to suttlers, or other sources of supply. I found a great eagerness for tobacco, among those accustomed to use this narcotic; the longing seemed to be intensified by their condition. Yesterday I went around with a basket on each arm, and a haversack on my neck. A rough estimate of the day's work, from the morning and evening's stock on hand, showed that I had given out writing paper and envelopes to about 700 men; pencils to 90; a large lot of newspapers sent direct to me by Mr. Felt, of Salem, Mass.; crutches, to 136 wounded below the knee, who were thus enabled to get up and move about; arm-slings to 115 wounded in the arm, (perhaps you made one of these reader;) a piece of chewing tobacco each, to about 370; smoking tobacco and matches to about 450, and pipes to 73 who had lost theirs. (A wounded man seldom brings anything from the field except what is in his pockets.) This is the only day I have attempted to keep an account of the work done. With my outfit of baskets, etc., I looked like, and was not inappropriately dubbed a "Yankee Pedler." I doubt if any other Yankee Pedler ever did a better business in one day, or one that paid a thousandth part as well. The pleasant running conversation kept up all day was cheering, to myself at least, and the "God bless yous" and cheerful "good mornings" or "good evenings" responded from every tent as I left it, was good pay. Everywhere I met others of our relief agents bearing other things, or bending over the wounded men, dressing their wounds, and literally "pouring in oil and wine." The sleep of that night was sweetened by bearing out thirty-eight nice warm new blankets to as many blanketless men whom I found, as I came from a distant part of the camping ground at a late hour in the evening. These men had been brought in after dark, and had got separated from the rest of their train. I am sure some of their lives were thus saved. I speak thus particularly of my own work because I can speak of that best. Almost two hundred others are earnestly and feelingly laboring to the utmost of

their strength in the different departments. Such is the work at White House Landing today. May I not neglect the Agriculturist another month, if need be?

ORANGE JUDD.

Mr. Judd adds, writing from Whitehouse, June 7:

It will be a matter of interest to the contributors to the funds, and especially to the friends of the soldiers, to know *what* is supplied by the U. S. Sanitary Commission. The following is only a partial list of the supplies on hand at this place, yesterday. They are on board of half a dozen steamers, barges and schooners in the river, and are being carried on shore, part to eight distributing tents, and part to some forty four-horse wagons, which are carrying them to the "front." There are about 100 teamsters, porters, etc., engaged in handling the stores, manning the boats, etc., and 150 or more of the hired and volunteer relief corps, engaged in distributing directly to the wounded and sick, and in dressing wounds and caring for the men otherwise. These articles are all needed; the use of most of them will be obvious to every one; others are required for tents and other work.

This list contains an assortment forwarded from the general storehouses, about in the proportion they are expected to be needed. Daily orders go off for each article of which the stock is being drawn down.

6,288 cans condensed milk.
2,612 lbs. soft crackers.
1,856 lbs. farina.
4,556 lbs. sugar,
16,207 cans tomatoes.
794 lbs. corn starch.
3,310 lbs. prep'd chocolate.
804 lbs. ground coffee.
192 lbs. extract coffee.
60 lbs. cocoa.
1,000 lbs. oat meal.
400 lbs. corn meal.
24 lbs. gelatine.
100 lbs. maccaroni.
80 lbs. arrow root.
200 lbs. rice.
180 lbs. butter.
11 bbls. flour.
447 cans peaches, (2 lb. c.)
160 cans pears, (2 lb. cans.)
160 doz. fresh eggs.
161 cans green beans.
216 cans roast chicken, 2 lb. c
500 cans roast turkey, 2 lb. c.
2,402 cans roast beef, 2 lb. c.
336 cans conds'd beef soup.
2,200 c. other canned meats.
2 bbls. hams.
516 bottles Jamaica rum.
840 bottles brandy.
600 bottles sherry wine.
1,475 bottles whiskey.
12 bottles cherry brandy.
10 gallons foreign wine.
87 gallons domestic wine.
57 bottles cider.
216 bottles alcohol.
1 package spirits.
2 bbls. molasses.
1,128 bottles ex. of ginger.
360 bot. bay rum, for bathing
166 boxes lemons.
368 bottles lemon syrup.
81 bbls. porter, in ½ bbls.
65 lbs. spices.
135 gallons tamarinds.
785 lbs. tea.
30 lbs. mutton tallow.
18 bedsteads.
907 bed ticks.
11 bales of straw.
758 pillows.
1,346 pillow cases.
312 pillow ticks.
115 mattresses.
264 chambers.
248 candlesticks.
5 large boxes cushions.
477 ring cushions.
510 sheets.
480 woolen blankets.
46 rubber blankets.
393 quilts.
50 head rests.
139 stretchers.
100 lanterns, for night work.
200 medicine cups.
48 scissors, for nurses.
776 hair combs.
419 pieces musquito net.
44 pieces old silk.
2 bales oakum, for wounds.
328 spit cups.
1,562 handkerchiefs.
3,609 towels.
2,320 tin cups.
712 tin plates.
250 tin basins.
8 large water tanks.
541 tin spoons.
115 tin buckets.
9 cooking stoves.
39 camp kettles.
192 knives and forks.
12 cheap carvers.
6 frying pans.
16 large coffee pots.
7 nutmeg graters.
12 boxes assorted tin ware.
1 hhd. assorted tin ware.
2 bbls. assorted tin ware.
50 lbs. saleratus.
30 baskets.
4,469 woolen shirts.
1,304 cotton shirts.
1,153 hospital shirts.
571 woolen drawers.
847 Canton flannel drawers.
1,945 cotton socks.
1,645 woolen socks.
893 wrappers.
733 pairs slippers.
5 boxes shoes.
1 box boots.
1 large box pants.
269 gallons pickles.
50 bbls curried cabbage.
218 bbls. saur kraut.
525 lbs. smoking tobacco.
200 lbs. cheese.
2 sacks salt.
60 wooden pails.
4 medicine boxes.
2 lbs. bromine.
60 lbs. chloroform.
1 box quinine.
1,000 camphor et opii pills.
5 bbls. chloride of lime.
15,500 envelopes.
15 reams letter paper.
1,116 lead pencils.
157 dozen pen holders.
14 gross pens.
108 bottles ink.
3 boxes assorted stationery.
420 palm fans.
29 bales hay.
12 bales straw.
400 bushels oats, for teams.
1 fire proof safe.
40 camp stools.
Large lot assorted lumber.
2 kegs nails,
10 lbs. spikes.
24 shovels.
6 axes.
12 hatchets.
2 saws.
12 hammers.
112 brooms.
24 bbls. bandages.
6 bbls. old linen.
2 bbls. home-made lint.
50 lbs. patent lint.
2 lbs silk ligature.
196 bottles cologne.
Camphor.
11 boxes reading matter.
Large bundles newspapers.
714 arm slings.
1,400 pair crutches.
67 canes.
224 lbs. soap.
14 tents.
727 lbs. candles.
140 pads.
2 bales sponges.
2 boxes sponges.
25 lbs sponges.
144 gross matches.
111 brooms,
100 hospital lamps.
7 large camp chests, with full assortment of everything in, for field use on the instant.
Extra harness, saddles, bridles, flags, razors, shaving brushes, marking pots, etc., etc.

HOMES AND LODGES.

CAIRO.

During the nine weeks ending June 1, the number admitted was 17,469, from 23 different states; of meals furnished, 38,892; of lodgings, 13,062; 1831 were aided in procuring transportation.

NASHVILLE.

During the five weeks ending June 4, the number admitted was 4611, from 25 different states; of meals furnished, 16,353; of lodgings, 4967; transportation was secured for 3939, and $7527 of pay was collected and paid over.

LOUISVILLE.

The number of meals furnished during the month of May has been 19,790; of lodgings, 6,327.

NEW ALBANY, (IND.)

Number admitted during May, 800; of meals furnished, 1,868; of lodgings, 557.

CAMP NELSON, (KY.)

Number of lodgings furnished during the month, 7,526; of meals, 23,604.

DETROIT.

During the months of March and April there were admitted 1,134; the number of meals furnished was 4,864, and of lodgings, 1,416.

MEMPHIS.

During the five weeks ending June 4, the number admitted has been 1542, from 19 different states; of meals furnished 4289; of lodgings 1296; transportation was procured for 241.

Mr. Christy reports:

The adoption, in March last, of a system of registration additional to the general register of the "Lodge" of the work of special relief at this point, makes it possible to furnish, from time to time, a more extended showing of what has been done in that department than has heretofore been given in my weekly reports. Believing that such a showing may contain some items of interest, I have collected the materials for it from my books, and herewith send them for your perusal.

The period of time embraced is from April 1st to April 30th, inclusive of both dates.

The whole number registered during that period is	1,420
Furloughed	354
Discharged	32
Recruiting Service	97
Convalescents	292
Recruits	218
Guards	222
Detached Service	73

From States, as follows:

Illinois, 455; Iowa, 184; Ohio, 146; Missouri, 75; Indiana, 97; Michigan, 75; Minnesota, 69; Wisconsin, 64; Kentucky, 39; New York, 38; New Jersey, 32; Pennsylvania, 13; Mississippi Marine Brigade, 11; Kansas, 10; Tennessee, 7; Massachusetts, 5; Veteran Reserve Corps, 3; Regular Army, 2; Nebraska, 2; New Hampshire, 1; Maine, 1; Connecticut, 1; Louisiana, (A. D.,) 1.

Of these, forty-one were sick, ten crippled in various ways, one sick and crippled, and two wounded.

Number of lodgings furnished	1,324
Number of meals furnished	4,802

Besides furnishing lodgings and meals as above, we have given additional relief to one hundred and fifty-six out of the one thousand four hundred and ninety-two men, as follows:

Furnished transportation at Government rates, through Quartermaster	127
Transportation paid by Commission	2
Carriage within the city to	24
Clothing to	6
Aid in correcting papers	9
Aid in drawing pay	13
Amount drawn and paid over	$2,632.77
Medical advice furnished to	3
Money given to	5
Sent to hospital	13
Referred to local relief associations	6

Rations furnished to seventeen enlisted men on leaving, who could not draw them from the Commissary.

You will have noticed that the work of the Lodge has been gradually diminishing for three months. I had supposed that this decrease would continue. Movements of troops along the Mississippi, and in the adjacent section, warranted this expectation, I think. But the failure of both the Red River expeditions—that under General Steele and that under General Banks—making necessary another campaign, and the concentration of troops here, will, I think, not only check this decline, but rather increase our work.

* * * * * *

POINT ISABELLA HOSPITAL, KENTUCKY.

Mr. Payson reports:

By the kindness of Captain T. S. Hall, I was furnished with an ambulance, and taking such stores as were thought to be needed, I started for Camp Burnside on the morning of the 16th. On reaching Hall's Gap, I found the post, which had heretofore been somewhat extensive, broken up, and the stores on hand removed to Crab Orchard. On the following day I reached Somerset, where I expected to find a hospital, but was informed that in March last it was given up, and the patients were removed to Point Isabella, which place I reached at 7 P. M. I was most cordially received by Dr. C. W. Leonard, of the 10th Michigan Cavalry, now acting as post surgeon.

As the former supply of stores which have been sent to this post, and which was very liberal, was now entirely exhausted, the men were very grateful for the articles I took them.

From Dr. Leonard I learned that in January last the hospital was established and put under the immediate care of Dr. Harris, of the 7th Rhode Island. He remained in charge till the 19th of March, when Dr. Leonard was ordered to break up the hospital of which he had charge at Somerset and take charge of that at the Point.

From the establishment of the hospital there have been three hundred patients; of these, thirty-four have died. The prevailing diseases have been typhoid and pneumonia.

The site for the hospital was doubtless thought to be as desirable as at that time could be selected. It is on an eminence some three hundred feet above the river. The ground being very uneven, the hospital tents were pitched in a hollow, although raised some three feet from the ground, They are all floored, and at present dry. Two hospital tents embrace a ward, and in each is a large stone fire-place. It is to be feared that when the heavy rains set in, the water will stand under the tents, unless great care is taken to have proper drainage. The location, with the best of care, is not desirable.

I am happy to say that Dr. Leonard is unremitting in his care of his patients. He visits them regularly twice a day, and all special cases three or four times a day. His labors are very arduous, having now neither clerk nor assistant.

The police of the hospital is good. Every man is required to wash twice a week. There is great fear that the hospital will suffer for the want of good wholesome water. They are obliged to haul all they use from a spring half a mile distant, and keep it in barrels. As there can be no ice, it is all important that they should be fur-

nished with dried currants, raspberry vinegar, and lemons, for cooling drinks. In the general, I can say that all is done for the comfort and restoration of the patients that can be, under the circumstances. There has been a great deficiency of medical supplies, which, it is hoped, will be speedily met. As the great majority of the cases are of a low form, the hospital should be provided with a good supply of stimulants.

There is connected with the hospital a post burial ground. It contains about half an acre uninclosed, and has twenty-nine graves. The names and numbers I will endeavor to send you.

At present the hospital has a capacity of ninety-two beds, all of which are occupied. Efforts are being made to erect suitable buildings on an adjoining hill, near a fine cool spring. Should this effort be successful, it will be of great advantage to the health of the men.

Of the patients, fifteen are from Indiana, nine from Illinois, fifteen from the 10th Michigan Cavalry, and fifty-four from Kentucky.

I also visited the 49th Kentucky, the only regiment now at the post. It has only seven in the hospital. At the sick call, they have some twenty five or thirty cases, mostly diarrhea and intermittent. Although the health of this regiment has been uncommonly good heretofore, there can be no doubt, if they continue in their present camping ground through the hot season, that sickness will increase, as there is much of malarial influence.

NOTES ON NURSING.

CHATTERING HOPES AND ADVICES.

No mockery in the world is so hollow as the advice showered upon the sick. It is of no use for the sick to say any thing, for what the adviser wants is, *not* to know the truth about the state of the patient. but to turn whatever the sick may say to the support of his own argument, set forth, it must be repeated, without any inquiry whatever into the patient's real condition. "But it would be impertinent or indecent in me to make such an inquiry," says the adviser. True; and how much more impertinent is it to give your advice when you can know nothing about the truth, and admit you could not inquire into it.

To nurses I say—these are the visitors who do your patient harm. When you hear him told: 1. That he has nothing the matter with him, and that he wants cheering. 2. That he is committing suicide, and that he wants preventing. 3. That he is the tool of somebody who makes use of him for a purpose. 4. That he will listen to nobody, but is obstinately bent upon his own way; and 5. That he ought to be called to a sense of duty, and is flying in the face of Providence; then know that your patient is receiving all the injury that he can receive from a visitor.

How little the real sufferings of illness are known or understood. How little does any one in good health fancy him or even *herself* into the life of a sick person.

Do, you who are about the sick or who visit the sick, try and give them pleasure; remember to tell them what will do so. How often in such visits the sick person has to do the whole conversation, exerting his own imagination and memory, while you would take the visitor, absorbed in his own anxieties, making no effort of memory or imagination, for the sick person. "Oh! my dear, I have so much to think of, I really quite forgot to tell him that; besides, I thought he would know it," says the visitor to another friend. How could "he know it?" Depend upon it, the people who say this are really those who have little "to think of." There are many burthened with business who always manage to keep a pigeon-hole in their minds, full of things to tell the "invalid."

I do not say, don't tell him your anxieties—I believe it is good for him and good for you too; but if you tell him what is anxious, surely you can remember to tell him what is pleasant too.

A sick person does so enjoy hearing good news; for instance, of a love and courtship, while in progress to a good ending. If you tell him only when the marriage takes place, he loses half the pleasure, which God knows he has little enough of; and ten to one but you have told him of some love-making with a bad ending.

A sick person also intensely enjoys hearing of any *material* good, any positive or practical success of the right. He has so much of books and fiction, of principles, and precepts, and theories; do, instead of advising him with advice he has heard at least fifty times before, tell him of one benevolent act which has really succeeded practically, it is like a day's health to him.

You have no idea what the craving of sick, with undiminished power of thinking, but little power of doing, is to hear of good practical action, when they can no longer partake in it.

Do observe these things with the sick. Do remember how their life is to them disappointed and incomplete. You see them lying there with miserable disappointments, from which they can have no escape but death, and you can't remember to tell them of what would give them so much pleasure, or at least an hour's variety.

They don't want you to be lachrymose and whining with them, they like you to be fresh and active and interested, but they cannot bear absence of mind, and they are so tired of the advice and preaching they receive from everybody, no matter whom it is, they see.

There is no better society than babies and sick people for one another. Of course you must manage this so that neither shall suffer from it, which is perfectly possible. If you think the "air of the sick room" bad for the baby, why it is bad for the invalid too, and, therefore, you will of course correct it for both. It freshens up a sick person's whole mental atmosphere to see "the baby." And a very young child, if unspoiled, will generally adapt itself wonderfully to the ways of a sick person, if the time they spend together is not too long.

If you knew how unreasonably sick people

suffer from reasonable causes of distress, you would take more pains about all these things. An infant laid upon the sick bed will do the sick person, thus suffering, more good than all your logic. A piece of good news will do the same. Perhaps you are afraid of "disturbing" him. You say there is no comfort for his present cause of affliction It is perfectly reasonable. The distinction is this, if he is obliged to act, do not "disturb" him with another subject of thought just yet; help him to do what he wants to do; but, if he *has* done this. or if nothing *can* be done, then "disturb" him by all means. You will relieve, more effectually, unreasonable suffering from reasonable causes by telling him "the news," showing him "the baby," or giving him something new to think of or to look at, than by all the logic in the world.

It has been very justly said that the sick are like children in this, that there is no *proportion* in events to them. Now it is your business, as their visitor, to restore this right proportion for them—to show them what the rest of the world is doing. How can they find it out otherwise? You will find them far more open to conviction than children in this. And you will find that their unreasonable intensity of suffering from unkindness, from want of sympathy, &c., will disappear with their freshened interest in the big world's events. But then you must be able to give them real interests, not gossip.

OBSERVATION OF THE SICK.

There is no more silly or universal question scarcely asked than this, "Is he better?" Ask it of the medical attendant, if you please. But of whom else, if you wish for a real answer to your question, would you ask? Certainly not of the casual visitor; certainly not of the nurse, while the nurse's observation is so little exercised as it is now. What you want are facts, not opinions—for who can have any opinion of any value as to whether the patient is better or worse, excepting the constant medical attendant, or the really observing nurse?

The most important practical lesson that can be given to nurses is to teach them what to observe—how to observe—what symptoms indicate improvement—what the reverse—which are of importance—which are of none—which are the evidence of neglect—and of what kind of neglect.

All this is what ought to make part, and an essential part, of the training of every nurse. At present how few there are, either professional or unprofessional, who really know at all whether any sick person they may be with is better or worse.

The vagueness and looseness of the information one receives in answer to that much abused question, "Is he better?" would be ludicrous, if it were not painful. The only sensible answer (in the present state of knowledge about sickness,) would be, "How can I know? I cannot tell how he was when I was not with him."

I can record but a very few specimens of the answers which I have heard made by friends and nurses, and accepted by physicians and surgeons at the very bedside of the patient, who could have contradicted very word, but did not—sometimes from amiability, often from shyness, oftenest from languor!

"How often have the bowels acted, nurse?" "Once, sir." This generally means that the utensil has been emptied once, it having been used perhaps seven or eight times.

"Do you think the patient is much weaker than he was six weeks ago?" "Oh no, sir; you know it is very long since he has been up and dressed, and he can get across the room now." This means that the nurse has not observed that whereas six weeks ago he sat up and occupied himself in bed, he now lies still doing nothing; that, although he can "get across the room," he cannot stand for five seconds.

Another patient who is eating well, recovering steadily, although slowly, from fever, but cannot walk or stand, is represented to the doctor as making no progress at all.

Questions, too, as asked now (but too generally) of or about patients, would obtain no information at all about them, even if the person asked of had every information to give. The question is generally a leading question; and it is singular that people never think what must be the answer to this question before they ask it: for instance, "Has he had a good night?" Now, one patient will think he has a bad night if he has not slept ten hours without waking. Another does not think he has a bad night if he had intervals of dosing occasionally. The same answer has actually been given as regarded two patients—one who had been entirely sleepless for five times twenty-four hours, and died of it, and another who had not slept the sleep of a regular night, without waking. Why cannot the question be asked, How many hours' sleep has ——— had? and at what hours of the night?* "I have never closed my eyes all night," an answer as frequently made when the speaker has had several hours' sleep as when he has had none, would then be less often said. Lies, intentional and unintentional, are much seldomer told in answer to precise than to leading questions. Another frequent error is to inquire whether one cause remains, and not whether the effect which may be produced by a great many different causes, *not* inquired after, remains. As when it is asked, whether there was noise in the street last night; and if there were not, the patient is reported, without more ado, to have had a good night. Patients are completely taken aback by these kinds of leading questions, and give only the exact amount of information asked for, even when they know it to be completely misleading. The shyness of patients is seldom allowed for.

How few there are who, by five or six pointed questions, can elicit the whole case, and get accurately to know and to be able to report *where* the patient is.

I know a very clever physician, of large dispensary and hospital practice, who invariably began his examination of each patient with "Put your finger where you be bad." That man would never waste his time with collecting

* This is important, because on this depends what the remedy will be. If a patient sleeps two or three hours early in the night, and then does not sleep again at all, ten to one it is not a narcotic he wants, but food or stimulus, or perhaps only warmth. If, on the other hand, he is restless and awake all night, and is drowsy in the morning, he probably wants sedatives, either quiet, coolness, or medicine, a lighter diet, or all four. Now the doctor should be told this, or how can he judge what to give?

inaccurate information from nurse or patient. Leading questions always collect inaccurate information.

At a recent celebrated trial, the following leading question was put successively to nine distinguished medical men: "Can you attribute these symptoms to anything else but poison?" And out of the nine, eight answered "No!" without any qualification whatever. It appeared, upon cross-examination:—1. That none of them had ever seen a case of the kind of poisoning supposed. 2. That none of them had ever seen a case of the kind of disease to which the death, if not to poison, was attributable. 3. That none of them were even aware of the main fact of the disease and condition to which the disease was attributable

Surely nothing stronger can be adduced to prove what use leading questions are of, and what they lead to

I had rather not say how many instances I have known, where, owing to this system of leading questions, the patient has died, and the attendants have been actually unaware of the principal feature of the case.

It is useless to go through all the particulars, besides sleep, in which people have a peculiar talent for gleaning inaccurate information. As to food, for instance I often think that most common question, How is your appetite? can only be put because the questioner believes the questioned has really nothing the matter with him, which is very often the case. But where there is, the remark holds good which has been made about sleep. The *same* answer will often be made as regards a patient who cannot take two ounces of solid food per diem, and a patient who does not enjoy five meals a day as much as usual.

Again, the question, How is your appetite? is often put when How is your digestion? is the question meant. No doubt the two things depend on one another. But they are quite different. Many a patient can eat, if you can only "tempt his appetite." The fault lies in your not having got him the thing that he fancies. But many another patient does not care between grapes and turnips—everything is equally distasteful to him. He would try to eat anything which would do him good; but everything "makes him worse." The fault here generally lies in the cooking. It is not his "appetite" which requires "tempting," it is his digestion which requires sparing. And good sick cookery will save the digestion half its work.

There may be four different causes, any one of which will produce the same result, viz, the patient slowly starving to death from want of nutrition:

1. Defect in cooking;
2. Defect in choice of diet;
3. Defect in choice of hours for taking diet;
4. Defect of appetite in patient;

Yet all these are generally comprehended in the one sweeping assertion that the patient has "no appetite."

Surely many lives might be saved by drawing a closer distinction; for the remedies are as diverse as the causes. The remedy for the first is to cook better; for the second, to choose other articles of diet; for the third, to watch for the hours when the patient is in want of food; for the fourth, to show him what he likes, and sometimes unexpectedly. But no one of these remedies will do for any other of the defects not corresponding with it.

I cannot too often repeat that patients are generally either too languid to observe these things, or too shy to speak about them; nor is it well that they should be made to observe them, it fixes their attention upon themselves.

Again, I say, what is the nurse or friend there for except to take note of these things, instead of the patient doing so?

It is commonly supposed that the nurse is there to spare the patient from making physical exertion for himself—I would rather say that she ought to be there to spare him from taking thought for himself. And I am quite sure, that if the patient were spared all thought for himself, and not spared all physical exertion, he would be infinitely the gainer. The reverse is generally the case in the private house. In the hospital it is the relief from all anxiety, afforded by the rules of a well-regulated institution, which has often such a beneficial effect upon the patient.

Again, the question is sometimes put, "Is there diarrhea?" And the answer will be the same, whether it is just merging into cholera, whether it is a trifling degree brought on by some trifling indiscretion, which will cease the moment the cause is removed, or whether there is no diarrhea at all, but simply relaxed bowels.

It is useless to multiply instances of this kind. As long as observation is so little cultivated as it is now, I do believe that it is better for the physician not to see the friends of the patient at all. They will oftener mislead him than not. And as often by making the patient out worse as better than he really is.

In the case of infants, everything must depend upon the accurate observation of the nurse or mother who has to report. And how seldom is this condition of accuracy fulfilled.

A celebrated man, though celebrated only for foolish things, has told us that one of his main objects in the education of his son, was to give him a ready habit of accurate observation, a certainty of perception, and that for this purpose one of his means was a month's course as follows:—He took the boy rapidly past a toy-shop; the father and son then described to each other as many of the objects as they could, which they had seen in passing the windows, noting them down with pencil and paper, and returning afterwards to verify their own accuracy. The boy always succeeded best, *e. g.*, if the father described 30 objects, the boy did 40, and scarcely ever made a mistake.

I have often thought how wise a piece of education this would be for much higher objects; and in our calling of nurses the thing itself is essential. For it may safely be said, not that the habit of ready and correct observation will by itself make us useful nurses, but that without it we shall be useless with all our devotion.

I have known a nurse in charge of a set of wards, who not only carried in her head all the little varieties in the diets which each patient was allowed to fix for himself, but also exactly what each patient had taken during each day. I have known another nurse in charge of one single patient, who took away his meals day after day all but untouched, and never knew it.

If you find it helps you to note down such things on a bit of paper, in pencil, by all means do so. I think it more often lames than strengthens the memory and observation. But if you cannot get the habit of observation one way or the other, you had better give up being a nurse, for it is not your calling, however kind and anxious you may be.

Surely you can learn at least to judge with the eye how much an ounce of solid food is, how much an ounce of liquid. You will find this helps your observation and memory very much, you will then say to yourself, "A. took about an ounce of his meat to-day;" "B. took three times in 24 hours about ¼ pint of beef tea;" instead of saying "B. has taken nothing all day;" or "I gave A. his dinner as usual."

I have known several of our real old-fashioned hospital "sisters," who could, as accurately as a measuring glass, measure out all their patients' wine and medicine by the eye, and never be wrong. I do not recommend this, one must be very sure of one's self to do it. I only mention it, because if a nurse can by practice measure medicine by the eye, surely she is no nurse who cannot measure by the eye about how much food (in ounce) her patient has taken. In hospitals those who cut up the diets give with sufficient accuracy, to his patient, his 12 ounces or his 6 ounces of meat without weighing. Yet a nurse will often have patients loathing all food and incapable of any will to get well, who just tumble over the contents of the plate or dip the spoon in the cup to deceive the nurse, and she will take it away without ever seeing that there is just the same quantity of food as when she brought it, and she will tell the doctor, too, that the patient has eaten all his diets as usual, when all she ought to have meant is that she has taken away his diets as usual.

Now what kind of a nurse is this?

I would call attention to something else, in which nurses frequently fail in observation. There is a well-marked distinction between the excitable and what I will call the accumulative temperament in patients. One will blaze up at once, under any shock or anxiety, and sleep very comfortably after it; another will seem quite calm and even torpid, under the same shock, and people say, "He hardly felt it at all," yet you will find him some time after slowly sinking. The same remark applies to the action of narcotics, of aperients, which, in the one, take effect directly, in the other not perhaps for twenty-four hours. A journey, a visit, an unwonted exertion, will affect the one immediately, but he recovers after it; the other bears it very well at the time, apparently, and dies or is prostrated for life by it. People often say how difficult the excitable temperament is to manage. I say how difficult is the accumulative temperament. With the first you have an out-break which you could anticipate, and it is all over. With the second you never know where you are—you never know when the consequences are over. And it requires your closest observation to know what are the consequences of what—for the consequent by no means follows immediately upon the antecedent—and coarse observation is utterly at fault.—*Miss Nightingale.*

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F. L. Olmsted, California.
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W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
A. E. Shiras, U. S. A.
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For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

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☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

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The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

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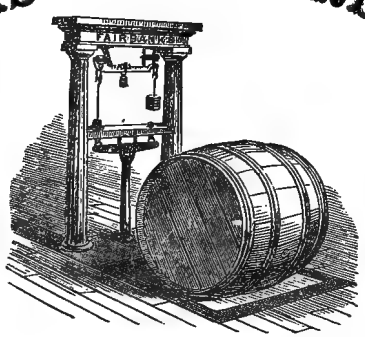
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Scrip Dividend to Dealers, on Earned Premiums	15 per cent.
Dividend for the Year to Stockholders	26 per cent.

LOSSES PAID IN GOLD upon Risks on which the Premium is paid in like Currency.

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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. NEW YORK, JULY 15, 1864. No. 18.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall Street, or No.* 823 *Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

TWO MONTH'S WORK IN VIRGINIA.

Statement of Disbursements during the months of May and June, 1864, for the National Forces in Virginia.

	MAY.	JUNE.	TOTAL.
SUPPLIES—Amount paid for Purchases	$130,105.60	$195,702.05	$325,807.65
DISTRIBUTION—Expenses of, including subsistence, transportation and compensation of over two hundred Relief Agents, forage for horses, materials necessary for the work of Agents	17,150.17	7,012.20	24,162.37
HORSES, WAGONS AND HARNESS—Amount paid for	31,755.43	1,332.98	33,088.41
TRANSPORTATION—Chartering of vessels, viz: 9 steamers, 2 barges, 1 schooner, for various periods, coal, loading, &c.	15,133.21	22,204.55	37,337.76
	194,144.41	226,251.78	420,396.19
Estimated value of additional supplies contributed to the Commission, and issued to the Army in Southern Virginia	130,000.00	42,488.37	172,884.37

The entire expenditure in money for the whole work of the Commission, East, South and West, was

In May	$262,898.77
In June	252,275.87
Total for two months	$515,174.64

It should be considered that during a campaign, characterized by the frequency of its change of base, the relative cost of transportation is much increased. The single item of charter of vessels, from the scarcity growing out of claims of Government service, necessarily becomes a very large one.

It may be noticed that the amount of supplies contributed to the Commission in kind, during June, was but about one-third the value of similar contributions in May. Hence the necessity of direct money expenditure from the Treasury.

Owing to the pressing call for anti-scorbutics, the Commission have recently issued very largely of vegetable food, as is shown by the following list of supplies forwarded during the month of June.

207,156 lbs. canned tomatoes, (over 103 tons.)	16,218 galls. saur kraut.
	100 bbls. fresh onions.
15,060 lbs. canned fruit.	70 bbls. potatoes.
574 cans " jellies.	242 bbls. dried apples.
36,273 galls. pickled cucumbers, (about 1,200 bbls.	32 " other dried fruit.
	301 boxes lemons.
13,334 galls. pickled onions.	2,400 boxes portable lemonade.
4,719, " " tomatoes.	
1,106 " curried cabbage.	25 boxes oranges.

This includes the lot distributed on the 3d inst., which reached the men in the trenches in time for their Independence day dinner. During the last fortnight prices of vegetables have been proportionately much larger than hitherto. Three steamers and a barge have already sailed for the army with an aggregate cargo of over 5,000 barrels of vegetables and delicacies.

Every precaution has been taken by the Commission to insure an accurate, comprehensive, and impartial distribution of their precious contributions to the dietary of the army.

Gen. Grant has always highly approved the work, and has given it his aid, ordering additional transportation to enable the Commission trains to go at once to the front, and as near the trenches as possible. The plan of distribution has been to send the wagons either to corps or division commanders, in charge of an adequate number of the relief agents of the Commission. The commander of each respective corps division having detailed an officer from his staff to attend, sends the wagons to the rear of their trenches, and their contents are given to the men, either in the works, or as they return after dark to the camps of the Reserves.

The enthusiasm is always great when it becomes known that such abundant supplies of acid fruits and vegetables are to be distributed in the trenches.

It is difficult for the inexperienced reader to form a sufficiently profound appreciation of the value of this anti-scorbutic food. It should be remembered that the Army of the Potomac, having passed through a campaign of the severest character, having depended mainly for food upon the fighting ration of pork, hard bread and coffee, arrived before Petersburg in a state of great exhaustion. Every consideration of humanity, patriotism and military economy made it the duty of the Commission to give it at once such aid and comfort as their experience and means rendered possible. They knew that the sickness and mortality rates would inevitably increase unless the exhausted bodies of the soldiers could be brought rapidly under the influence of well-selected anti-scorbutics. They, therefore, sent to the army a sufficient quantity and variety to give every man a daily ration of fresh food for at least ten days. The above lists will show the principal articles distributed; the quantities stated do not, however, show the entire issues to date, as all the returns are not yet in. A complete report of this work will be presented in due time to the public, whose almoner the Commission is.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION FROM A FRENCH POINT OF VIEW.

The *Revue des Deux Mondes*, for May 1, has a long and eloquent article on the Sanitary Commission and its work; and though most of its facts are, of course, familiar enough to our readers, the comments of an intelligent French critic upon an organization, which, to anybody with the ordinary French ideas of the relations of the people and the Government, must seem one of the strangest facts of the day—must contain a vast deal that is in the highest degree interesting.

Speaking of that intense individualism to which the Commission owed its origin—the writer says:

"The great problem which political science has to solve in our age, is evidently to reconcile the personal initiative of the citizen with the prerogatives of the entire social body, represented by its Government. * * Nothing but the long habit of liberty, in all countries in the world, will ever suffice to trace accurately the ever-shifting line which separates the domain of the

citizen from that of the State. It is then very important to study, from this point of view, the political customs of those societies whose individual members are distinguished in a high degree by the spirit of individual initiative. The American republic affords above all others the most remarkable examples of the right reserved by individuals of forming coalitions or independent associations, either for the purpose of giving their support to the Government, of turning it aside from a false path, or even of opposing it. A single man rises up, and sets on foot an agitation in favor of a reform or of an amelioration; if his projects are received by a certain number of citizens, they make common cause with him, furnish him with platforms, pulpits, newspapers, and never cease to struggle until either they have accomplished their object, or a sudden change in public opinion has modified their views."

"One of the most remarkable institutions produced by the spontaneous action of the American people, since the commencement of the civil war, is the Sanitary Commission, which, without waiting for any appeal from the Government, was voluntarily established for the purpose of seeing after the health and material interests of the soldiers, the cure of the wounded, and the support of the invalids. Citizens, women, children, without any other warrant than their patriotism, exercise surveillance over the conduct of the State, in that very one of its functions which it usually most jealously guards against intrusion—the organization of the national forces. Without fearing the relaxation of military discipline, they have their civilian agents, their doctors, their inspectors in the midst of all the armies. They plant their volunteer organization in the camp in which the inflexible will of a general, sending his soldiers to victory or death, reigns as the supreme law. One sees, then, that the work of the Sanitary Commission is interesting, not simply as a work of patriotic charity; it deserves also to be studied with attention as one of the most curious results of individual intiative."

Of the share of the women in originating and carrying on the work of the Commission—the writer says:

"The honor of having given the first impulse to this national work, belongs to the American women. The war had hardly begun when ladies' societies were formed in all parts of the Union, to aid the soldiers who responded to the President's call. Confused, naturally enough, by the rising tumult of the revolution, the female relatives and friends of the volunteers did not very well know how to act. They work somewhat at random, without any systematic combination of their efforts. * * *

In a few days after the fall of Fort Sumter, before the civil war, which was destined to prove so sanguinary, had cost a single life, the American women were on foot in all parts of the Union, proving the sincerity of their patriotism by the abundance of their gifts. Most of the politicians at the North affected to see in the rebellion, but an unimportant rising. Mr. Seward himself looked for its repression in ninety days; but the women, as if warned by a prophetic instinct, were preparing patiently for long years of struggle, of suffering, and of anguish.

* * * The accredited agents of the Commission with each corps are bound to make no distinction between soldiers from Massachusetts and those from Illinois; between Native Americans and emigrants from the old world, between whites and blacks; on the battle-field they have to refuse to see in the wounded they pick up and nurse, either unionists or rebels. Of all the nurses provided by the Commission, those who best understand the mission of universal charity, on which they are sent, the most devoted, the most conscientious, the most beloved by the sick, are certainly the women. Many of them, following the example given during the Crimean war by the excellent Miss Nightingale, have bid adieu to all attractions of happy homes, and of refined and elegant life, to consecrate themselves to the service of military hospitals and ambulances. They prove by their acts that it is not only anxiety about their own salvation that can enable one to breathe without repugnance the tainted atmosphere of an hospital. An ardent love of country, and a profound sentiment of the fraternity of the human race, are a that are needed to make their devo

easy; modest heroines of tenderness and of grace, they fulfill their mission with a joyous enthusiasm and simplicity which charms all hearts. When the war shall have ceased to desolate the United States, thousands of soldiers of the two hostile armies, will remember with emotion the care these women have bestowed on them."

The article then enters at some length into an account of the organization of the Commission, and its manner of working, and gives a number of details of the results it has accomplished, and then makes the following remarks apon its peculiarly American character:

"One sees that the Sanitary Commission is a peculiarly American institution. There is no doubt the chiefs of the various European armies would not tolerate at any price the formation of a free society of hospitallers, charging itself with the duty, not only of taking care of the sick and wounded, but of making army censuses; obtaining transportation for the soldiers; pursuing deserters;* examining the cause of punishments inflicted, and defending the interests of the troops, not only against speculators, but even in case of need, against the Government itself. In England, not less than on the Continent, any association of individuals putting forward any such pretensions, would certainly be accused of madness or wickedness. So true it is, that American manners owe their peculiarities rather to the long enjoyment of free institutions than to the Anglo Saxon origin of the people. After that terrible Crimean winter, during which the English troops lost one-half of their effective force, the British Government decided, it is true, to appoint a Sanitary Commission, in order to save the remains of its army, which threatened to melt away entirely; but that Commission had to confine itself to the reorganization of the medical department, and the recommendation of hygeinic precautions. The European work which most resembles that of the American patriots, is that of the international association of nurses, established at Geneva, by M. Henri Dunant. Under certain aspects, the enterprise set on foot by this noble-hearted man is, perhaps, greater and more humane than that of the American Sanitary Commission, for it rises above the narrow considerations of local patriotism, and hoists the flag of universal charity over all armies engaged in mutual slaughter; but does not this International Association of Relief, by the very extent of the plan which it traces out for itself, condemn itself to be misunderstood? It has had official encouragements, approvals, more or less vague, from various crowned heads, in abundance, but unfortunately it has not yet received the all-powerful support of popular enthusiasm."

* This is of course an error of the writer; the Commission charges itself with no such duty.—[Eds.]

SCENES AND INCIDENTS.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *June*, 1864.

Two men are before me. One of a nervous, irritable temperament, with a slight wound. His wife and family will be troubled, his life is in danger, he must go home, he must have somebody to wait on him, he is fretful. It is his first hospital experience; his first sickness from home. He will fall into line in a day or two, and be more cheerful. The example of brave men about him will arouse his better nature, and he will overcome his irritation.

Another is a veteran. Has seen battles, fought in them, been in hospitals before. He has both legs amputated above the knees. Look at him. He is sitting up in his blanket, with a basin of water at his side and a sponge in each hand, pressing the water in little drops from the sponge on his stumps, to soften the dressings and have them ready for the surgeon to remove. He turns upon his axis from side to side, wets his sponges, laughs at his stumps, calls them "bully," and only wishes that he had two good wooden ones, that he might be "on to Richmond."

A YOUNG IRISH SOLDIER FROM PENNSYLVANIA.

Says one of the Relief Agents: "As I sat in my room after the labors at the hospital, there was a modest rap at the door. I opened, and an Irish boy leaned against the post supporting one arm with the opposite hand. His only clothing, pants and shirt, were dusty and worn. He had neither hat nor shoes, and had walked eleven miles from the field. The sweat of battle was still on his brow; a ball from the foe had penetrated his shoulder, and the pain of the wound was severe. In a tremulous voice he said, "Please, sir, can I get something to eat?" Hungry and his rations gone, he was taken in and fed. His wardrobe tattered and lost, he was clothed and comforted. Wounded and suffering, he was

bound up and restored. The good that was done to the boy was something; the good to me went as deep as my heart. The good in this work is imparted, but there is more of it received. 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

A LAD FROM MAINE.

He was just fifteen. Two of his brothers had fallen in battle; one was still left, unless he too had fallen recently. This boy was wounded in the hand, the left ear, and through the left thigh; the ball had broken the bone and cut the femoral artery. The boy was a lovely one, of delicate frame, fair hair, sweet soft voice, and innocent expression. One evening he had a severe hemorrhage, and the surgeon determined to amputate. He beckoned to me, and said, "They are going to take off my leg; stand by me all the time; pray for me too." Chloroform was administered, and the surgeons gathered around. Upon renewing the examination, it was determined not to amputate, as there was no chance for his life. The influence of the chloroform passed away, and his first inquiry was, "Is it off yet?" He found it was not, learned the reason, and looking solemnly in my face and raising his hand, said: "Will you pray for me, pray for me, and when I am dead do not bury me in a blanket. Put me in a box, as my mother would do. Let it be done right." In a few hours he was sleeping in the arms of death. His resting-place is with his comrades. His country has had the baptism of his young blood, and to the cause of human freedom he has sacrificed his life.

THE UNKNOWN.

While upon the wharf recently at Fortress Monroe, a gentleman came to me and asked if it would be possible for him to examine the records of the medical department, that he might possibly find the name of a relative, who had not been heard of since the peninsular campaign of 1862. He was directed to the proper office, searched and found the name of the young man as having been in an hospital, &c., but the time and place of his burial he could not discover. In the wanderings and searchings of this gentleman among the graves of soldiers in different places on the peninsular he was unable to find any trace of the resting place of his relative. He saw, however, here and there written on the little head-boards "unknown;" and conscious that he for whom he sought was among them, he gave up the search as hopeless. Conversing together on the sad feelings which have beclouded many a home since the war began, and participating himself to some extent in the same afflictive dispensation, he wrote the following lines, and presented them to me.

THE UNKNOWN.

Unknown! and this sad word records the fame
Of one whose breast received the foeman's steel
On his unconscious form; no mark, no name,
Told of the dear one's home, who still shall kneel
And supplicate for him a father's throne;
He died in stranger arms—he died *unknown.*

Unknown to *her* his death, and she will try
With breaking heart to solve the mystery.
"Absent 'thout leave," will be the curt reply,
And darker still the inference may lie
All near his name. One I am proud to own
Has this record, for he too died *unknown.*

Unknown defenders of our country's life
We bare our heads, and to thee bend the knee;
Our faith looks up, beyond this fearful strife,
Into the realms of blest eternity,
Where through the merits of our Christ alone
Blood-washed are ye, who here have died *unknown.*

KINDNESS.

While examining a fearful wound in a young soldier in one of the hospitals the other day, I was astonished at the rapid progress towards recovery, as well as at the patient's unusually vigorous condition, considering the nature of the wound—a compound fracture in the upper third of the right thigh. The following statement which he gave me accounts for this man's good fortune: He was wounded while in the skirmish line the 3d of June, at Coal Harbor, Va. His comrades had him carefully conveyed to the rear, and as soon as permission could be obtained after the battle, eight of those comrades undertook the task of transporting him on a litter, borne upon their own shoulders, from Coal Harbor to Whitehouse, 22 miles by the road they traveled. Carefully they kept step as they went onward to the new base for the transports, and when they reached the hospital boat in the Pamunkey River the field litter and its precious burden were deposited without having been jostled or the wounded parts injured. The physicians promised that the noble object of this tender care should be transported to the hospital wharf at Washington, and from thence to some general hospital, without being disturbed from the carefully prepared bed upon which he had been brought from the battle-field. The pledge has been fulfilled, and if those affectionate comrades live to reach Jefferson County, N. Y., again, there is reason to believe they will find there the noble man who was borne upon their shoulders from Coal Harbor to the White House. H.

A SOLDIER'S SUBSCRIPTION.

One little incident should be mentioned here which happened recently. A soldier handed us $2 to be presented as a donation to the Commission. *Reason,* he had been taken good care of in a hospital by one or more of the agents there. Furthermore, he gives $2 every month, and intends to do so. The suffering soldier will ever be the best witness as to *who* helps him most.

The thin shirts and drawers issued in such large quantities for a few days past, are just the thing. It is really refreshing to see the wounded men in the tents and all those who are able to hobble about, sporting thin white clothing, in place of those cruel, hot, dirty flannels.

ANTI-SCORBUTICS.

Our readers may be pleased to see the following extracts from the Commission's Journal, kept at City Point, together with a few testimonial letters, indicating what we are doing in supplying the army with anti-scorbutic food.

On the 6th Dr. Douglas sent from City Point to the front 1,150 bbls. of vegetables, and 8,000 heads of cabbages, not less than one-half of which constituted the Commission's part of the cargo of the "Belvidere," sent from New York by the Onion Fund Committee, under the direction of G. W. Blunt and Captain Charles G. Marshall.

As we write (July 8th) three Commission steamers are loading with vegetables, and will leave to-morrow.

CITY POINT, VA., *June* 28, 1864.

Capt. Harris' teams are loading up to-day for the Point, with large quantities of saur kraut, curry, pickles and dried apples; there has been, perhaps, one loaded with an assortment. There are 16 or 17 wagons.

The troops in the vicinity and the army in front too are beginning to smell out our stores of anti-scorbutics. Ten barrels of saur kraut were issued at the end of our gang plank yesterday, in small quantities. It seems to please the soldiers like a thanksgiving dinner. Hard tack and salt pork and beef will not satisfy the stomach for month after month, much less palate; these articles are here at the right time.

—

June 29, 1864.

Two wagon loads of fresh vegetables went to the front this P. M.; cabbages, radishes, beans, peas, &c., to the 9th Army Corps, 20 barrels.

The Commission is now doing splendid work in the front; it may now pour in a stream of its supplies into the very trenches in front. Those who come in say that fresh and pickled vegetables are what are most needed among our famishing men.

7 o'clock, P. M. Wagons are still loading up with saur kraut, fresh vegetables, ale, &c. The bees in the hive are hard at work, but we need more.

—

July 1*st*, 1864.

The following order was issued by Major Gen. Hancock, a copy of which was received here to-day:

HEAD-QUARTERS, 2d ARMY CORPS, *July* 1, 1864.

Special Orders, No. 170.

EXTRACT.

The Sanitary Commission having turned over for the use of the troops of this Corps

140 boxes tomatoes, (about 4,000 lbs.,)
19 boxes lemons,
5 bbls. pickled onions,
320 lbs. chewing tobacco,

they will be distributed, under the direction of the Chief Commissary of the Corps, only to the men of the different divisions and artillery now occupying the line of works.

By order of Major-Gen. Hancock,

W. P. WILSON,
A. Ass't Adj't Gen'l.

Dr. Smith delivered the above goods directly to Gen. Hancock, who expressed himself as greatly gratified, and immediately issued the above order.

—

July 2, 1864.

Messrs. Judd and Smith returned this A. M. Mr. Judd reports that he delivered his five loads in person, taking regiment by regiment. He went along the trenches of the 18th Corps, settled his business with each commander of a regiment, met with a cordial reception by the rank and file, and had the satisfaction to know that his goods were in a way to reach 19,000 men.

His mission was entirely successful. He was some of the time under fire, and much exposed to danger.

Early in the evening an examination was made to see how much of the anti-scorbutic stock could be made out for the army. It was found that there was at hand, provided transportation could be obtained,

400 barrels pickles,
125 " pickled onions,
98 " fresh onions,
60 " potatoes,
75 " dried apples.

758 total barrels,
and 90 boxes lemons.

Dr. Douglas and Dr. McDonald have just returned from a visit to Gen. Grant. The General will furnish transportation to-morrow morning, and proceed with this stock immediately to the trenches. It will take, if carried 6 bbls. to a load, with lemons scattered through, about 125 teams.

—

July 3, 1864.

Mr. De Long reports that five Sanitary Commission wagons were loaded.

72 boxes	tomatoes,
24 "	chicken,
228 lbs.	chocolate,
72 cans	peaches,
156 "	pears,
12 boxes	sherry,
6 "	milk,
1 sheep and 100 lbs.	ice.

Also, 1 wagon for 9th Army Corps, and five for the different Relief Agents, making a total of eleven wagons.

One ought to see the boys who came up from the front out of the trenches "pitch into" the acids, such as saur kraut and pickles. It reminds one of Dr. Kane's party in the arctic regions, who having been a long time without food, "gobbled up" raw seal and walrus, even while the life-currents were yet flowing. The boys are *frantic* for acids.

The following are the stores ordered by Lieut.-Col. R. M. Morgan, Chief Commissary:

400 barrels	pickled cucumbers,
122 "	pickled onions,
94 "	fresh onions,
54 "	potatoes,
73 "	dried apples,
743 barrels.	
89 boxes	lemons.

The above are equivalent to about 120 wagon loads. Eighteen of the Commission men will go with them to the trenches this P. M., and be assigned in squads to the respective corps to aid the Government in the distribution, and to act as a corps of observation.

—

City Point, *July* 3, 1864.

Mr. Knapp:

Dear Sir—We sent to the army day before yesterday about twenty-five tons of supplies. Among them were 11,000 lbs. of tomatoes and 800 lbs. of tobacco.

We send to-day 800 bbls. and boxes of vegetables, pickled and fresh. They are distributed through the Commissaries of Divisions, as being the most expeditious and sure way of doing the work. General Grant finds us the transportation. The articles are now being loaded on the cars. They will be delivered at the farther end of the railway to Division Commissaries. We expect that they will be in the possession of the soldiers to-morrow morning. Every corps in all its appointments will be reached speedily in this army.

Yours, truly,
(Signed,) J. H. Douglas.

—

Extract from a letter dated near Petersburg, June 29, 1864:

Dr. Douglas:

Dear Sir.—Twelve barrels each of kraut and dried apples were turned over to me last evening for the 9th Army Corps. I saw Generals Burnside and Parks, also the chief of the Commissary Department, Col. Coles, who will with myself see that it is sent to the *trenches* this day.

General Burnside called on me night before last. I was not at home, but I was told that he expressed himself as more than satisfied with the labors of the Commission in ameliorating the condition of his command.

Other Generals have told me within two days that the donations of apples, pickles, ale, &c., to the men in the trenches, *have made a perceptible improvement in their condition;* and General Hurteaudft, of the 3d Division, pointed to a man who he believed had been saved to the service by the timely aid.

Now with this evidence and kindly feeling manifested, I am stimulated to exertion for those in front, to prevent sickness by some addition to the present "rations," in the form of acid fruits and pickles, and very, very much will have been done. Dried apples, pickled onions, canned tomatoes and kraut, in the order named, I believe the best.

Most respectfully yours,
N. C. Stevens.

—

June 30, 1864.

Dr. Douglas:

Dear Sir.—I went to headquarters last

evening, and the *officers declined* using any of the vegetables, saying that the men in the trenches needed them more than they do, and that they did not have the resources they had. They say, take care of the men in the trenches. Indications of scurvy are beginning to be developed, which will be counteracted by prompt aid from anti-scorbutics. In conference with three of the Medical Directors of the Corps, it was thought that canned tomatoes were the most convenient form of vegetables that could be used, as they need no cooking, and one box of 2 lbs. will give a mess to six persons. Next pickles, kraut and vegetables. Vegetables are so perishable, that if not used while fresh, they are not worth much. Send anything your wisdom may suggest. I assure you it will be most heartily appreciated by officers and men.

Yours, in haste,

N. C. STEVENS.

Copy of a letter from Major-General Smith:

HEADQUARTERS 18TH ARMY CORPS,
IN THE FIELD, NEAR PETERSBURG,
July 1, 1864.

To Dr. J. H. DOUGLAS,
Associate Sec'y Sanitary Com'n:

DEAR SIR—The supplies kindly forwarded by you from the Sanitary Commission have been received at these headquarters, and will at once be distributed as requested.

The Major-General commanding the Corps desires me to express to you his appreciation of this donation to his command by the Commission you represent, and to say that there perhaps has never been a time when they could be of greater benefit, or that their want has been more felt by the troops.

He also desires me to express to you, and through you to the Commission you represent, his thanks for the interest they have ever shown for the welfare and well-being of the troops in the field, and his appreciation of the work in which they are engaged and the labors they have performed.

I am, dear sir, yours very truly, &c.,

WM. RUSSELL, JR.,
Major and Ass't Adj't Gen'l.

HEADQUARTERS, 3D DIV., 6TH A. C.,
June 27, 1864.

SURGEON R. BARR,
Surgeon in Chief 3d Div., 6th Corps:

SIR—Please present my best thanks to Dr. Steiner, Chief Inspector Sanitary Commission, and Mr. Blazier, agent for the 6th Corps, for the very acceptable and liberal donation of two wagon loads of anti-scorbutics to this Division; and while I am grateful on the score of health, the men feel this tangible proof of the benefits of the Commission.

Very respectfully,

JAMES B. RICKETTS,
Brigadier General.

HOSPITAL, 3D DIV., 6TH CORPS,
June 27, 1864.

MR. BLAZIER, *Agent U. S. S. C.:*

I take great pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of the Sanitary Stores furnished recently for the use of the men of this Division. It is the opinion of the Commanding General Ricketts, that great good is done by this one issue of vegetables to the troops under his command. I feel satisfied myself that a judicious and timely supply of *such articles* will go far to restore that healthy condition of system which can only be maintained by such means. If such articles as we have received can be supplied again, while the troops remain quiet, I will see they are brought forward and promptly distributed.

Let me return you my sincere thanks for the great good done, and to say nothing has ever been more welcome to the men, for which they feel truly thankful.

R. BARR,
Surgeon in Chief, 3d Div., 6th Corps.

HEADQUARTERS, BIRNEY'S DIV., 2D CORPS,
July 4, 1864.

DR. DOUGLAS,
U. S. Sanitary Commission:

DEAR SIR—It affords me pleasure to acknowledge the extensive benefit derived to the sick and wounded of the 3d Division, 2d Corps, since crossing the James River. Whilst the Medical Department of the army has furnished us promptly and in abundance all needful surgical and medical supplies, with many extras, in fact to the full amount of transportation allowed to our department, the timely addition of such supplies as we have received from the Sanitary Commission, into which all local, "State Relief," or other divided effort should be merged, has added vastly to the comfort and welfare of the soldiers who

have passed from the front through the hospitals to the rear. That a whole people should organize themselves into a grand voluntary benevolent society, as our people have done through the Sanitary Commission, is no less a wonder to the world than the other events of transpired history.

From my own observation of the superior working of the Sanitary Commission, owing to its organization and superior facilities, I have only to regret that all the supplies of materials donated by the people for the army are not distributed through your agency.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
ALPHEUS EVERTS,
Surg. 20th Ind. V. V., and Chief of 3d Div., 2d Corps.

As we go to press we receive the following letters from Maj. Gen. Burnside and the Surgeons and Chaplains of 9th Army Corps; also, one from Dr. Douglas to Lieut. Gen. Grant, accompanying transmission of vegetables shipped on the "Belvidere," from New York.

HEAD-QUARTERS, 9TH A. C.,
CAMP BEFORE PETERSBURG. VA.,
July 1st, 1864.

SIR—It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge herewith the receipt of an issue of vegetables for my command, contributed by the Sanitary Commission.

My command is already indebted to you for several issues of vegetables and anti-scorbutics, and I cannot let this opportunity pass without expressing my sincere thanks and appreciation of the value of the services which your Commission has so generously rendered.

I am sir, very respectfully,
A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major General.

FIELD HOSPITAL, 9TH ARMY CORPS,
NEAR PETERSBURG, VA.,
July 2d, 1864.

DR. J. H. DOUGLAS,
Associate Secretary U. S. Sanitary Commission:

SIR—As Surgeons and Chaplains of the 9th Army Corps, it gives us great pleasure to acknowledge to you and to the many friends of the Sanitary Commission our great indebtedness to this Commission during the present campaign, for the supply of numerous articles so essential to the comfort of the sick and wounded, demonstrating the exceeding value of this charity.

It affords us unqualified pleasure to bear testimony to the energy and faithfulness of your Agent, Dr. N. C. Stevens, in dispensing the stores committed to his trust.

Especially do we commend his judgment in the distribution of large quantities of anti-scorbutics to the men in the trenches, where the utility of such material is established in the prevention of sickness and the regulation of the system, rendering their recovery when wounded, more probable and speedy.

We trust that the Commission will continue its work in this direction, so favorably begun.

Most respectfully yours,

HORACE LUDINGTON, Surg. 100th Pa. Vols., in charge 1st Div., 9th A. C., Field Hospitals.
JOHN W. SNOW, Surgeon 35th Mass. Vols.
J. O. MULLEN, Surgeon 14th N. Y. Artillery.
A. H. DASHIELL, Chaplain 57th Mass. Inf.
T. FLETCHER OAKES, Surg. 56th Mass., Ass. Surg. Hosp. 1st Div., 9th A. C.
W. V. WHITE, Surgeon 57th Mass.
E. W. MORTONI, Asst. Surg. 59th Reg. Me. Vols.
HORACE B. DURANT, Asst. Surg. 100th Reg. Penn. V.
WILLIAM A. WEBSTER, Surg. 9th Reg. N. H. Vol.
THEO. J. CHRIST, Surg. 45th Reg. Penn. Vol.
J. D. MILWAL, Surg. 31st Reg. Me. Vol.
SHERMAN COOPER, Surg. 6th Reg. N. H. Vol.
ROBERT T. PAINE, JR., Surgeon 2d Reg. N. Y. M.
E. B. PIERCE, Asst. Surgeon 17th Reg. Vt. Vol.
H. M. G. MILLSEN, Asst. Surg.
E. G. MESSENGER, Asst. Surgeon Penn. Vol.
CLARK C. HAFTON, Surgeon 32d Reg. Me. Vol.
H. S. B. SMITH, Asst. Surgeon 32d Reg. Me. Vol.
J. S. DOWE, Chaplain 6th Reg. N. H. Vet Vol.
E. Z. DYFORD, Chaplain 11th Reg. N. H. Vol.
GEO. C. GRACEFOR, Chaplain 31st Reg. Me. Vol.
WM. A. START, Chaplain 58th Reg. Mass. Vol.
WM. R. D. BLACKWOOD, Surgeon 48th Reg. Penn. V.
L. B. BECKLEY, Chaplain 48th Reg. Penn. Vol.
L. W. BLISS, Surgeon 51st Reg. N. Y. Vol.
E. J. BONINE, Surgeon 2d Reg. Mich. Vet. Vol.
S. S. FRENCH, Surg. 2d Brig., 3d Div., 9th A. C.
WILLS B. FOX, Surg. 1st Brig., 3d Div., 9th A. C.
H. E. SMITH, Surgeon 27th Reg. Mich. Vol.
D. E. ROUNDY, Surgeon 37th Reg. Wis. Vol.
W. E. SHURLOCK, Surgeon 51st Reg. Penn. Vet. V.
A. F. WHELAN, Surgeon 1st Reg. Mich. Sharp Sh.
CHARLES E. AMES, Surgeon 60th Reg. Ohio Vol.
HARRISON H. POWERS, Asst. Surg. 27th Reg. Mich. V.
H. L. BUTTERFIELD, Surgeon 38th Reg. Wis. Vol.
L. L. DOOLITTLE, Surgeon 24th Reg. N. Y. Cav.
JOSEPH JAMES, Chaplain 20th Reg. Mich. Vol.
S. S. HUNTING, Chaplain 27th Reg. Mich. Vol.
J. D. BEVINE, Surgeon 17th Reg. Mich. Vol.

CITY POINT, VA., July 6, 1864.

GENERAL:

I have just received from New York an invoice of fresh vegetables, consisting of

four hundred and twenty (420) barrels of potatoes, and three hundred and fifty-four (354) barrels of onions, which the Sanitary Commission desire to have distributed among the men in the armies operating before Richmond.

I have the honor of forwarding to you the accompanying letter from Mr. Blunt and Mr. Marshall, of New York, which has been placed in my hands, together with an invoice of vegetables sent on the steamer Belvidere, with those coming from the Sanitary Commission.

I respectfully request that these vegetables, in all 1153 barrels and 7000 heads of cabbages, may be distributed among the men in these armies.

The people at home send them to their brothers in the army, as an expression of their profound admiration and unbounded confidence.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
J. H. Douglas, M. D.

Gen. Grant ordered Col Morgan, of his staff, to take charge of the goods.

They were immediately loaded on the cars for the front. The condition of the vegetables seemed to be good.

PRE-PAY YOUR LETTERS.

We wish to call special attention to the necessity of *pre-paying the full amount* of postage on letters intended for soldiers. As will be seen by the accompanying communication from Mr. Kelly, and the circular he has issued, no letters can be allowed to go to officers or soldiers in the field, unless the entire postage is paid. No matter how valuable they may be, the postmaster has no discretionary power. The law in this respect is absolute. The entire postage must be paid before letters are suffered to leave the nearest post-office for the front. More than this, if a fraction only of the amount due on a letter is pre-paid, double the remaining fraction must be paid when the letter is taken from the office. If the wife of a soldier, thinking her letter to her husband in the field with Sherman, is of single weight, happens to drop it into the office with only a single three cent stamp upon it, and it should be a grain heavier than half an ounce, the letter must lie in the office at Chattanooga until, not three, but six cents additional are paid for postage due on it. It is not carried to the soldier in the regimental post-bag, and the opportunity given him of paying the amount due on seeing it, but he must be notified of the letter by the postmaster at Chattanooga, must answer the notification with the requisite postage, and then be obliged to wait days, and perhaps weeks, in his various movements before the letter can overtake him. Meanwhile, what anxiety and disappointment may have been endured by the wife and family at home, because of this carelessness or ignorance!

There certainly can be no excuse for the failure of officers to pre-pay postage on letters to soldiers. It must come from gross carelessness and indifference. No one knows how many waiting and suffering men in hospitals and at home are longing for "descriptive rolls" and "discharge papers," which are lying with "postage due" marked upon them in some distant office. With so much good and so much evil necessarily dependent upon so small a matter as an additional postage stamp or two, those writing to soldiers cannot be too careful to *pre-pay the full amount* of all their letters.

The number of unpaid letters accumulated at Nashville and Chattanooga a short time ago was very large. The Sanitary Commission has recently undertaken to discharge this debt of so many soldiers to the Government, and it cannot be doubted that the amount of comfort thus promoted, to say nothing of the material gain in really valuable letters, will be proportionate to the hundreds of dollars expended.

Louisville, Ky, *May* 20, 1874.

Dr. J. S. Newberry:

Dear Sir—I am Special Agent of the Post Office Department for the Military Department, and have just returned from a tour of inspection to Chattanooga. I found at Nashville and Chattanooga quite an accumulation of mail for the soldiers under Gen. Sherman, *detained for unpaid postage.*

Under his oath of office, the postmaster has no discretion; he cannot permit unpaid mail to pass from his possession without the money due is first paid. Both offices sent out notices to the front, but for some cause only a small proportion of this mail ever reaches the soldier.

Under these circumstances I determined to appeal to that great charity with which you are connected, to add one other to its many claims upon the gratitude of the army and the people, by paying these unpaid letters.

It is needless for me to tell you what joy, what faith, what courage, you will thus be the means of imparting to many a war-worn soldier, by sending promptly forward the letter from wife or child, which, otherwise, would be left to await the tardy process of notification.

I am, very respectfully yours,
Wm. L. Kelly.

POST OFFICE CIRCULAR.

Surgeons in charge of hospitals, and officers of posts and barracks, having occasion to address official communications to officers and others in the field, will be careful to *pre-pay in full* the postage when intended to be sent by mail.

Failure to do so subjects such matter to double charges, and causes its detention at the post office until the persons addressed shall pay the amount due, and in many cases results in its total failure to reach its destination.

WM. L. KELLY,
Special Agent P. O. Department,
In charge of Mails, Military Division of the Miss.
NASHVILLE, TENN., *May* 31, 1864.

—*Sanitary Reporter.*

THE SANITARY GARDENS AT CHATTANOOGA.

None but those who have visited the South and have followed the course of our armies, can realize the desolation which this terrible war, now in progress, has brought upon the land, and especially upon the once fertile valley and pleasant homes of East Tennessee. Wherever the army has swept, a thunderbolt of just revenge, it has left behind it traces of its wrath in desolated, ruined homes—in houses burned to the ground, the two chimneys at either hand left standing like solemn upward pointing fingers, calling to God to look upon the misery that man's evil passions have wrought—in fences torn down, trees uprooted, and in bare stubble-fields where once were rich harvests of grain and cotton.

Chattanooga, situated in the midst of the valley, on the banks of the Tennessee, and surrounded by an amphitheatre of hills, was once noted for its beauty. Shady, carefully kept groves of ancient trees covered the hills and plains, and the houses were surrounded by gardens that bloomed with the most exquisite flowers. The plains around the houses were dotted with fine plantations, where were raised the magnificent crops for which East Tennessee is so justly celebrated. Now the plains are swept literally bare, so that guns on Fort Wood can command the whole valley, from Mission Ridge around to Cameron Hill, and the town itself is reduced to an army post, hot, dusty, and swarming with soldiers. A walk in any direction brings you into a deserted camp, and you stumble over old shoes, ragged torn coats and rusty canteens, telling of where our soldiers lived, before following the universal custom of Yankees on the first of May, they "moved" in search of better quarters at Atlanta. But one thing redeems this sad picture of the havoc that war has made at Chattanooga, and that is the Sanitary Gardens, consisting of a hundred and fifty acres, given by Gen. Thomas to the United States Sanitary Commission, to be cultivated for the benefit of the sick and wounded soldiers. These gardens lie along the banks of the Tennessee, about three quarters of a mile from the town, up the river. The only approach to them is across a narrow bridge over a little creek, and should you attempt to enter, an imperative "halt" from the sentry with leveled bayonet, disagreeably reminds you that passes anywhere and everywhere and for all sorts of reasons, are the most essential things in Dixie. Once through that barrier, you find yourself upon a level plain, with long rows of onions, beets, turnips, parsnips, etc., stretching away from you on either hand—in one corner of the field you notice a detachment of Uncle Sam's "unbleached American" children in their neat blue uniforms, hoeing away for dear life at the potatoes, as they never hoed before at "the cotton and the corn." The hundred and fifty acres do not lie together, but are separated by a creek or arm of the river into different fields, so that Mr. Wills, the head gardener, has been able to separate his crops, taking one entire field for potatoes, another for corn, and still another for onions, etc. The whole garden is now planted. Nearly in the centre of the garden is an Indian mound, so elevated above the plain, that, standing on its top, you can at a glance take in the whole magnificent scenery. At your left lies the blue Tennessee, glittering out from beyond Mission Ridge, and winding through the valley to the base of Lookout, tangling the hills in a silver braid; opposite, on the Ridge, is that fatal cornfield where Sherman fought so long and so well, and the heights our brave men stormed and won, and farther on towards the right stands old Lookout, a great sentinel, visible for miles away. The sides of this beautiful mound are now green with lettuce, radishes, mustard, etc., but when these are gone the mound will be a fragrant bouquet of flowers from foot to summit. In the centre of the level space on the top is a tent with rustic seats around, and the Sanitary Commission propose to give Cleveland the honor of placing a Union flag over the tent, an emblem of the benevolence as well as the patriotism of the loyal North. Near the mound are the tents and accommodations for the workmen and teams. Besides a large force permanently employed, Mr. M. C. Read, of Hudson, the Agent of the Commission, to whom the success of the gardens is chiefly due, has obtained from the Government one company to be stationed there as guards, and also a company from one of the colored regiments to assist in cultivating. He employs from twenty to thirty horses and mules in ploughing and teaming. Every day ambulances from the various hospitals are sent to the gar-

dens, and return laden with the bounties nature so readily yields to a willing, industrious hand. Already hundreds of bushels of lettuce and other greens have been given to the hospitals at Chattanooga and on Lookout, and should the abundant harvests that are now promised grow to a reality, there will be vegetables enough to supply all the hospitals at that point during the coming summer and fall. Early in April, Mr. Read discovered four fine vineyards along the line of the railroad beyond Mission Ridge, and on application to General Thomas, they were confiscated, and placed at his control. The vines are cultivated on short poles, and when I saw them a few weeks ago, the grapes were set in large quantities. How refreshing to our suffering soldiers, who have lain for nearly three months in crowded wards under the burning Southern sun, will be this delicious fruit next fall! For, sad to say, it takes months for a wound to heal, and the patience of a soldier must be even greater than his bravery.

This rambling letter will, I fear, give you a very inadequate idea of the beauty and usefulness of the Sanitary gardens at Chattanooga; but I send it in the hope, that from it your numerous readers will be able to judge, in some measure, of the noble work of the U. S. Sanitary Commission there. The gardens are but a single department of this work, and if I have not wearied you too much with this letter, I hope to have the opportunity of giving you some account of the Commission in connection with the hospitals, and with the battles which have recently taken place at Buzzard's Roost, Resaca, and elsewhere—*Cleveland Herald.*

TESTIMONY OF SURGEON HART.

The Soldier's Aid Society, Northern Ohio, is the Cleaveland Branch of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

GENERAL FIELD HOSPITAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND, RESACA, GA., June 16.

Secretary Soldiers' Aid Society, Cleveland, Ohio.

Surrounded as I am upon every side by the generous gifts of the Sanitary Commission to our wounded soldiers, marked "Soldiers' Aid Society, Northern Ohio," it occurs to me that perhaps no word of encouragement has gone back to you in acknowledgment of the large disbursements of your noble charity at this point, and of the invaluable contributions you have made to the comfort of the wounded.

This hospital is the largest field hospital in the department, and has one hundred hospital tents, with cots and appliances to match, and after the battle of Resaca, a month since, received over three thousand wounded. Under the efficient management of Surgeon M. C. Wadsworth, of Warren, Ohio, the straggling materials from which the organization of nurses and attendants had to be made up, were speedily reduced to complete order and efficiency. Seldom do our wounded receive so careful attendance and nursing immediately after a great battle as have been furnished them at this hospital, and their frequent expressions of satisfaction with the care given them, would go far to dispel dread often felt at home at the word Hospital. As fast as cars could be furnished, the cases admitting of removal were sent back by railroad, as in most instances box cars had to be employed. They were made as clean as possible, and hay plentifully supplied. In hundreds of cases the patient was placed in the car in his cot, and in that manner sent safely and comfortably. In every instance a surgeon accompanied the train to Chattanooga, with nurses, food, stimulants and medicines, while the Sanitary Commission furnished hot coffee and refreshments at Dalton whenever needed.

The sanitary stores here are in charge of Dr. E. C. Warren, Sanitary Inspector, who has also labored as surgeon among the wounded. By far the largest part of the supplies, and especially of the clothing, came marked as the contributions of your society. Without them no effort of the surgeons could have rendered the wounded comfortable. This has been the source of our bountiful supply of milk, which I think one of the first blessings to the wounded, after shelter and a comfortable bed. Most of our extract of beef, which is an indispensible necessity in our circumstances, they have furnished. Also a large amount of dried fruits of all kinds, apples, peaches, pears, blackberries, cherries, &c., and canned fruits in every variety. Then all our choice stimulants—cherry brandy, domestic wines, &c. Some of our patients live for days on little else than the ale received from the Commission. From the Sanitary Garden at Chattannoga we have had supplies of green peas, onions, salad and radishes.

The larger part of our roller bandages, all our cloths for dressings, pads, hundreds of sheets, and drawers, socks, handkerchiefs, pillow-cases, dressing-gowns, these constitute but a part of the wounded soldiers' indebtedness to the Sanitary Commission. I particularly noticed a large invoice of *quilts* from your society, received here just when the fly-blown blankets could not be endured another day, and one of the most timely of all of your favors.

Attending to the wounded in one of the wards under my care one morning I was amused at the comments they made. Their breakfast had been made palatable with "Sanitary milk," and they had just been

furnished with clean shirts, drawers, sheets and handkerchiefs from sanitary supplies. Of this they were talking, and one of them, taking up a bush to keep off the flies, put on a comical, fault-finding look and tone, and exclaimed, "Well, I'm sure those ladies have sent us everything else we want, and I think they might have put in some *fans* to keep us cool this hot weather."

Our army had only time to bury their dead and get the wounded to the hospitals when it was ordered to pursue the enemy. In many instances no opportunity was given for regimental officers or surgeons to make out lists of killed and wounded. The omission was supplied here as soon as possible by E. S. Tone, agent of the Sanitary Commission, who went patiently over the extended line of battle, sought out the resting place of the dead, and made full records of the name and regiments of the fallen. He procured the lists of wounded from the records of the Division Hospitals. The lists thus obtained were, in many instances, the first reliable intelligence received by friends at home.

One word as to the manner in which sanitary stores are expended. Do they go to the objects intended by the donors? Here at least they have been faithfully expended. I shall not pretend that every article and item is applied to the best possible purpose, but if one of those noble women who make you the channel of their gifts to our wounded could attend in person to their distribution, I feel assured she would need to be often checked by the surgeon in the liberality of her disbursements, lest the sight of the destitution all around should lead her to speedily exhaust her stores.

Those whom you represent would feel themselves repaid for their labor and self-denial could they fully know what sufferings are palliated, relieved or prevented through their efforts.

Too high terms cannot be used in speaking of the patient endurance of the wounded. Their fortitude in their sufferings must be seen in order to be appreciated, and when every means we employ fail to bring relief to-day, the surgeon often secures patience and hope to his patient by the balm of to-morrow.

In behalf of three thousand wounded soldiers of our army, Surgeon Woodworth requests through you to thank the donors to the Sanitary Commission for the liberal and opportune supplies, which have enabled us to make them by far more comfortable than they could have been done had we relied exclusively upon the appliances furnished by the Government.

Very truly yours,

A. G. HART,

Surgeon 41st O. V. I.

CAUSES OF MORTALITY IN THE MILITARY HOSPITALS—MEANS OF DIMINISHING IT.

A large share of the Commission's efforts, since the commencement of the present campaign, has been directed to the mitigation of suffering and the saving of life in field and hospital, by timely and intelligent aid to badly wounded men, and especially to those compelled by the cruel necessities of war to be transported, often in rough and clumsy conveyances, with frequent shiftings and changes before reaching their destinations in an Army General Hospital. It is truly the period which elapses between the soldier's fall on the field and his consignment to the hospital, that the real bitterness, the deep agony of war is crowded. The hardships of campaigning are no doubt great, but robust men—and those who pass through the first two months are generally robust—can endure them, and often thrive under them; but where a man is struck down, with the hospital which is finally to shelter him, it may be, a hundred miles away in the rear, soldiering assumes an aspect to him which it never wore before.

The greatest amount of suffering and loss of life falls to the lot of those who have broken bones or wounded joints, especially of the lower limbs, for whom absolute quiet is the most needed remedy, and to whom every jar or motion involves anguish and danger, perhaps of lock-jaw or fatal inflammations. This sad necessity of transporting badly wounded men explains in a great degree the increased mortality of late in the military hospitals at Washington, and the unusual prevalence amongst the wounded of those fatal diseases tetanus and pyæmia, which, with exhaustion from chronic diarrhea, seem to be the most frequent causes of death.

The following extracts from letters from one of the medical members of the Commission, in daily conference with wounded soldiers, and their surgeons in hospitals and *in transitu*, will afford to our readers direct and reliable information as to their wants, and serve as a preface to a statement of the means which the Commission is employing to relieve them.

General Condition of the Wounded.

Washington, *June* 16, 1864.

In all the hospitals there is great attention given to the wounded. The special care which the stumps, compound fractures and severe wounds receive, is usually as complete as could be desired. But in almost every ward are found patients whose vital powers are too low to permit the progress of recuperative processes. This I will mention more particularly under the head of pyæmia, secondary hemorrhage, &c.

Mortality.

The death-rate is very high, and the causes are obvious; many of them are preventible. Pyæmia, and excessive exhaustion [from long fatigue of transportation, from excessive suppuration, etc.,] are chief causes of the excessive mortality. Out of 300 patients among latest arrivals from the Pamunkey, at a single hospital, 14 died within twenty-four hours. There is abundant evidence of inadequate care and subsistence of wounded men during their transportation. Some estimate of the sufferings endured in transportation, at the present time, may be formed from a remark just made to me by Dr. ———, surgeon in charge of ——— Hospital. He says: "On hearing some of these men speak of their sufferings while being transported from the battle-fields, and in their trans-shipment, I confess I can scarcely restrain myself from weeping."

The greatest sufferers are those who have compound fractures of the thigh. The means of support for such fractures are utterly inadequate. Drs. ———,——, and many hospital surgeons, bear testimony to the needless waste of life, and the terrible increase of suffering, in consequence of the want of adequate means for support and care of thigh fractures, and the severe wounds of the leg and knee.

* * * * *

The Classes and Severity of Wounds.

The average grade of the severity of wounds now seen in the Hospitals of the Department of Washington is peculiarly severe. For example—in a hospital that I have visited this evening, there are 1,600 patients; and among them have been seen 107 compound fractures of the femur and 42 severe injuries of the knee-joint. The number of amputated limbs in that hospital is not less than 225.

Conservative surgery has a wide field in such hospitals, and when we note the death-rate, we intuitively judge that the proportion of limbs transported northward from the field, for the benefit of such conservative treatment, is far too large. But this hasty judgment may be erroneous, for the surgeon in charge of the 107 broken femora and the 42 gun-shot knee wounds, says he hopes to save many of these men who have survived five days after arrival; yet he has seen 45 patients die in hospital in a single day—nearly all from the exhaustion of transportation.

The fact respecting these severe wounds of the femur, &c., appears to be that there is an enormous waste of life and an amount of bodily anguish that cannot be described, that we may do much to prevent. I confess that until adequate means to this end are applied, my sleep at night will be disturbed by thoughts upon the subject.

Any successful efforts that may be put forth by surgeons or the Commission to attain the object I now mention, will be to me a cause of greater gratification than the reception of any favors the world can bestow upon myself.

You may judge that every surgeon in charge of the hospitals here urges that something be done quickly and effectively for improvement in the transportation of patients who must be sent northward from the field with such wounds.

Our efforts to supply materials for splints, &c., are not in vain.* The zinc will be at first most used, but the gypsum, and the board splint and litter for lashing both limbs and pelvis will be found more valuable. A large number of stout tin cans (3 galls. each) have been sent forward to-day, filled with calcined gypsum, &c., &c.

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* SUGGESTIONS TO THOSE WHO PREPARE PROVISIONAL SPLINTS.

As the object sought is to afford a suitable support to fractured limbs during transportation, it may be desirable to make the splints longer and stronger than would be necessary for patients in hospital. To add strength to the perforated zinc splint, the strips may be doubled, or a light strip of wood may be applied externally in the direction of the shaft of the bone. The cut edges of the zinc may be pressed back by applying the back of the shears against the margin of the metal when resting upon the angle of a board or table. Angles in the splints may be made by *cuts* or by *V's* in the margins. Fine oakum or old cloths may be used for padding.

The firmness of the Gypsum Splints may readily be increased by increasing the number of thicknesses of the saturated cloth.

THE MODE OF APPLYING THE GYPSUM SPLINTS.

The following plain directions have been suggested by a surgeon who has had ample experience in their use:

"The limb is first shaven or slightly oiled; a piece of old coarse washed muslin is next selected, of a size so that when folded about four thicknesses it is wide enough to envelop more than half of the circumference of the limb. The solution of plaster is then to be prepared. Fine, well dried, white plaster had better be selected, and before using, a small portion should be mixed with water in a spoon and allowed "to set," with a view of ascertaining the length of time requisite for that process. If it is over five minutes, a small quantity of common salt had better be dissolved in the water before adding the plaster. The more salt added, the sooner will the plaster "set." If delay be necessary, the addition of a few drops of carpenter's glue or mucilage will subserve that end. Equal parts of water and plaster are the best

Pyæmia.

This is the greatest source of mortality in the hospitals here. It is found everywhere, and is the greatest source of concern to all intelligent surgeons. * * * In this class of patients the powers of assimilation break down, and unless rallied before the initial chill, all chances of life are lost. For a certain class of such patients the Sanitary Commission must supply a pure brandy, and otherwise aid in providing special diet.

Among the best informed surgeons, the opinion prevails that the only preventive measures that can be successfully adopted against this blood-poisoning, &c., which is termed *pyæmia*, must be such as will fortify the wounded man against morbid changes, and give him vigor and appetite, anti-scorbutic and appetizing diet, in short. And this is demanded *in the field, in ambulances, and on transports*, no less than in the General Hospitals. Let fresh vegetables and fruits, and easily assimilated nourishment be always at hand for the wounded if we would hope to diminish the prevalence of pyæmia.

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proportions. The plaster is sprinkled in the water and gradually mixed with it. The cloth, unfolded, is then immersed in the solution and well saturated; it is then to be quickly folded as before, arranged and laid on a flat surface, such as a board or a table, and smoothed once or twice with the hand in order to remove any irregularities of its surface, and then, with the help of an assistant, applied to the posterior surface of the limb. The portion extending below the heel is turned up on the sole of the foot, and the sides folded over the dorsum and a fold made at the ankle on either side, and a roller bandage applied pretty firmly over all. The limb is then to be held in a proper position, (extension being made if necessary by the surgeon,) until the plaster becomes hard. The time required in preparing the cloth, mixing the plaster, and applying the casing to the limb, need not to take more than fifteen minutes. After the plaster is firm and the bandage removed, we will have a solid plaster of Paris case partially enveloping the limb, leaving a portion of its anterior surface exposed to view. If any swelling occurs, evaporating lotions can be applied to the exposed surface, and we can always easily determine the relation of the fractured ends. If necessary, an interior splint made of the same material, can be applied, and then both bound together with adhesive plaster, and if desirable a roller bandage over all. If the anterior splint is not used, two or three strips of adhesive plaster, one inch wide, or bands of any kind, may be applied around the casing, and will serve to keep it firmly adjusted."

Ordinarily the gypsum and the water are mixed in equal proportions, but they may be varied to suit the manipulator. Very *light* and *porous* splint casts may be made by preparing the plaster paste, as follows:

Gypsum, 75 parts, by weight.
Water, 100 parts, "
Starch, 1½ to 2 parts, "

The starch to be boiled clear, in a small quantity of water. If the "setting" of the plaster is too slow, add a little salt. A small proportion of viscid starch tends to delay the "setting" of the plaster, and it may be used for that purpose instead of glue. After the strips of cloth are cut and all is ready, the application of the materials and the completion of the work need not occupy more than ten minutes. Fenestræ or windows for drainage or for observation may be provided beforehand, by cutting the proper apertures in the strips of cloth before immersing them in the plaster paste.

Secondary Hemorrhage.

The frightful frequency and fatality of this accident is manifestly owing to pathological, or, rather to physiological causes, which the best surgery cannot prevent. It results more from low vitality than from any fault of surgeons. The ligated arteries and the clot-plugs in them, in patients dying of secondary hemorrhage, so far as I have examined, exhibit the evidences of degeneration, and the failure of reparative processes, simply a result of defective vitality and consequent delay of physiological repair in the wounded and ligated blood-vessel.

Whatever we can do to keep up healthy nutrition and the vigor of wounded men before and during their treatment in hospital tends directly to diminish this fearful accident, which by a sudden gush terminates the life of the patient and the fondest hopes of the faithful surgeon.

Low Vitality—Adynæmia.

Many days usually intervene between the reception of the patient from the transports and the beginning of recuperative processes in wounded parts. Secondary amputations of course do very badly in such conditions. In this period of low vitality from exhaustion, tetanus is daily occurring in the hospitals.

Tetanus.

The more I see of tetanus here the more evident it is that its prevention is peculiarly dependent upon the adequacy and faithfulness of supply from the sanitary stores of the Sanitary Commission. Warm clothing, quilts and bedding, with more care of wounded parts, will diminish the frequency of tetanus among the wounded. I see some cases daily. The number of cases rapidly diminishes with the general improvement of the wounds.

A certain per centage of cases of tetanus among such severe wounds may be inevitable, but the cold current of damp air, the exposure of the back, uncovered during transportation and in the ward; the want of sleep and want of digestive power, are among the conditions that the supplies and agencies of the Sanitary Commission most directly reach.*

The regular returns will be made from all the hospitals, and next year it will be ascertained and reported that pyæmia, tetanus, secondary hemorrhage, and fatal

* Under the auspices of the Commission the distinguished physiologist and physician, Dr. C. E. Brown-Séquard, was induced to visit Washington to lecture on tetanus and the effects on the nervous system of severe hemorrhage. The substance of the lecture, which was delivered on the 14th of June to a large body of the medical staff of the army and navy at the Smithsonian Institution, the Commission is about to publish for distribution to medical officers, as one of its series of medical and surgical monographs.

diarrhea were very prevalent, and caused most of the deaths in the hospitals. But inadequate efforts will be made this year to remove, diminish, or anticipate the causes. The latter is a legitimate function of the Sanitary Commission.

* * * * *

In reference to the second point, viz., improvement of the local atmosphere of wards, a barrel of carbolic acid has been received, and turned over to the proper officer for experimental use, in accordance with Prof. Gibbs' suggestion that it promises more than any other disinfecting agent. The result will be definitely noted. The *Phenol Sodique*, which the same person has distributed to the hospitals, is a weak solution of crude carbolic acid, (15 per cent.,) and soda (8 per cent.) Prof. Gibbs' suggestion made two years ago, to use carbolic acid upon the walls of wards, as a paint or wash, is worthy of trial.

The fourth point—means of support for fractured limbs: 30 sheets of perforated zinc (7 feet by 10½ inches,) with shears for cutting and fitting the metal, have been sent to the sanitary depot in front for splints; 3 bbls. of statuary plaster, coarse cotton cloth, etc., 1 ton of oakum; and to-day a quantity of fracture litters, sent after consultation, to Dr. ——— and other active men in the Medical Staff.

The importance of this subject is impressive and clear when studied in connection with recent battle reports of the Medical Bureau.

In 20,930 wounds, 749 were compound fractures of femur; and of this number 480 were transported unamputated.

Again, of the knee there are 242 wounds, and of these 138 were transported unamputated. Of the leg, there were 948 gunshot fractures, of which 650 remained unamputated. There were at the same time, 566 gunshot wounds in the lungs and thorax.

The 1st Division, 6th Corps, in the Wilderness, (Fredericksburg observations,) had 34 compound fractures of the thigh, living, 20 amputations, and 14 transported unamputated. It has been found that any one of these transported fractures must be moved, off and on, (unless the bunk or bed goes with the sufferer,) at least 14 times before resting in a general hospital. Often the number of movements is much more! Very few of the wounded thighs and knees now and recently brought to Washington, have any supporting appliances.

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WASHINGTON, *June* 23, 1864.

MY DEAR DOCTOR—Since I last wrote to you there have been several practical questions examined in the hospitals here, with reference to improved means and more successful efforts to save life and mitigate suffering. Let me briefly mention a few points which I think should be acted upon by the Executive Committee without delay.

How can the Commission aid in preventing the present fearful rate of mortality from pyæmia in these hospitals?

Whatever we would successfully attempt for this purpose must be brought to bear before the fatal blood-poisoning and death of bone occur in the patient.

I have just been examining the official report of some thirty deaths from pyæmia in a single hospital of 1,200 beds, and one of the best in the department. Nearly all of these have occurred since the 1st of June. All occurred in patients who had fractured or amputated bones. The greater proportion of the cases occurred in patients that had good chances of surviving, had not the malady here mentioned supervened.

No medication nor care has yet saved a single life among the hundreds I have seen suffering from pyæmia.

Declining all discussion of the histology and the causes of this fatal pest of the hospitals, let me say that good reasons exist for believing that the only available means of diminishing the prevalence of this accident, (as it may justly be termed,) of the surgery and wounds of bone, are—

1st. Improvement of the diet of the patients from the hour of their becoming accessible to the Sanitary Commission on the field, in transports, and in hospitals.

2d. Special means for improving the local atmosphere of the wards, etc.. in hospitals.

3d. The establishment of hospitals at higher altitudes and in healthier localities.

4th. By supplying more adequate material aid to the surgeons in the field for the support and care of fractured bones.

To each of these four points I beg that the Commission give intelligent attention.

To the first, second and fourth, I am giving close attention; the third cannot be reached, except through the War Department and the Medical Bureau. But I know that Drs. Cuyler, McDougall, Hamlin, and the best officers of the Staff, hold the same views that I shall soon express to the Commission on this subject.

Now, what can we do to meet the first want of the patients who are liable to the occurrence of pyæmia? We can do much.*

* To insure the army a more varied diet when it should reach its new base on the James River, the following anti-scorbutic stores were sent in May, from New York, and stored in Baltimore:

4,291 galls. pickl'd tomatoes,	4,162 galls. pickles,
51,812 lbs. canned tomatoes,	3,580 galls. pickl. onions,
1,106 galls. curried cabbage,	12,060 lbs. apple pulp,
671 bbls. dried apples,	2,400 boxes portable lemonade.
15,168 galls. saur kraut,	

In addition to the above, the following consignment of similar food, has thus far during June, (25th instant,) been sent to the Army in Virginia:

The Commission can at once procure and offer to the hospitals, a car load of fresh vegetables and the best fruits of the season, daily.

Secondly, we may greatly improve the special diet of each hospital by systematizing our special diet kitchens, and by giving, through those kitchens, the aid that is needed in the preparation and distribution of the fruits and the more important vegetables. * * * *

WESTERN DEPARTMENT.

OUR OPERATIONS IN GEORGIA.

Dr. Read writes to Dr. Newberry, from Chattanooga, June 2:

Goods as needed, have been, with few exceptions, promptly furnished.

Gen. Hooker and Gen. Schofield have each furnished one team, to be used under the direction of the agents, connected with the respective corps, while the surgeons of the 4th and 14th corps, in charge of division hospitals, are furnished with orders on the storeroom at Acworth, and they send directly for such stores as they need.

Goods distributed to the wounded the very hour they are brought from the battle-field, are much more highly appreciated by them and by their surgeons, than when given to them a week later, at hospitals in the rear.

I am not sure they do more good, only as they come when all is confusion—come unexpectedly, and thus show,

"'Tis not the extent of aid that stamps its worth,
But the nice hour, at which that aid is bestowed."

As I passed on my return, the rooms we have occupied and vacated successively as the army advanced, I was more forcibly than ever impressed with the magnitude of our work.

First, a storeroom and hospital at Ringgold; then one at Dalton, from which goods in large quantities are taken to the field hospitals west of Resaca; then the wounded were moved to Resaca, and rooms opened there; soon the army passed on to Kingston, and halting for a day or two to load stores, ours were forwarded and rooms opened. Here, again, teams were loaded for the advance, and what stores could not be carried were sent back, and we were to leave the railroad and our base of supplies, not expecting for sometime to communicate with the rear.

Passing over Pumpkinvine Creek, we again have severe fighting, lasting several days, in the vicinity of Dallas. This resulted in giving us the railroad to Acworth, and soon after, for five miles further to Big Shanty. Acworth is our last depot, where we have now ample supplies for present wants. We shall work and trust, hoping that as more are wanted, they will be furnished. But we have often been so nearly exhausted, that we have suffered greatly, lest we should be called upon for help and not be able to afford it.

Gen. Howard has supplied his corps by giving one of his teams from headquarters loading at Kingston, and sending back there again when necessary.

I left Dr. Brucedritt with Gen. McPherson's command; Mr. Fairchild with Gen. Palmer's; Mr. Crary with Gen. Schofield's, and Mr. Hobblet with Gen. Hooker's and Gen. Howard's—who will also in my absence, have general supervision of the work. Every possible effort has been made to furnish the goods promptly, and the efforts have been successful.

The list of casualties has never been so promptly obtained; it has been furnished and forwarded in almost every instance, within twenty-four hours from the time of action. The list is obtained from the hospital record, or from the slips used by the surgeons for their entries, as the wounded were taken from the ambulances. But since I have come back here I have been astonished and sadly disappointed to find, that lists which I supposed had already reached you, had just arrived here.

* * * * *

So long as we continue to fight this battle, so long must we have a large amount of supplies, of the same kind as previously indicated, viz.: milk, beef, spirits, crackers, rags and bandages, lemons, farina, sugar, tea, etc. Nothing that we have comes amiss. Arm-slings are of special value.

23,789 galls. pick. cucumbers,	73 bbls. potatoes,
8,550 galls. pickled onions,	8 bbls. prunes,
1,050 galls. sauer kraut,	100 bbls. onions,
428 galls. pick. tomatoes,	301 boxes lemons,
142,444 lbs. canned tomatoes,	25 boxes oranges,
180 lbs. tamarinds,	50 half bbls. porter,
235 bbls. dried apples,	2,040 bottles ess. ginger,
19 bbls. dried fruit,	90 bottles lemon juice.

And beyond this, the Associate Secretary for the East has been directed to send to that army, for twenty days to come, $1,000 worth of fresh vegetables daily.

We shall aid in feeding men on the road between Acworth and Nashville.

The number of sick and wounded is large, but seems to me to be small, when we take into account what the army has done. For forty-five days they have been constantly fighting, or living prepared to fight. Some have fought each day; they have made many miles of fortifications; have slept with little covering in the trenches, and for most of the time there has been constant rain and deep mud, but they live in hope, and are kept up by excitement. A successful result to the campaign will see many more sick than now, while defeat, with all its distressing influences, would be disastrous.

But we hope for success, and expect it. I send this by Prof. Hosford. I shall wait here a day or two, and if better, return to the front; if unable to do that, shall go to Louisville, expecting to go home for a time. I do not desire to do this, until this campaign is ended.

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THE MISSISSIPPI.

Mr. Way writes from Memphis, June 24th:

We have had no great battles fought in this department during the past month; still we all have been kept quite busy.

First, came the troops from the ill-fated Red River expedition, who had been on the move for the past few months, without being where they could obtain a supply of vegetables, and for weeks on short rations. We were able, on their arrival here, thanks to our kind, generous friends at the North, to issue a bountiful supply of vegetables to the regiments, and to give to their sick delicacies and other things needed in the regimental hospitals.

Next came the survivors of the expedition under Gen. Sturgis, defeated at Guntown, Mississippi. These men were in a terrible condition after a running fight of over a hundred miles, and many of them without food for three days. We issued largely to them on their arrival here.

In the meantime, a large number of hundred day troops have arrived, and the change of habits and climate, with mumps, measles, &c., has caused a large amount of sickness. These as well as other troops are appealing to us for supplies for their regimental hospitals. There are in this vicinity over thirty thousand troops; of these about three thousand are sick in general and regimental hospitals. In supplying the great demand on us for all these, our stores are nearly exhausted.

We ask that our necessities may not be forgotten, as the importance of having a good supply has not been so great for the past fifteen months as at present.

Another large expedition left here four days ago and are opening the Memphis and Charleston railroad towards Corinth. The advance is about fifty miles from here. They are skirmishing continually, and every train brings in more or less wounded.

[Large shipments have been made and were on the way when this letter was written.]

Mr. Grant writes from the same place, June 17th, 1864:

I have been intending every day since my return from St. Louis to send you a report of my operations at this point, but for various reasons have delayed it until now. We have had a constant influx of sick and wounded from the army of the lower Mississippi, besides many from the late expedition to Corinth. Our General Hospitals are now quite full, containing in the aggregate, more than 2,200 patients. The number of late has greatly increased in all of them, except the small-pox, in which there has been a rapid dimunition, as you will observe by reference to the hospital reports. This is usually the case during the warm weather of summer. Thus you see there is abundant work for all hands, and as work is more important than reports, I hope you will excuse the delay in writing.

To make a second or third report is a matter of some difficulty, for the reason that day after day, and week after week, our work is the *same*. Always similar, yet never monotoncus, because it is constantly changing. I am aware that this sounds paradoxical, yet it is strictly true.

Please listen for a moment to an account of the daily work of a hospital visitor. He goes to one of the hospitals at 8 A. M. and begins his labors, talking with the sick and wounded, cheering the despondent with hopes of better days, always turning to

them the bright side of the picture, and anon, comforting the dying with those consolations which Christianity alone can give.

Again, in the convalescent ward, he must listen to the complaints of those who are no longer sick, and to the accounts of their wants, fancied or real, explaining to some that the regulations complained of are absolutely necessary, and consoling others with the promise of speedy relief.

Occasionally with pencil, he makes memoranda of what needs further attention.

To-morrow it will be the same; yet as he is conversing with different men, and encountering constantly varying difficulties, the work is always changing. At times his duty takes him to the room of the surgeon in charge, and as delicately as possible he calls attention to certain cases. "Here is a poor fellow who will die if he stays here; but if he could go home to his wife or mother for 30 or 60 days, he would recover. The Northern air would brace him up. Would it be contrary to regulations to grant him a furlough?"

This is a delicate duty and requires care and tact. Here is another man in the convalescent ward who has received a wound in the knee, and the sinovia has escaped from the joint. He is permanently disabled and wants a discharge, and when obtained, he needs some help in getting started home.

Cases requiring any articles from the sanitary stores are supplied after consulting with the Agent of the Commission.

I have made no mention of the instances of special relief, for the furloughs and discharges are in the morning reports of the General Hospitals, and the stores distributed are on the returns of Capt. Way.

This work is fatiguing, and after a day's labor the mind and body need rest. In visiting our army hospitals one finds some things to condemn, and which it would be well to remedy if it were possible.

Unfortunately they are beyond the control of the Sanitary Commission and its agents. One of these, is the rough manner in which some surgeons talk to and handle the sick and wounded. Such conduct in private practice would not be tolerated. They surely have forgotten the old adage—"A kind word to the sick is better than physic." In other respects our hospitals are well kept, being under the control of military officers, and subject to military regulations, there is great uniformity in all their proceedings. Neatness, cleanliness, careful attention to the wants of the sick, are the order of the day.

You are aware that the General Hospitals have what is called a "Hospital Fund," produced by commutation of surplus rations. This meets some of the pressing necessities of the sick, but I am informed by the surgeons, that owing to the high prices of everything in Memphis, it only buys about one-fourth of what it would purchase in the North. The deficiency is made up by the U. S. Sanitary Commission. *I have carefully sought for instances of misapplication of said stores by officers, without finding a single instance,* and am satisfied so far as this post is concerned, the charge is a gross slander. I write this because, having nothing to do personally with the stores of the Commission, I feel free to speak of the use made of them.

The vegetables distributed have been of incalculable advantage to the troops, especially those who have returned from the Red River Expedition, many of whom showed strong symptoms of scurvy.

The defects in the hospital records have given me a great deal of trouble. Sometimes I find a man's name and the date of his admission, but no record of what became of him afterwards. Of some who are credibly reported by friends as sent to a certain hospital, there is no record whatever. This was frequently the case when the hospitals were first established here; latterly, the registers have been kept with greater care; and it is to be hoped, that in the future, we may not meet with the same difficulty in tracing the sick. There has appeared in the eye ward of one of our hospitals a few cases of that peculiar affection of the visual organs called by medical men "hemeralopia," and always in those patients having scorbutic symptoms. As the disease is of obscure origin, its duration uncertain, and the rationale of its treatment not well understood, it is to be hoped that some of our surgeons who are competent to the task will carefully investigate the malady, with the view of elucidating its obscurities.

TESTIMONY OF MR. WHEELWRIGHT.

June 7, 1864.

JOSEPH PARISH, M. D.,

U. S. Sanitary Commission:

SIR—Having just concluded a visit to the "front," and particularly to the 9th Army Corps, made under the auspices of the Commission you represent, and which was rendered comparatively easy by the kind attention of its officers, I beg to state, in general, that having been furnished by Major-General Burnside with ample facilities for visitation and inspection, the objects of my journey have been satifactorily accomplished.

I have had occasion, during several days, to notice the demeanor of officers and men, not only "under fire," but while encountering some of those hardships which are almost inseparable from war, and while expecting to witness courage, endurance and patient submission to fearful privations, I confe ss I was not prepared for the cheerful alacrity, very eagerness, with which all were met. And now at the conclusion of my visit, I can appreciate fully a remark of Gen. Burnside, when speaking to me of a veteran regiment which had just returned from its furlough to the field with but 80 men, "Eighty guns! that is equal to 4,000 men."

I have found no such patriotism at home as I have witnessed in the field, and return to Massachusetts to urge my fellow-citizens to redouble their exertion to mitigate the sufferings, and as far as possible, present the hardships of these gallant inheritors of the spirit, fortitude and devotion of their fathers. A most noticeable fact was the gratitude of the soldiers (and officers as well,) to the Sanitary Commission for its efficient and abundant labors. "We never should have got along without them," was the universal testimony of high officials, medical and military; and the warm greeting of the private, "How are you Sanitary?" bore witness that the fierce rage of battle had not blunted the finer feelings of his heart.

With many thanks for the facilities afforded me by the Commission, and the courtesies extended by officials,

Very faithfully yours,

H. B. WHEELWRIGHT,

General Agent, Board of State Charities, for Massachusetts.

A LETTER FROM JOHN STUART MILL,

The editorial committee of "Our Daily Fare," of Philadelphia, have received the following admirable letter from John Stuart Mill:

I am sincerely thankful to the editing committee for including me among those from whom they have invited a public expression of sympathy with the cause in which the free states of America are so heroically shedding their best blood.

The war, justifiable and laudable even if it had continued to be, as it was at first, one of mere resistance to the extension of slavery, is becoming, as it was easy to foresee it would, more and more a war of principle for the complete extirpation of that curse. And in proportion as this has become apparent, the sympathies of nearly all in Europe whose approbation is worth having, are resuming their natural course, and the cause of the North will soon have no enemies on this side of the Atlantic, but those who prefer any tyranny, however odious, to a triumph of popular government.

It would be unpardonable did I omit on an occasion like this, to express my warmest feelings of admiration for the Sanitary Commission. History has afforded no other example—though it is to be hoped that it will hereafter afford many—of so great a work of usefulness extemporized by the spontaneous self-devotion and organizing genius of a people, altogether independently of the government.

But while the present struggle has called into brilliant exercise all the high qualities which the institutions of the American republic have made general among her citizens, it has also laid open—as it is the nature of trying times to do—all the weak points in her national habits, and in the working of her institutions.

These are, doubtless, far better known to thoughtful Americans than they are likely to be to any foreigner; and this great historical crisis will be doubly blessed if it directs attention to them. In all states of society the most serious danger is that the national mind should go to sleep on the self-satisfied notion that all is right with it; but the great awakening of the public conscience which is taking place on the one political and social abomination, which has done more than all other causes together to demoralize American politics, has probably removed all danger of this sort for one generation at least, and warrants the hope that the American people will not rest satisfied with the great advantages which no other people and no other Government possesses in so high a degree, but will resolve that their democracy shall not be behind any nation whatever in those elements of good government which have been thought to find a more congenial soil in other states of society, and under other political institutions.

JOHN STUART MILL.

AVIGNON, *May* 25, 1864.

THE COMMISSION ON THE JAMES RIVER AND THE APPOMATTOX.

The following are extracts from an interesting series of letters from Dr. Parrish:

JAMES RIVER, VA., *June* 17, 1864.

Having been furnished with a pass from the Secretary of War and of the Navy, our little fleet took a new start this morning from the "Roads," from which I wrote last; and we are now passing up the James. Intelligence has been received by the arrival of an agent, that our advance boat, which left White House on the 12th instant, has not only reached City Point with her stores and agents, but has sent forward men to the front with comforts and support. This was accomplished before the Army of

the Potomac had crossed the James, and the wisdom of the expedition is thus fully justified. Had there been twelve hours delay, it is probable the pontoon bridges would have obstructed the passage of the river, and our stores would not have gone forward. It was known, however, that at Bermuda Hundred there was already a Sanitary base, with a branch at City Point, and another at Point of Rocks, which was doing good service for the Army of Virginia and North Carolina, and which would withhold nothing that it could give for the Army of the Potomac.

We have, however, saved that necessity, being in advance with a boat load of supplies and thirty-three auxiliary relief agents.

We run up the river at about eight miles an hour, passing Harrison's Landing and Powhattan Fort, and found an anchorage near where, but yesterday, the last train of the Army of the Potomac crossed the south side of the James. Not far from this spot was lying the late rebel ram Atlanta, with her angry guns, and most awkward decks. Evening is upon us, and our family gather in the still twilight, for their accustomed devotions, the opening hymn—

"I would not live alway."

Most of the company appreciated the appropriateness of this selection. It was sung with solemnity. After the prayer, it was stated that a young comrade of the auxiliary relief corps, who but a few days since had left the White House for his home in Massachusetts, had died a few hours after reaching there. Appropriate remarks were made by those who knew him best, and his calm and confiding resignation was touchingly described by the friend who attended him on his homeward journey. The following preamble was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, God, who ordereth all things, has seen fit to take to himself, Charles H. Stanley, our brother and co-laborer in our Christian work; therefore,

1. *Resolved*, That we express in a public manner, our great sorrow at the loss of one whose life was so full of hope and promise.

2. *Resolved*, That we consider his faithfulness in the discharge of his duties in the hospitals, his hearty co-operation in all plans for the comfort of our wounded, and especially his love for their souls, an example to be followed by every member of the Commission.

3. *Resolved*, That by this sudden death, we are warned that the time for life's work is short, for the night cometh, wherein no man can work; and that we endeavor by our efforts in behalf of the suffering, to advance the Gospel of Christ, whom the deceased loved, and to whose service his life was devoted.

4. *Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the parents of the deceased, as expressive of our deep sympathy in their great affliction, and also that they be published.

Our young friend Stanley has left behind him an influence for good; that will be felt by all who treasure the memory of his virtues.

June 18th.—To-day we reach City Point. The river is active with stirring vessels; troops are arriving, hospitals are transferred from the White House to this new base, and the wharves are being loaded with stores and ammunition from Government steamers, while the Commission fills its modest place in the lively panorama. Cannonading is heard in the vicinity of Petersburg, a few wounded are coming in, and the benevolent visitors from all quarters, are beginning their work. The Commission has had its agents and stores here for more than six weeks. A new feeding station is established from the steamer Grey, which arrived on Tuesday last, and to-day the bountiful supplies from our fleet are being called for. The Elizabeth will be away to-morrow, for a load of anti-scorbutics, which awaits her at Norfolk. The front, some six miles away, is also supplied, and immediately on our arrival an additional supply was sent forward. Our dressers were going about among the hospitals very soon after our landing, and are now still occupied. Thus the work—the old work, at the new place, has commenced, and there will be much service, even before the corps hospitals are located.

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City Point, Va., *June* 19, 1864.

My last closed with our arrival at this place, and you will now expect an account of the situation. From the anchorage it may be discovered in its general aspect. City Point is on the south side of the James River, at the mouth of the Appomattox. Two miles distant, on the opposite shore, is Bermuda Hundred, situated on the curve which unites the line of the two rivers. The James pursues its northward course, and is imposing and inviting. The Appomattox is the water route to Petersburg, and is a winding stream lined with pines and cypress. The currents of both are united at the little promontory, on the summit of which stands the town, the most attractive building and grounds being on the extreme point, a part of which is used as headquarters by the general-in-chief. The houses are shell-marked, and deserted by the citizens, and are now chiefly used as hospitals.

So far as the Commission is concerned, the situation is interesting, and should be understood before the establishment of a new base. As you know, this department is

designated the "Department of the Peninsula and Norfolk," and is under the charge of Dr. McDonald. Its base of supplies is Norfolk. Its line begins at Wilson's Landing on the James, about twenty-five miles below City Point, embracing Fort Powhattan, Bermuda Hundred, and following up the James to Dutch Gap, where lies the extreme right of Maj.-Gen. Butler's line. Running up the Appomattox from City Point it takes in Spring Hill, crosses the river at Point of Rocks, and then continues overland to Dutch Gap again. The line of earthworks covers about seven and a half miles, and the line from the base to the extreme point northward is about one hundred and twenty miles. The Commission has three stations in this department, not including Norfolk and Portsmouth, viz.: at City Point, Bermuda Hundred and Point of Rocks. There are thirteen relief agents, who feed the wounded as they come in; and when they are not coming, visit the different regiments and garrisons to ascertain the wants of the men and supply them, read and write for them, and hold religious meetings among them. I think I mentioned in a late letter, that no meetings were held by the Commission for soldiers in the Army of the Potomac, but I find that it is the custom to do so in the Peninsular and Norfolk Department. The religious work at White House and other places, has been mainly private, quiet, and unobserved by those who are not familiar with it. The propriety of holding meetings in hospitals is, to say the least, very doubtful, as the men require rest and quiet; and yet the testimony of those who have made more through trial of them is considered favorable.

At Point of Rocks there is a provisional and a depot Hospital, at Norfolk and Portsmouth four, besides a Lodge, at which there were dispensed in the month of May 1,112 meals and 386 lodgings. At Yorktown and Bermuda there are hospitals also, and at Williamsburg the Asylum for the Insane, which is supplied from this department. Each regiment has a hospital for the sick only, the wounded being carried from the front where their wounds are first dressed, to Point of Rocks. There they receive a second dressing, and are sent to Fortress Monroe. The supplies are, of course, distributed from Norfolk by steamer, the John R. Thompson being in the service of the Commission for that purpose.

To-day I took a tour of observation from this place to Point of Rocks, Bermuda Hundred and Jones' Landing, the latter about fifteen miles above here on the James. A number of gunboats on the way needed supplies, and in obedience to the recent order concerning the Navy, they were furnished with what they required. At Jones' Landing a small force was stationed to guard the forage and stores which are shipped to that point, and an expedition about starting out through a wasted country, was furnished with a few comforts that they will need before their return. At Point of Rocks and Bermuda Hundred there are stations adjacent to hospitals from which the Commission dispenses its stores directly to the men in the wards.

I have referred to a provisional Hospital; the term may need some explanation. As the General Hospitals at Washington and other points become crowded for room, those who are in condition for it are sent to Convalescent Camps, where they remain in process of recovery, and as these in turn become crowded, such as are the nearest well are sent to provisional Hospitals, and kept till they are able to rejoin their regiments. The men using such establishments may be from a great number of regiments, and are under care of surgeons specially detailed for the service. As they have no regular organization, they have no opportunity of drawing in the regular manner from Quartermaster or Commissary, except for army rations. Being often feeble men, or men with wounds partially healed, scarcely sick enough for hospital or well enough for service, they frequently suffer for want of the proper kind of supplies, and the Commission may be especially serviceable under such circumstances. This is one of the peculiar cases, of which but little is known by the public. * *

The hospitals will be located from one to two miles up the Appomattox. The tents will be pitched very soon; we must find wharfage at City Point, as there can be no landing place above, more than will be needed for hospital transports and purveyor's boats, and every wharf must be built. The whole ground has been carefully surveyed. I had the pleasure of accompanying the surveying party. Open fields, swamps, forests, roads, ravines, &c., were all traversed, and the conclusion reached that we must locate barges at the Point, and transport supplies to hospitals by wagons. Feeding stations are temporarily placed at the Point, to supply any immediate or temporary want, but as the several corps locate on their new ground, we shall follow and be ready to serve them, and place the feeding stations on the routes to steamboats. The auxiliary relief corps will soon be on the hospital ground, and the system formerly described will be at work.

In observing and locating, we discover a few trains of wounded coming in, and the tents are beginning to be occupied. The dressing party are out with their lint and bandages, rendering proper aid. Many of the troops are colored men. They endure their wounds as they have endured the struggles of the field, and with an endurance and heroism that is alike honora-

ble to their manhood and to their patriotism. By common consent it is admitted that no troops are more willing, none more valiant or victorious, than those of sable skin.

You will expect from me to-day some account of the hospital ground at this base. I premise my observations on this subject by the general remark that compared with the White House, it is far inferior. The fields are large, and the corn on some of them is about three feet high. This is a fine chance for the horses, and will do them good. It is perhaps quite as agreeable to them as strawberries and ice-cream would be to us, who; with dried apples and potatoes as our only stock of fruit and vegetables for table use, are content. The soil of the hospital tract is light and sandy, much like that of New Jersey on the Delaware shore. As the hospitals have no floors, and the dust is very light, there may be some disadvantage to the wounded on that account, as no one can pass to and fro among them without disturbing the dust, even within the wards. This will be remedied in a few days, after time is allowed to tramp and harden the ground.

Among the very first things to be done in locating a hospital is to find a burial spot. Already it has been chosen here. Just upon the crown of a slope that falls gently toward a wooded ravine, a little cemetery has been provided. Before sun-set to-day seven soldiers were buried. As our party passed over the ground these men were employed in the sad work of burial. They were covering one poor fellow under the sand, and two more were lying blanketed on the ground. As I lifted the cover from the face of one, the expression of composure was most striking. The dust and sweat of battle were still upon his brow, the wound upon the shoulder was carefully dressed, and he had died doubtless with but little suffering of body or mind.

* * * * *

The arrangement of the hospitals into corps and their division into separate departments, is similar to that at the White House. Their organization and that of the Commission maintain their previous relation to the hospitals, and it only remains for me to notice particularly the main feature of difference in the establishment of a floating hospital. You remember the large North River steamer "New World." She was hauled up to-day to a landing on the Appomattox to take on her freight of lacerated humanity. This is a great institution, free from dust and oppressive heat, yet rather too close in some parts for wounded men; yet it is an improvement. It has now about one thousand beds, which may be increased in an emergency to twelve or fifteen hundred. I spent some hours on board of her to-day, during the receipt of her patients, and had the pleasure of conducting the labors of a party of dressers, detailed from the auxiliary corps of the Commission, in the most valuable service of dressing wounds and feeding men. They labored assiduously from early in the afternoon till towards midnight, and the blessing conferred upon the sufferers was incalculable. The surgeon in charge and his assistants kindly placed at the disposal of these workers whatever they need to complete this supplementary labor. Letters were written to absent families, spiritual comfort administered to the dying, and the evening closed with much enduring satisfaction. I note below a few instances of personal interest:

No. 1.—A strong man, with both eyes blinded. A ball passed into the left temple, and had evidently destroyed or greatly injured the visual nerves. The eyes were protruded and closed—closed forever. Leaning over him to comfort him, by applications to the inflamed and protruding parts, the following conversation was had:

"My friend, you are seriously hurt. Do you suffer much pain?"

"I suffer some, but I consider myself very fortunate in not being as bad off as I hear some of my comrades are."

"That is very good of you, but really the loss of sight is a great affliction, and I feel for you very much."

"Yes, I know you do, but I am pretty lucky; I had six balls through my hat before I stopped this one, and now I have it in my head. I suppose I must keep it for a keepsake."

No. 2.—A boy of sixteen. He enlisted as a drummer-boy, and as the regiment to which he was attached were advancing, he pressed forward further than was prudent, and received a shot in the right arm. It was not a serious wound, but still caused much pain. He was asked if he did not want to go home now that he had suffered from the enemy. "Oh, no," said he, "That ain't me; I wouldn't shirk because I was hit; I mean to stick to it till the end."

"But would you not rather be at home with your mother, and let her dress your wound?"

"Well, sir, I'm willing to take my luck with the rest of 'em; I didn't come to fight; but as they did knock me, I won't complain."

"Dress my wound easy, sir; hold her up careful, and then let me sleep."

No. 3.—An aged man, shot in his breast, and dying. He is the father of nine living children. His wife is living, and she does not know his condition. After his wound is soothed and he is fed as far as he can bear, he is asked what else he will have done. The answer is, "write to my family if you please, sir; tell them about me, and tell them that I will soon see them at home."

He was informed that he would never see his earthly home again. "Well, if that is so," said he, "I must be content. I have tried to do right, and in serving my country, I hope I have done right, though I have often thought that if we were all what we should be, there would be no fighting with carnal weapons. Religion is *love*, the *right kind* of love; the *best kind*, sir, and I hope I love even my enemies, though I find it very hard to do so," &c., &c.

No. 4.—A slightly wounded man, young and vigorous. "What do you need, my friend?" "Only one thing, sir, beside my supper, which hasn't come round to me yet, and that is, that you will write to my wife, who will see that our regiment has been in the fight, and will, of course, think the rebs have hit me. Tell her, with my love, that they did, but they didn't do it to hurt; that I'm her husband yet, and the country is our country yet, and our flag is our flag yet, and I mean to stick to her, and the country, and the flag, till the very last."

So I might go on enumerating case after case of interest, but will mention but one more.

A lad of seventeen years, full size, and of older appearance; a bad wound in thigh.

"How came you into the service, my friend, so young as you are?"

"I wanted to come, sir; I thought I could do as well as some I knew that are older."

"Where are you from?"

"I was born, sir, in Pennsylvania, and when I am at home, I am a Pennsylvanian, but when I enlisted, I enlisted for my country; and now that I am here, my home is here; I belong to Uncle Sam, sir."

I furnish below a list of articles sent up with our dressers to the wounded in the boat. It is the first contribution towards the outfit for the vessel.*

June 22d.—A detail of dressers went again to the floating hospital, having been assigned by the surgeon in charge to different parts of the boat, so that there should be no confusion, the kindly offices of delegates of the Christian Commission were harmoniously incorporated with those of our own organization, and all together succeeded in supplementing the over-taxed service of the medical officers, so that all were attended to before they were re-shipped on the transports for Washington.

One word about the "New World." She is three stories high, the state rooms being used, as of old, and the grand saloon and machinery deck being now fitted out with rows of iron bedsteads, with white sheets and pillows, and fine white double blankets. An elevator is placed near the centre, between the gangways, for elevating the wounded from the first to either of the upper stories; the hatchway is large enough to take two stretchers or cots at a time. A detail of men work the ropes, while others are in readiness to carry them away to their respective wards.

It was a pleasure to witness the comparatively complete arrangements thus furnished by the Medical Department, which, with every other branch of the service has been improving constantly, with the ever-developing experiences of the trying years through which we have been passing.

CITY POINT, VA., *June 23d*, 1864.

* * * * *

When men are disabled by wounds, the first thing is to get them off the field. Their comrades cannot stop to do this, their business being to fill the vacant spaces in the ranks and press on with the conflict. Here then is the necessity for a separate organization. The army regulation provides for it, by directing six stretcher bearers to go with each regiment, of not less than five hundred men and then ambulances, with two men attached to each. It is the duty of the stretcher-bearers to pick up the fallen and carry them to the ambulances, which are as near as possible to the scene, and return rapidly for others. They are then carried directly to the hospitals, which may be a mile or more from the battle line, and placed in the wards, there being another train of ambulances to carry those who have been attended to in hospitals to the base, which is several miles distant. Here they are classified; those who are but slightly wounded are retained to be sent back to service again; when others who are able are distributed by transports to Northern hospitals. Following them from the very beginning, are surgeons and assistant surgeons, the whole organization, its discipline, &c., being under the charge of the Medical Director.

There is a Chief of Corps Ambulance Train with the rank of Captain; another who is chief of Brigade Ambulance Train, and a third who has charge of the Regimental Train with the rank of first and second Lieutenant, respectively. A fact in this connection has been demonstrated in this campaign which is so noteworthy that I will insert it. It is this: that the stretcher-

* Requisition for 1,200 patients on "Floating Hospital New World."

2 bbls. bandages.	1 box tea and coffee.
2 " old rags.	508 cotton shirts.
31 bed pans.	250 " drawers.
4 boxes lemons.	344 " socks.
5 bbls. crackers.	144 lbs. farina.
Sponges and bed sacks in quantity.	100 tin cups.
2 boxes sherry wine.	24 wooden buckets.
2 " candles.	48 lanterns.
12 bottles brandy.	12 bottles whiskey.
20 prs. crutches.	400 fans.
220 pillow cases.	200 sheets.
1 roll rubber cloth.	80 cushions.
200 splints.	Quantity mosquito netting.
6 dippers.	6 tin pans.
36 table spoons.	6 tin pails.
12 urinals.	120 lbs. corn starch.

bearers have been unusually venturesome and brave, so much so, that in their eagerness to bring the wounded off without delay, several have lost their lives under the fire of the enemy.

Another fact equally praiseworthy is, that surgeons have sometimes entrenched themselves temporarily and in advance of their allotted places, so as to be foremost in rendering relief, and that none of the wounded have been sent to the base who have not been properly examined and attended to. An important feature of the field-hospital is its operating tent, and its medicine wagons. The tent has a table and a few needful appliances under the care of a man whose duty it is to keep it and the surgical instruments in good order and ready for service at any time. A medicine wagon is a curiosity, containing all the variety of medicines and utensils that are suitable for any ordinary drug shop. The bottles are compactly arranged in slides, so that they may be seen and handled, and yet be secure from breakage while on a march.

There are three chief operating surgeons selected to do the surgery of the corps, each one having an assistant, and all of them being chosen for their professional ability without reference to rank.

A steward is selected to collect pathological specimens, to prepare and preserve them. Another to make the record of wounds, deaths, &c., and report daily to the Medical Director.

A lieutenant of the line is chosen as commissary of hospital, whose duty it is to keep on hand one thousand rations and a small herd of beef cattle, of which there is no scarcity. Indeed, the men are asking for salt pork, and it would be a luxury for them in the way of change. The cattle are in good condition, and are killed as they are needed, so that the beef is fresh and good. The Commission is now furnishing to the men in trenches and field, quantities of "saur kraut," as a convenient and acceptable form of vegetable diet. A few potatoes are occasionally allowed in the ration, but too seldom to be of much service. Plenty of coffee and sugar are issued. Ice is common. It is abundant in hospitals and may be had by well troops. The ice-houses of the farmers, many of which are large and well fitted, furnish the supply.

I think I stated in a former letter that each Army Corps had two wagons belonging to the Commission. If so, I was in error. There is one wagon and one Relief Agent with each corps permanently. The agent occupies a tent alongside of the wagon, from which stores are issued to the different divisions, on the requisitions of surgeons or chaplains, or any responsible and trustworthy representative of the men. The delegates of the Christian Commission have the liberty of drawing from our stores, and of acting as distributors at their pleasure; and they use the privilege no more freely than it is granted. Each wagon may be replenished every other day by the supply train, which leaves the base to a designated spot in the vicinity of the hospitals every twenty-four hours, for the purpose of filling the demand. The base draws upon Washington; Washington receives from the people; and the people, true to the instincts of humanity, true to the interests of the country, have never yet withheld. They never will.

One feature may be noticed in what I have written concerning the front, that is not sufficiently regarded, viz., the purpose to keep the well men from getting sick, as they lie in the trenches and under shelter tents within reach of the enemy's guns. Many persons think that the supplies of the Commission are exclusively for the sick and wounded; and while it is true that the hospital delicacies, &c., are reserved for hospital cases, it is equally true that saur kraut, pickles, &c., are *not* adapted to hospital use. They are purchased for those who are not on sick call, but who might be, but for the vegetable diet which they so much need. There are now in store at this point one hundred and twenty-eight barrels of pickles, one hundred and twenty-three barrels of saur kraut, and forty kegs of curry and cabbage, subject to orders from the *front exclusively*. Perhaps the greatest necessity of the exposed men is woolen under clothing, of which large quantities are issued. The Government furnishes cotton clothing, but it is not so valuable as a health-preserver in this climate as woolen. There will be a large demand for flannel shirts and drawers, in addition to those needed for hospitals.

The spires and buildings of Petersburg are in view. The fortifications of the enemy are formidable in extent and construction. Having been routed from their outer lines, the opportunity for observing the works is undisturbed. That our forces captured them by a charge, is an evidence of valor for which the Union troops have already earned an unexampled reputation. A few faint and weary ones are found struggling back to the hospitals, or seeking rest and sleep in the tall pine forests which line the roadways. Ambulances are coming in and discharging their wounded, and other ambulances are going to the base with their loads of patient sufferers. Great trains of forage and ammunition are coming and empty ones going, till the roads are crowded and jammed with the cumbersome trains; the air is filled with dust, and the harsh roar of the guns rumbles among the pines with fearful power. Horsemen and footmen move along amid the clouds of sand and are almost unperceived. While Generals

and Colonels and troops are fighting, surgeons and stewards and Commissions are binding up the wounds and restoring the faint. Fields are desolated, houses are burned and burning, the population scattered, and thousands of widows and orphans are being made, for the breath of war breathes waste and destruction. * * *

At this base the labors of Sanitary agents are more arduous than at the White House. The hospitals are about two miles from the supplies on the boats. All the stores have to be transported by wagon for this distance, and when they reach their destination they are carried to the wards through clouds of dust and the most enervating heat, to the men directly. It is a matter of surprise that being unaccustomed to this kind of exposure, the gentlemen of the Commission endure as they do. The heat is most exhausting, the water poor, and the dust almost intolerable. One thought, however, sustains the heart and strengthens the will, and that is that the soldiers suffer far more, and endure suffering with a patience that forbids complaint on the part of those who minister to them.

I will close by noticing a little visitor who presented himself on board the barge this P. M. Constantine J————, a boy who says he is "eleven going on twelve;" his home is Indianapolis, Ind., his mother not living. Constantine is a very small boy, light hair, blue eyes, freckled face, bare footed and almost without clothing; he has been with the Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, and was brought here by its chaplain. The little fellow was enticed away from his home a year ago by soldiers, and has been following the army ever since, finally finding protection with the artillery. He is not home-sick; says he sometimes feels like going home, but likes the army very much. He describes the battle of Mine Hill with peculiar interest; says that several shell burst not far from him and scared him a little, but he "would'nt run." He says a Dutch captain tried to get him to run, but he would'nt do it, preferring to shield himself behind a stump and see it through. He is getting washed, and some clothing is being shortened to fit him, that he may be forwarded by to-morrow's messenger to the Washington office, and thence to his home.

I cannot well forbear writing an incident which touched me very much a few days since. It is well known that the Commission does not issue army clothing to men in the field, and yet if a soldier is pantless, he is very apt to come to the Commission to be supplied. One such came a few days since, and applied at the counter for a pair of pantaloons. There were none for him, and as he was turning away disconsolate, one of the auxiliary corps stepped up and said, "I have on a good pair of drawers besides these pants, you shall have the pants," and off they came, and were in a few moments on the soldier. By the aid of a few buttons the drawers were converted into respectable trousers, and the giver was more delighted apparently than the receiver.

A few days since I saw a poor little drummer boy come to the counter for a pair of shoes. He asked modestly, and on being told that the last pair had been sent away, he replied, "Well, I can get along a little while longer with these, but they are hardly worth putting on," and was about to go away, and I noticed the eyes of an agent to fill with the swelling tide from his heart as he called the boy back, and said, "Here, my good fellow, you shan't go without new shoes, take mine." He was not permitted, however, to part with them, but another stepped forward and furnished the means of purchasing a pair, (not soldiers' shoes,) from a party who had them for sale, so that the drummer boy went away satisfied.

NOTES ON NURSING.

OBSERVATION OF THE SICK.

Almost all superstitions are owing to bad observation, to the *post hoc, ergo propter hoc;* and bad observers are almost all superstitious. Farmers used to attribute disease among cattle to witchcraft; weddings have been attributed to seeing one magpie, deaths to seeing three; and I have heard the most highly educated now-a-days draw consequences for the sick closely resembling these.

Another remark: although there is unquestionably a physiognomy of disease as well as of health; of all parts of the body, the face is perhaps the one which tells the least to the common observer or the casual visitor. Because, of all parts of the body, it is the one most exposed to other influences, besides health. And people never, or scarcely ever, observe enough to know how to distinguish between the effect of exposure, of robust health, of a tender skin, of a tendency to congestion, of suffusion, flushing, or many other things. Again, the face is often the last to show emaciation. I should say that the hand was a much surer test than the face, both as to flesh, color, circulation, &c. It is true that there are some diseases which are only betrayed at all by something in the face, *e. g.*, the eye or the tongue, as great irritability of brain by the appearance of the pupil of the eye. But we are talking of casual, not minute, observation. And few minute observers will hesitate to say that far more untruth than truth is conveyed by the oft repeated words, he looks well, or ill, or better or worse.

Wonderful is the way in which people will go upon the slightest observation, or often upon no observation at all, or upon some saw which the world's experience, if it had any, would have pronounced utterly false long ago.

I have known patients dying of sheer pain, exhaustion, and want of sleep, from one of the most lingering and painful diseases known, preserve, till within a few days of death, not only the healthy color of the cheek, but the mottled ap-

pearance of a robust child. And scores of times have I heard these unfortunate creatures assailed with, "I am glad to see you looking so well." "I see no reason why you should not live till ninety years of age." "Why don't you take a little more exercise and amusement," with all the other commonplaces with which we are so familiar.

There is, unquestionably, a physiognomy of disease. Let the nurse learn it.

The experienced nurse can always tell that a person has taken a narcotic the night before by the patchiness of the color about the face, when the re-action of depression has set in; that very color which the inexperienced will point to as a proof of health.

There is, again, a faintness, which does not betray itself by the color at all, or in which the patient becomes brown instead of white. There is a faintness of another kind, which, it is true, can always be seen by the paleness.

But the nurse seldom distinguishes. She will talk to the patient who is too faint to move, without the least scruple, unless he is pale, and unless, luckily for him, the muscles of the throat are affected and he loses his voice.

Yet these two faintnesses are perfectly distinguishable, by the mere countenance of the patient.

Again, the nurse must distinguish between the idiosyncracies of patients. One likes to suffer out all his suffering alone, to be as little looked after as possible. Another likes to be perpetually made much of and pitied, and to have some one always by him. Both these peculiarities might be observed and indulged much more than they are. For quite as often does it happen that a busy attendance is forced upon the first patient, who wishes for nothing but to be "let alone," as that the second is left to think himself neglected.

Again, I think that few things press so heavily on one suffering from long and incurable illness, as the necessity of recording in words from time to time, for the information of the nurse, who will not otherwise see, that he cannot do this or that, which he could do a month or a year ago. What is a nurse there for if she cannot observe these things for herself? Yet I have known—and known too among those—and chiefly among those —whom money and position put in possession of every thing which money and position could give—I have known, I say, more accidents, (fatal, slowly or rapidly,) arising from this want of observation among nurses than from almost anything else. Because a patient could get out of a warm bath alone a month ago—because a patient could walk as far as his bell a week ago, the nurse concludes that he can do so now. She has never observed the change; and the patient is lost from being left in a helpless state of exhaustion, till some one accidentally comes in. And this not from any unexpected apoplectic, paralytic, or fainting fit, (though even these could be expected far more, at least, than they are now, if we did but observe.) No, from the unexpected, or to be expected, inevitable, visible, calculable, uninterrupted increase of weakness, which none need fail to observe.

Again, a patient not usually confined to bed, is compelled by an attack of diarrhea, vomiting, or other accident, to keep his bed for a few days; he gets up for the first time, and the nurse lets him go into another room, without coming in, a few minutes afterwards, to look after him. It never occurs to her that he is quite certain to be faint, or cold, or to want something. She says, as her excuse, Oh, he does not like to be fidgetted after. Yes, he said so some weeks ago; but he never said he did not like to be "fidgetted after." when he is in the state he is in now; and if he did, you ought to make some excuse to go in to him. More patients have been lost in this way than is at all generally known, viz., from relapses brought on by being left for an hour or two faint, or cold, or hungry, after getting up for the first time.

Yet it appears that scarcely any improvement in the faculty of observing is being made. Vast has been the increase of knowledge in pathology —that science which teaches us the final change produced by disease on the human frame—scarce any in the art of observing the signs of the change while in progress. Or, rather, is it not to be feared that observation, as an essential part of medicine, has been declining?

Which of us has not heard fifty times, from one or another, a nurse, or a friend of the sick, aye, and a medical friend, too, the following remark: "So A. is worse, or B. is dead. I saw him the day before; I thought him so much better: there certainly was no appearance from which one could have expected so sudden (?) a change." I have never heard any one say, though one would think it the more natural thing, "There *must* have been *some* appearance, which I should have seen if I had but looked; let me try and remember what there was, that I may observe another time." No, this is not what people say. They boldly assert that there was nothing to observe, not that their observation was at fault.

Let people who have to observe sickness and death look back and try to register in their observation the appearances which have preceded relapse, attack, or death, and not assert that there were none, or that there were not the right ones.

It falls to few ever to have had the opportunity of observing the different aspects which the human face puts on at the sudden approach of certain forms of death by violence; and as it is a knowledge of little use, I only mention it here as being the most startling example of what I mean. In the nervous temperament the face becomes pale, (this is the only recognized effect;) in the sanguine temperament purple; in the billious yellow, or every manner of color in patches. Now, it is generally supposed that paleness is the one indication of almost any violent change in the human being, whether from terror, disease, or anything else. There can be no more false observation. Granted, it is the one recognized livery, as I have said—*de rigueur* in novels, but nowhere else.

A want of the habit of observing conditions and an inveterate habit of taking averages are each of them often equally misleading.

Men whose profession like that of medical men leads them to observe only, or chiefly, palpable and permanent organic changes are often just as wrong in their opinion of the result as those who do not observe at all. For instance, there is a broken leg; the surgeon has only to look at it once to know; it will not be different if he sees it in the morning to what it would have been had he seen it in the evening. And in whatever conditions the patient is, or is likely to be, there will still be the broken leg, until it is set. The same

with many organic diseases. An experienced physician has but to feel the pulse once, and he knows that there is aneurism which will kill some time or other.

But with the great majority of cases, there is nothing of the kind; and the power of forming any correct opinion as to the result must entirely depend upon an inquiry into all the conditions in which the patient lives. In a complicated state of society in large towns, death, as every one of great experience knows, is far less often produced by any one organic disease than by some illness, after many other diseases, producing just the sum of exhaustion necessary for death. There is nothing so absurd, nothing so misleading as the verdict one so often hears: So-and-so has no organic disease—there is no reason why he should not live to extreme old age; sometimes the clause is added, sometimes not: Provided he has quiet, good food, good air, &c., &c., &c.; the verdict is repeated by ignorant people *without* the latter clause; or there is no possibility of the conditions of the latter clause being obtained; and this, the *only* essential part of the whole, is made of no effect. I have heard a physician, deservedly eminent, assure the friends of a patient of his recovery. Why? Because he had now prescribed a course, every detail of which the patient had followed for years. And because he had forbidden a course which the patient could not by any possibility alter.

I have known two cases, the one of a man who intentionally and repeatedly displaced a dislocation, and was kept and petted by all the surgeons; the other of one who was pronounced to have nothing the matter with him, there being no organic change perceptible, but who died within the week. In both these cases, it was the nurse who, by accurately pointing out what she had accurately observed, to the doctors, saved the one case from persevering in a fraud, the other from being discharged when actually in a dying state.

I will even go further and say, that in diseases which have their origin in the feeble or irregular action of some function, and not in organic change, it is quite an accident if the doctor who sees the case only once a day, and generally at the same time, can form any but a negative idea of its real condition. In the middle of the day, when such a patient has been refreshed by light and air, by his tea, his beef-tea, and his brandy, by hot bottles to his feet, by being washed and by clean linen, you can scarcely believe that he is the same person as lay with a rapid fluttering pulse, with puffed eyelids, with short breath, cold limbs, and unsteady hands this morning. Now what is a nurse to do in such a case? Not cry, "Lord, bless you, sir, why you'd have thought he were a dying all night." This may be true, but it is not the way to impress with the truth a doctor, more capable of forming a judgment from the facts, if he did but know them, than you are. What he wants is not your opinion, however respectfully given, but your facts. In all diseases it is important, but in diseases which do not run a distinct and fixed course, it is not only important, it is essential that the facts the nurse alone can observe, should be accurately observed, and accurately reported to the doctor.

I must direct the nurse's attention to the extreme variation there is not unfrequently in the pulse of such patients during the day. A very common case is this: Between 3 and 4 A. M., the pulse becomes quick, perhaps 130, and so thready it is not like a pulse at all, but like a string vibrating just underneath the skin. After this the patient gets no more sleep. About mid-day the pulse has come down to 80; and though feeble and compressible, is a very respectable pulse. At night, if the patient has had a day of excitement, it is almost imperceptible. But, if the patient has had a good day, it is stronger and steadier, and not quicker than at mid-day. This is a common history of a common pulse; and others, equally varying during the day, might be given. Now, in inflammation, which may almost always be detected by the pulse, in typhoid fever, which is accompanied by the low pulse that nothing will raise, there is no such great variation. And doctors and nurses become accustomed not to look for it. The doctor indeed cannot. But the variation is in itself an important feature.

Cases like the above often "go off rather suddenly," as it is called, from some trifling ailment of a few days, which just makes up the sum of exhaustion necessary to produce death. And everybody cries, Who would have thought it? except the observing nurse, if there is one, who had always expected the exhaustion to come, from which there would be no rally, because she knew the patient had no capital in strength on which to draw, if he failed for a few days to make his barely daily income in sleep and nutrition.

I have often seen really good nurses distressed, because they could not impress the doctor with the real danger of their patient; and quite provoked because the patient "would look" either "so much better" or "so much worse" than he really is "when the doctor was there." The distress is very legitimate, but it generally arises from the nurse not having the power of laying clearly and shortly before the doctor the facts from which she derives her opinion, or from the doctor being hasty and inexperienced, and not capable of eliciting them. A man who really cares for his patients, will soon learn to ask for and appreciate the information of a nurse, who is at once a careful observer and a clear reporter.

Undoubtedly a person of no scientific knowledge whatever, but of observation and experience in these kinds of conditions, will be able to arrive at a much truer guess as to the probable duration of life of members of a family or inmates of a house, than the most scientific physician to whom the same persons are brought to have their pulse felt; no inquiry being made into their conditions.

In Life Insurance and such like societies, were they instead of having the person examined by the medical man, to have the houses, conditions, ways of life, of these persons examined, at how much truer results would they arrive! W. Smith appears a fine hale man, but it might be known that the next cholera epidemic he runs a bad chance. Mr. and Mrs. J. are a strong healthy couple, but it might be known that they live in such a house, in such a part of London, so near the river, that they will kill four-fifths of their children; which of the children will be the ones to survive might also be known.

Averages again seduce us away from minute observation. "Average mortalities" merely tell that so many per cent. die in this town and so many in that, per annum. But whether A or B will be among these, the "average rate of course does not tell. We know, say, that from

22 to 24 per 1,000 will die in London next year. But minute inquiries into conditions enable us to know that in such a district, nay, in such a street —or even on one side of that street, in such a particular house, or even on one floor of that particular house, will be the excess of mortality, that is, the person will die who ought not to have died before old age.

Now, would it not very materially alter the opinion of whoever were endeavoring to form one, if he knew that from that floor, of that house, of that street the man came.

Much more precise might be our observations even than this, and much more correct our conclusions.

It is well known that the same names may be seen constantly recurring on workhouse books for generations. That is, the persons were born and brought up, and will be born and brought up, generation after generation, in the conditions which make paupers. Death and disease are like the workhouse, they take from the same family, the same house, or in other words, the same conditions. Why will we not observe what they are?

The close observer may safely predict that such a family, whether its members marry or not, will become extinct; that such another will degenerate morally and physically. But who learns the lesson? On the contrary, it may be well known that the children die in such a house at the rate of 8 out of 10; one would think that nothing more need be said; for how could Providence speak more distinctly? yet nobody listens, the family goes on living there till it dies out, and then some other family takes it. Neither would they listen "if one rose from the dead."

In dwelling upon the vital importance of *sound* observation, it must never be lost sight of what observation is for. It is not for the sake of piling up miscellaneous information or curious facts, but for the sake of saving life and increasing health and comfort. The caution may seem useless, but it is quite surprising how many men (some women do it too,) practically behave as if the scientific end were the only one in view, or as if the sick body were but a reservoir for stowing medicines into, and the surgical disease only a curious case the sufferer has made for the attendant's special information. This is really no exaggeration. You think, if you suspected your patient was being poisoned, say, by a copper kettle, you would instantly, as you ought, cut off all possible connection between him and the suspected source of injury without regard to the fact that a curious mine of observation is thereby lost. But it is not everybody who does so, and it has actually been made a question of medical ethics, what should the medical man do if he suspected poisoning? The answer seems a very simple one—insist on a confidential nurse being placed with the patient, or give up the case.

And remember every nurse should be one who is to be depended upon, in other words, capable of being a "confidential" nurse. She does not know how soon she may find herself placed in such a situation; she must be no gossip, no vain talker; she should never answer questions about her sick except to those who have a right to ask them; she must, I need not say, be strictly sober and honest; but more than this, she must be a religious and devoted woman; she must have a respect for her own calling, because God's precious gift of life is often literally placed in her hands; she must be a sound, and close, and quick observer; and she must be a woman of delicate and decent feeling.

To return to the question of what observation is for:—It would really seem as if some had considered it as its own end, as if detection, not cure, was their business; nay more, in a recent celebrated trial, three medical men, according to their own account, suspected poison, prescribed for dysentery, and left the patient to the poisoner. This is an extreme case. But in a small way, the same manner of acting falls under the cognizance of us all. How often the attendants of a case have stated that they knew perfectly well that the patient could not get well in such an air, in such a room, or under such circumstances, yet have gone on dosing him with medicine, and making no effort to remove the poison from him, or him from the poison which they knew was killing him; nay, more, have sometimes not so much as mentioned their conviction in the right quarter —that is, to the only person who could act in the matter.—*Miss Nightingale.*

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and, as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above 14,000 copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, *68 Wall Street, or No. 823 Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

SANITARY FAIR AT DUBUQUE, IOWA.

If the value of services were measured by the extent of the sacrifice made in rendering them, it would probably be found that no State in the Union had done so much for the war as Iowa. She has sent, up to the present, nearly one-seventh of her entire population to the field. Some districts have nearly all their men in the army; and in most of them a very large proportion of the farm labor has devolved on the women; and on women, too, it must not be forgotten, whose ordinary duties are as heavy as ever, and who are entirely unused to the extraordinary ones with which they now find themselves burdened. And when it is remembered that all this is done and endured not for safety, or for independence, or gain, but for the perpetuation of the blessings of free government, or in other words, for a remote good—that it will be the future generation, rather than this one, which will reap the full benefit of these great efforts—it is doubtful if there is on record any other so splendid example of the heroism, farsightedness, and self-abnegation with which freedom long enjoyed, can gift a whole community.

After having given so many men to the ranks, it need not have excited any great surprise if a comparatively poor State like Iowa, which is still struggling with the usual difficulties of frontier life, had left to others the task of ministering to the soldiers' comfort. But so far from this, her exertions for the relief of the sick and wounded have been just as remarkable as her exertions in recruiting. Some of the incidents connected with the present fair belong to the romance of charity.

There is an amount of devotion behind

such contributions as twenty dollars from a man whose three sons, (all he has,) are in the army, "whose wife has to drive his reaper," and whose "daughters assist in binding his grain," and of more than a dollar "from every human being residing within the limits of a country away two hundred miles in the interior," of which the accounts of philanthropy do not furnish many instances; of which people living in a commercial community, where money and labor are generally plenty, can form but little idea.

Whatever the results of this war may be, this much is certain, that no community ever made such efforts and sacrifices as are recorded in the history both of our volunteering and of our Sanitary fairs without being ennobled and purified by them. And the fact that they have been so widely and freely made at the North, certainly goes far to refute the generally received notions of the debasing effect on the character of long absorption in money getting.

Mr. Norris says:

"The Northern Iowa Fair Association was organized on the 1st of March last. Gen. H. A. Wiltse, U. S. Sur.-Gen. of this District, was selected as President, who, with an efficient Board of Managers, has had the direction and control of its affairs, and who have devoted their active energies to its interests.

At the time of its organization, a resolution was adopted, pledging its proceeds to the Northwestern Branch of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

My time during the month preceding the Fair, was devoted largely to exciting the public mind upon the subject, and preparing it for such a movement. My hopes and designs in regard to the results of the Fair, were not measured by the amount of money that would be raised by it, but I believed it could be made instrumental in reviving our work throughout the whole north half of the State; and, also, of attaching our people in their Sanitary operations to the U. S. Sanitary Commission. In all my operations for the Fair, this object was kept steadily in view. A few facts will show the extent to which my anticipations have been realized.

The shipment of hospital supplies to the Chicago Commission, which had become very light from this State, was immediately so stimulated, that in the month of March we sent to that Commission 202 packages. In the month of April, their receipts from us amounted to 364 packages, 136 more than from the whole State of Illinois. For May, they received from us near 700 packages, 171 more than from Illinois. I have not the figures for June; they are, I am however aware, equally large; and some 200 packages more were shipped from Dubuque after the Fair, which reached Chicago too late to be embraced in the June report. It ought to be remarked that nearly the whole of these supplies were designed to be sent to the credit of the Fair. Many of the receipts credited by the Northwestern Commission reports to local aid societies were designed by the societies to have been credited to the Fair, but they neglected to give notice to that effect at Chicago, hence they were credited to them instead of the Fair, as intended.

Four months' incessant and active toil for, and the gift of thousands of dollars to the U. S. Commission, through the Fair, have identified our aid societies and people fully with that institution. At the last meeting of the State Commission at Desmoines, the delegates to which were from nearly all the aid societies that were at work for our Fair, a resolution was almost unanimously adopted, advising all sanitary societies in the State to send their supplies to the Northwestern Branch of the U. S. Commission.

Fears have been entertained that there would be a relapse of effort on the part of of our sanitary societies after the Fair was over. Every precaution has, however, been taken to prevent such a contingency, and our noble women of Iowa feel, I think, that the present is no time for relaxation of effort.

Large receipts ought not to be anticipated from us at Chicago for a month or two to come, not because labor will be suspended, but because all supplies on hand have been exhausted for the Fair, and our people will have to begin entirely anew. The business of the Fair is not entirely closed up to enable me to give you precise results. The expenses have been less in proportion to receipts, than any other of the great fairs. The receipts, it is hoped,

will reach from $75,000 to $80,000, and the net proceeds will not be far from $70,000. This result seems small when compared with the results of the New York or Philadelphia Fairs, but it must be recollected our population is light, our country new, and our people generally poor. If real ability is taken into account, I am satisfied that our gift upon this holy altar will be justly regarded as greater than that of any other fair that has been held for the Sanitary cause. As was well remarked by President Wiltse, in his opening address, "No donations have been sanctified by greater sacrifices than those made to our Fair." I have been surprised by a great many facts connected with its history. Neighborhoods whose entire male population almost had gone to the war, and whose crops have to be raised and harvested by the females, have contributed largely to its funds. One farmer who gave $20, told me that his three boys, (all he had,) were in the army, and that his wife would be compelled to drive his reaper in the harvest field, and his daughters assist in binding his grain, and in securing his harvest. Kossuth County, away two hundred miles in the interior, gave more than a dollar for every human being residing within its limits.

The Fair over, I shall extend my labors more into the southern portion of the State, though the principal towns in the northern part will require considerable attention. The history of our Fair will be published in a few days. Many items of interest omitted in this brief report will be found in it. To that history for numerous particulars, you are respectfully referred."

LATE MILITARY MOVEMENT ON ST. JOHN'S ISLAND, S. C.

Dr. Marsh reports from Beaufort, S. C., July 16:

Near the close of June, the General commanding gave us timely notice to prepare for an expedition. On the 1st July, the expedition, comprising all the available force of the Department, left Hilton Head, and on the morning of the 2d anchored in North Edisto harbor. Owing to the absence of field batteries, which an accident had detained, we were kept the entire day in an enemy's country, and not five miles from his entrenchments. Towards evening, a brigade under Gen. Birney, unsuccessfully met the enemy entrenched, and were repulsed and returned. On the day following, (July 3d,) the brigades under Generals Saxton and Hatch, disembarked; and on that and the day following, traversed Seabrook and St. John's Islands, by different routes, and on the 5th concentrated their forces in the neighborhood of Legareville, on St. John's Island.

Capt. Low, the obliging Quartermaster at Beaufort, had assigned us transportation "to any extent desired" upon the steamer Peconic, and when the troops took up their march inland, we, by advice of the Commander of the expedition, Gen. Hatch, remained in harbor, as hospital ship, to which the weary, wounded, and those suffering from sun-stroke could be gathered. Medical aid not being abundant, the whole care naturally fell upon the Commission.

In the march across the two islands, the troops suffered severely—the thermometer for hours standing from 95° to 103°. More or less skirmishing constantly occurred; and whatever disabilities followed of any nature, Surgeons and Line Officers sent back to us, often with a commendatory note—those requiring our care.

On the 5th, this march having been completed, and the base of operations changed to the north part of St. John's Island, near Legareville, we were ordered to proceed to sea, and into Stono River, opposite to our forces. This was accomplished, and a portion of the accumulated sick were transported to another steamer, about midnight of the 6th.

On the morning of the 7th we constructed quarters upon shore, and through the day cared for the disabled, and assisted in erecting hospitals for wounded expected from the front. In these labors we were greatly assisted by Dr. Mudge, of the New York Engineers, professionally, and by volunteer aid from the same Engineers in pitching tents and arranging quarters. And here it is proper to remark, that on three expeditions we have experienced the generous aid of these same noble men; they seek us out, ascertain our wants, and their skill supplies every deficiency. On the evening of this day a scene was presented, that if witnessed, would have strengthened many a weary

anything. This must have been the fault of the Division Commissary, and so I told Gen. Wilcox's Adjutant. He is now at City Point, and a new Commissary has been appointed.

* * * * *

The Government was issuing potatoes in about the same quantity as the Sanitary issues of onions—a potato to a man. These were 48 hours' rations. The Commissary said that he could not, as I advised, issue beets to one regiment, beans to another, &c., so as to make a good mess of some one kind for each, there would be too much grumbling. The Second Brigade Commissary said that the saur kraut had come in sufficient quantities for the eastern regiments, but was only an aggravation to the western, accustomed to quantities of this, so that he finally sent the whole of a small ration to the latter.

* * *

Lemons are the most grateful of all gifts, as they not only prevent scurvy, &c., like onions, but are a great luxury, and cheer and refresh the men, who make them into lemonade.

Mr. Potter reports, from the same Corps, July 6th:

The following are the essential facts to be reported concerning the Sanitary supplies of anti-scorbutics sent to tho Ninth Corps in the field:

The train, loaded with pickles, fresh onions and dried apples, left City Point landing at 12 M. 3d of July. The Sanitary Agents detailed to look after these supplies left later in the day, camped out near the 9th Corps headquarters that night, and reported to Gen. Burnside at 8 o'clock the next morning, July 4. The General received us very cordially, and spoke of the work of the Commission in the highest terms. He knew of the train of supplies that had been sent up the day before; the portion assigned to the 9th Corps (96 bbls.) had been delivered, and already by his Commissary sent to the different Divisions. *He spoke very strongly of the good effects which former supplies of this kind had had upon the men, and hoped the Commission would continue to send them, and even more extensively.* It had been his opinion, he said, from the first, that the sending of such articles to the soldiers in the field before they get sick, and particularly when, as now, they are so much confined to the trenches, is one of the most important ways in which the Sanitary Commission can work.

From the corps headquarters we went to the several division headquarters. In each the supplies had been received in good order, and were to be distributed to the men with their rations either for dinner or supper, and everywhere they were most welcome. Both officers and men spoke of those formerly sent as just the things wanted. The tomatoes, particularly, were very acceptable, and went through the whole corps, giving a large ration to each man. One of our agents remained with each division. I went to the 1st, Gen. Ledlie's. Gen. Ledlie takes a special and personal interest in this work of the Commission, and spoke most heartily of the good it was doing. He has the supplies brought directly to headquarters, and put under the charge of his Provost Marshal, through whom they are distributed *pro rata* to the brigades and regiments. His reason for this is, *that the men may know that these articles are not supplied as regular army rations, but that they come directly from the people at home, through the Sanitary Commission;* and, he added, *that this knowledge by the men of the interest taken in their welfare by friends at home would increase the good effect of the articles.* At dinner time I went through most of the regiments in both the second and first lines of rifle pits of this division. The men were eating the pickles which had been sent from our barge at noon the day before, and they ate them with the greatest relish, and praised the good people who had sent them, and said they wished they could have some such thing every day. There was the greatest call, I think, for tomatoes and fresh onions, especially for the latter. An onion or a pickle seems a small thing to us; but it is a great thing to a man who has to lie there in those rifle pits for four days in succession, with the bullets whistling over his head, especially if he feels that it comes in some sense as a present from home. The commanding officers and surgeons all said "Send more—send as many as you can." Since these articles began to be received, only six days before, the sick report of the 1st Division of the 9th Corps had been reduced from 355 to 238, a reduction which Gen. Ledlie and his Medical Director both attributed mainly to this change of diet. Ordinarily they said they should expect sickness to increase the longer the men are in trenches. Several officers assured me that in their own cases diarrhea had been cured by eating freely of the tomatoes sent them by the Commission. And generally all that I saw myself and learned from others, during the two days I was at the front, convinced me that this new work which the Commission has undertaken of caring for the needs of the well men in the field—not waiting for them to thin the ranks on account of sickness—is one of the greatest, perhaps the greatest, sanitary works of the war; and in my mind there is no doubt of the expediency of continuing and increasing it.

Mr. Leavens writes, July 5th:

* * * * *

We reached the front late in the evening. After losing our way and nearly upsetting the wagon, we camped for the night by the road-side. Next morning we found Gen. Burnside's headquarters, where we left two portions of our goods, one for him and one to be sent to Gen. Ferrero, of the 4th Division, (colored.) A third share we left at Gen. Potter's headquarters, 2d Division. It was given to me to remain in this Division.

My reception by Gen. Potter was very courteous. He kindly granted me the escort of a staff officer to the Brigade Headquarters, with permission to make such inquiries as my duty required. The officer who attended me also very politely showed the various objects of interest at the front.

I found our stores of pickles, onions, &c., in the hands of the Division Commissary, to be distributed during the day. Later in the day I was informed by soldiers with whom I conversed that they had received such articles. I had conversation with Gen. Potter, commanding the Division, Gen. Griffin, of the 1st Brigade, Dr. ——, and many other officers and men in regard to the sanitary condition of the Division. All agreed that the Government rations were now abundant and of good quality; beef, pork, soft bread, beans, rice, &c., being named. Nothing was more needed than such articles as our stores contained, pickles, onions, &c. Almost any strong acid was much craved and needed by the men.

The Commission can do nothing that will be more grateful to the men or more cordially approved by the officers, than to send on all such articles possible. The main articles spoken of were pickles, onions, saur kraut, and lemons. Doubtless stores of similar quality might be added.

Gen. Griffin spoke of ale as a drink, thinking it would be better than the whiskey ration.

* * * * *

The men at the front seemed active and healthy. The Division Hospital was nearly free from wounded. I think the Commission may rest confident that its goods reach the men, as intended, and may also have satisfaction in the wisdom and beneficence of sending forward such supplies.

VETERAN RESERVE CORPS.

Dr. Macgowan, Acting Brigade Surgeon of the Veteran Reserve Corps, also sends us the following strong testimony:

But, to the subject before me. When Gen. Grant changed his base to Port Royal, ten companies of this corps were sent from Alexandria to protect the new base. They were absent on that duty a little less than a month, during which time, their food consisted of pork, beans, and hard tack exclusively, save on two occasions, when fresh beef was served out. The deprivation of fresh vegetables, induced, before the close of the period, incipient scurvy in the command, to the extent of twenty-five per cent. in some companies, and forty per cent. in others. Spongy gums were so prevalent as to indicate that the deprivation if continued a little longer, would have rendered one-half the force wholly unfit for duty.

On their return I made a requisition for lemons, pickles, and such vegetables as were on hand at your agency here, which was instantly complied with, and which afforded timely relief. These men recuperated in part by your bounty, have again deserved well of the country, by aiding to drive the rebels from the threshold of the Capitol.

It must be borne in mind that this prevalence of scurvy, so excessive, and of such rapid development, was among men who had been more or less disabled by wounds or disease before they had earned a place in this American Legion of Honor. Some of them had suffered from scorbutic affections in Tennessee and at White House; they were on duty every other day, and often several days in succession. Consequently, this statement is presented, not as a criterion whereby to gauge the needs and dangers of our armies in this regard, but to show that your prophylactic labors are called for, and to apprise a generous public of the fact. So long as our "boys" have the assurance that they are supported in good faith by the nation, they will not grow weary of battling for the Republic, even if the conflict should be carried into the next century.

Vegetables and other anti-scorbutic articles are still daily issued in large quantities to the Army, outside of the regular issues to Hospitals, and the acknowledgments from surgeons, officers and privates, indicating how highly they are appreciated and how beneficial are their effects, are as regularly received.

It being impossible to get a statement in full of issues for current month, before going to press, we repeat the list published in last number of BULLETIN, adding a letter from Dr. Douglas, explaining manner of distribution, and one from the correspondent of the New York *Times* relative to this part of the Commission's work.

Anti-scorbutics forwarded during the month of June:

207,156 lbs. canned tomatoes, (over 103 tons.)	36,273 galls. pickled cucumbers, (about 1,200 bbls.)
15,060 lbs. canned fruit.	13,334 galls. pickled onions.
574 cans " jellies.	4,719 " tomatoes.

1,106 galls. curried cabbage.	32 bbls. other dried fruit.
16,218 galls. saur kraut.	301 boxes lemons.
100 bbls. fresh onions.	2,400 boxes portable lemonade.
70 bbls. potatoes.	25 boxes oranges.
242 bbls. dried apples.	

CITY POINT, *July 9th.*

DR. N. C. STEVENS,

DEAR SIR—I propose to make the next issue to 9th Corps, and shall be prepared, I think, to-morrow. I have on hand of

Pickled Cucumbers,	200	barrels.
" Onions,	150	"
Potatoes,	100	"

If a barrel of pickled cucumbers will suffice 500 men, 50 barrels will certainly give a good ration to every man in the 9th Corps; the same of pickled onions. Of potatoes, the Army ration is 3 barrels to 100 men. Our barrels will weigh about 130 lbs.

If I send you of potatoes 75 bbls., you will have about 10,000 lbs. of potatoes, which will give you a good ration.

Say then—50 bbls. Cucumbers, pickled.
50 " Onions, "
75 " Potatoes, fresh.

Total, 175 bbls.

It will require twenty-five wagons to take them to the front. Please procure them, and telegraph me when they are on the way.

Yours, &c.,
J. H. DOUGLAS, M.D.

The *New York Times* correspondent, writing from camp, July 20, says:

The pathetic note from George Rodgers, of Sheridan's cavalry, printed in last *Sunday's Times*, has attracted my attention. It is evident that he and his comrades have been "shared out" in the general distribution of onions. That the savory anti-scorbutics did not come their way is certain to be regretted, and without stopping to inquire who was guilty of the oversight, I must correct the false impression this complaint has doubtless left upon the minds of many who read it. I can do this without much trouble, and the kind-hearted public who have subscribed so generously for the purchase of the vegetables, and the little children, who sacrificed their pyrotechnic pleasures on the Fourth of July, for the same worthy object, will be glad to know that their bounty was not misapplied. The Sanitary Commission has been the faithful agent in the distribution. For this assertion I have read the proof in handsome notes of acknowledgment from Major-Generals Warren, Smith, Burnside, and a half score more of Division and Brigade Commanders. Quantities of vegetables arrived at City Point about the 2d of July, and through the cheerful exertions of Dr. J. H. Douglas, the Assistant Secretary of the Commission; Drs. Macdonald, Stevens and Swalm, Inspectors; Mr. Anderson, the transportation agent, and the other employees, without any exception, the onions were apportioned and delivered to the Division Commissaries of the respective corps, in time to make part of the Fourth of July dinner.

The Army of the Potomac received 514 barrels.

The Eighteenth Corps received 102 barrels.

The Tenth Corps received 107 barrels.

Wilson's Cavalry division received 12 barrels.

The aggregate number of barrels distributed for that occasion was 743.

On the 6th of July another distribution of 1,153 barrels was made under the direction of Lieut. Col. Morgan, Chief Commissary of the armies in the field.

Since that date there have been very large supplies received, not only onions, but of potatoes, cabbages, green and dried apples, canned tomatoes and pickles, all of which have been distributed among the men in the camps and trenches, and the patients in the hospitals. The figures show that for the eighteen days, beginning July 1, the Commission distributed 3,353 barrels of potatoes, 2,719 barrels of onions, 1,448 barrels of pickles, 865 barrels of assorted vegetables, 141 barrels of dried apples, — barrels of green apples, and still have a quantity of the less perishable stores on hand to be disposed of among the various corps.

From a personal investigation, I am able to say that the soldiers appreciate to the full extent the thoughtfulness of their friends, and from a hygienic point of view, the advantages of this liberal supply of fresh vegetables, is incalculable. Sheridan's cavalry are the only men in all the army from whom there has been heard a whisper of complaint, and that they were overlooked in the distribution, was not the desire, as I am certain it was not the fault, of the agents of the Commission. The failure, if traced to its causes, would be found to rest upon the Commissary Department of that organization; or, still more probable, in the miscarriage of the notification to send for the portion assigned for the cavalry.

For a very good reason, the Sanitary Commission at present will send no more vegetables to the army, the Government having a sufficient supply on hand to hold out until the end of this month. After the first of August, however, the Commissaries will no longer issue a ration of fresh vegetables to the soldiers; and, by an order of the War Department, a very general reduction of the entire schedule of rations is to take place from that date. The amount thus far issued during the war has been proved from actual experience to have been extravagantly large—far larger than the men could consume. Now the soldiers, in lieu of the curtailed rations, are to receive $16 per month, instead of $13 as heretofore.

The items of potatoes, molasses and, optionally, rice or beans, are to be altogether cut off, and the ration of flour or bread is to be reduced from twenty-two to eighteen ounces per diem. Here then is the opportunity for exercise by the public of a commendable generosity. Let the people promptly step in with their munificent offerings to supply what the Government will not. If fresh vegetables are so highly appreciated now, when an occasional and limited quantity is furnished by the Commissariat Department, will not the appreciation be immeasurably greater under the new order of matters next month? The people have only to understand these things, and feel confident that their gifts are properly applied, to insure no lack of these coveted and health-sustaining articles of diet. These vegetables must be furnished to the soldiers, and the Sanitary Commission will doubtless in some way see to that; but how can it add this immense tax upon its means without retrenching its disbursements in other directions? It is the privilege of friends at home to ameliorate by every method the hardships endured by their brave defenders in the field, and the past gives ample proof that they will not fail to exercise it with enthusiasm.

WORK OF RELIEF IN GRANT'S ARMY,

Mr. Smith reports from City Point, June 22:

I have the honor to submit the following report of my work in the field since leaving Washington for Belle Plain, May 11, 1864:

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Finding that there was much to do for every one desirous of alleviating the wants and sufferings of our wounded men, I felt that the severity of the storm could offer no excuse for my delay in doing all in my power to comfort them. I found many of our men quite badly wounded, lying by the road side in the mud and rain, without rubber or woolen blankets to protect them. Many, who were more seriously wounded, I discovered lying in army wagons in bad condition, as nearly all had been cooped up in them for from twenty-four to forty-eight hours, and had been carried over very rough roads, in very uncomfortable positions, for a distance of twenty-five miles, without once having had the primary dressings of their wounds removed, or wet oftener than twice since starting on their journey. The bandages were found very much displaced and soiled, and in consequence there was much suffering from the heat and painfulness of wounds. It was my work to relieve these men, as well as I was able, by changing the positions in which their wounded and wearied limbs had been lying for many hours, and to dress and wet such wounds as seemed to have been longest neglected, and gave rise to most suffering. All I met with were bearing their fate with indescribable calmness and fortitude.

* * * *

Coffee, tea, and crackers were freely distributed by the agents of the Commission, whose headquarters were established at a point favorably located for the work.

The wounds, as far as my observations extended, were generally doing remarkably well.

In the afternoon of May 12th, I found in one wagon, Lieut. ———, 20th Massachusetts Volunteers, who was shot by guerrillas, while lying in the wagon on his way to Belle Plain. He was in a critical condition, having been wounded at the front in an engagement, and being on his way to hospital when he was shot again. This, to me, was a heart rending case; the former wound* not being fatal, and honorably received, while the latter would without doubt cost him his life. I gave him some wine and soft crackers, and ordered some beef tea, and dressed his wounds. Same day I went to ambulance park of 5th and 9th Corps, with Dr. E. Harris. Here I found 600 men seriously wounded, many having had their limbs amputated.

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The same supplies, in kind, were given to wounded of 5th Corps. All these men were in a very destitute condition, and the surgeons of the 5th Corps, and the steward of 9th, said the men must have suffered much for want of food, but for the timely arrival of our stores. The wounded in 9th Corps told me they had received no food, of substantial character, in thirty-six hours previous to my visit, and that their wounds had remained unlooked at for forty-eight hours. These men and their wounds and stumps were in bad condition in all respects; and thus they would be compelled, probably to lie eighteen hours longer before they could reach the wharf and the transports. I left bandages, lint, and adhesive plaster, also, for their use.

On May 13th I started on foot, in mud and rain, for Fredericksburg, and after going some distance fell in with Mr. Holbrook, who kindly offered me his horse for part of my journey. When about half way to the city, met several large squads of rebel prisoners. This evidence of our success brought much cheerfulness and apparent satisfaction to our men, both those who were trudging along with moderately severe wounds, and those on their way to the "front," who seemed now to be over-anxious to push along with alacrity. Arrived in city at 2½ P. M., pretty well drenched with rain. Reported to Dr. Dalton, at your request. He assigned me to

* Compound fracture of lower jaw.

duty in charge of two hospitals of 1st Div. of 6th Corps. I commenced work in the hospitals by dressing, that evening, such wounds as imperatively needed attention, and ordering from the storehouse of the Commission such supplies and articles as I felt would make my men comfortable. There were in the hospital 106 men—of these, 69 were slightly wounded, and 37 very seriously. The following morning dressing of all the wounded by myself had been entered upon, and I worked hard from 8½ A.M. till nearly 2½ P.M. This having been done, I was well satisfied with the condition of all the wounded, and of the cases which it was necessary I should personally attend to daily; the others being turned over to dressers and nurses. By this plan I saved much time, and in course of three or four days all was going on so nicely that one-half of the afternoon of each day was spent in dressing the wounds of men, who were to be found lying on nearly every street corner, without having had their wounds attended to from forty-eight to seventy-two hours. Many poor follows were crowded into damp, dark, ill ventilated stores, of which there are a great number in the city. These men frequently were found suffering much from long lying in one position, or from hunger or thirst, or painfulness of their wounds. In the half afternoons which I spent in going around looking after the wants of these neglected cases, and in relieving them, I am conscious of having done much good in the name of the Sanitary Commission.

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Soon after our arrival at Port Royal I went ashore, and inquired into the condition and needs of the wounded. Found most were lying in army wagons, parked about the supply depot of the Sanitary Commission, which had been established at this point before our advent. All the wounded with whom I conversed acknowledged they had enough to eat, and more; and expressed much gratitude towards the Sanitary Commission for the prompt manner in which its agents had come to their relief. Part of the materials of which the food was prepared were, I believe, furnished us by the Army Medical Department, under Dr. Cuyler, but the preparation and distribution were done by the agents of the Commission. These labors here were highly appreciated by our soldiers.

One of the most gratifying features of the Commission's work at this point was the interment of the dead, under the immediate supervision of Mr. Holstein, in a manner so orderly, respectful and solemn, that it attracted the attention of all, and elicited many expressions of gratitude, satisfaction and reverence, from the witnesses of these unpretending scenes of loyal devotion. No more imposing obsequies have I ever observed, and never have I experienced a more uncontrollable thrill of solemnity, than when I saw the bodies of our men, shrouded in their blankets, lowered into graves, unseen by friends and unknown to those whose loyal hearts urged them to this last sad but sanctifying duty. When I last visited the grounds there had been twenty-three interments. The graves were tastefully arranged in rows, and to each was a head-board, on which was inscribed the name, rank, company, regiment, and date of death of the deceased.

From Port Royal I accompanied the party to White House, which landing we reached in the afternoon of May 29th. There had been no considerable number of troops at this point until about two hours previous to our arrival. I was soon assigned to duty on shore. For several days I made it my business to look to the wants of our wounded and supply them, or direct such as were able where to find what they wanted. One long train of badly wounded men, numbering about 1,500, came in June 2d. I visited nearly all the ambulances, and asked the occupants if they had been fed, and had received coffee or beef-tea, &c. In every instance the reply was "Yes, the Sanitary men gave us something to eat," or words conveying the same meaning.

Up to June 4th I continued doing such work as came within my sphere, and in the doing of which benefit accrued to our sick and wounded men. My work for several days previous to this date was not done with the alacrity it demanded, for the reason that I did not feel well. The *malaise*, previously experienced, seemed to have culminated on afternoon of June 4th, and a severe attack of dysentery was the consequence. From this date till June 12th I was wholly unfit for any service, and then I should have declined work had not Dr. Fairchild been suddenly taken ill and started for Washington. I then succeeded him in duty on our boats, in which capacity I have remained up to present date.

The following extracts from Superintendent Harris's report, may serve to illustrate the difficulties of transportation with which the Field Relief Corps of the Commission have to contend in following the Army with supplies:

FROM BELLE PLAIN TO WHITE HOUSE.

On May 23d, Mr. John A. Anderson, Acting Associate Secretary in charge of the work of the Commission at Belle Plain, on the Potomac, at that time the base of supplies for the Army of the Potomac, placed me in charge of the land transportation of the Commission, then consisting of thirty-two four-horse wagons, exclusive of those at front, with instructions to exercise my

own judgment about conducting the train to the next base, which would probably be Port Royal, on the Rappahannock, twenty miles below Fredericksburg. The same day I received the following telegram from Mr. Knapp, dated Washington:—"Send the loaded wagons to Fredericksburg. Use your own judgment about the others; but supply Fredericksburg if you can."

All the wagons were loaded, and at 6.30 P.M., the train started in charge of Clark Emmons, wagon master, with orders to halt for the night at White Oak Church. In the morning the feeding station there, in charge of Mr. Doolittle, was broken up, the goods put in the wagons, and the train started for Fredericksburg, where I reported to Dr. Douglas, Associate Secretary, at 10 A.M.

The Post Quartermaster, Captain Stone, being in want of teams to move the wounded to the station at Falmouth, the Government horses being exhausted by the work put upon them, made a request for twenty-five of the Commissions' teams, which was granted by Dr. Douglas. These teams were engaged all night, making several trips from the various hospitals in the town to Falmouth.

The next day, (25th,) a similar request was made for ten teams, which was also granted by Dr. Douglas. These were at work all day and night, the Commission drivers remaining with their own teams, refusing, although nearly exhausted, to let strange men drive.

On the 26th, the Sanitary Commission steamer Kent arrived from Port Royal, in charge of Mr. Williams, and reported the other boats of the Commission at that place.

On the 27th a force was sent out to the Wilderness, to attempt the recovery of some of our wounded, abandoned there several days previously, and then in the hands of the enemy. A train of ambulances accompanied the expedition, to which was added a Commission four-horse wagon loaded with soft crackers, milk and stimulants, in charge of Mr. Wilcox, agent of the second Corps.

The wounded were recovered and brought in, the stores being distributed to them on the road.

On the 28th, Fredericksburg was abandoned by our forces. Leaving at 5 A.M., we arrived at Port Royal shortly after dark, and reported to Dr. Douglas. Before starting in the morning, Dr. ——— informed me that his brother, who was recovering from the small pox, had been left in one of the houses in town, and that he was unable to get him in an ambulance or on board the hospital boat, and that unless I could carry him in one of the wagons he would be left behind.

I had him placed in a spring wagon, and made him as comfortable as possible, and the next morning had the satisfaction of seeing him placed on board a boat bound for Washington.

The next day, (Sunday 29th,) the boats of the Commission left for White House, to which place the base of supplies was being changed. The wagons were loaded with a few additional sacks of grain each, and preparations made for starting the following morning. At 2 A. M., Monday, the train was in readiness to start, but having received permission from the Quartermaster, Capt. Blood, to ship a portion of the goods on a Government boat, I sent sixteen wagons to the river which were unloaded, with the exception of a few cases of underclothing, shoes, articles of diet and stimulants, and the goods placed in charge of William S. M. Blazier, agent of the Commission in the 6th Corps.

Having reloaded the wagons with forage, an effort was made to overtake the balance of the train, which had a start of about an hour. On reaching the picket-line the officer in charge refused to allow the train to pass, considering the danger too great. Consequently, we returned to camp to wait for the next escort.

The next day the place was evacuated by our forces. The train, consisting of about one hundred and fifty wagons, and guarded by a brigade of infantry and several regiments of cavalry, was in motion at 3 A. M., and we were at last on the road to White House. When about six miles from Port Royal we came across the remains of a train which had been attacked two nights previously by guerrillas. A number of wagons had been burned, while a few remained uninjured. Half a dozen dead mules were lying around, while a few others were quietly cropping the grass. The most horrible sight was three of our men lying on the ground dead—one with his head split open with an axe—to all appearances brutally murdered. Scouts were immediately sent out, and shortly returned bringing a man whom they found at a house near by.

At first he denied having had anything to do with the attack. After being questioned closely, however, he admitted that he was aware of the intentions of the party which made the attack, but had no power to prevent it. Five minutes were allowed him to prepare for death, which had the effect of bringing out his political sentiments. The moments of grace were spent in cursing the "Yanks." Seven balls through his breast soon sent him to account for it before a higher tribunal.

* * * * *

Thursday, June 2.—Reveille at 1 A. M. On the march at daylight. Reached the bank of the North Anna by 9, and crossed at 11 o'clock. At 2 P. M., arrived at Han-

over Court House, having traveled several miles off the direct road, being led by a guide whose proclivities were a little of the "secesh order," and who could not resist the temptation of leading the train where it would stand a fair chance of being captured. The plan was discovered in time, and the man properly taken care of.

At Hanover Court House were stationed the cavalry pickets on the extreme right of Gen. Grant's Army, which caused us to feel that we were near our journey's end. Parking the train, the teams were fed, and preparations were made for passing the night comfortably, with a heavy rain pouring down. At 6 P. M., however, such happy thoughts were dispelled, by the order to "hitch-up immediately." In a great hurry the train was put in motion, which continued through the night, the teams being driven on a trot wherever the condition of the road allowed it. At daylight, halted three miles from Old Church, and remained in park a few hours, when the firing being rather too near, a move was made towards the rear for about a mile, where we were out of range. The fighting continued all day, during which I issued to various surgeons the goods remaining in the wagons.

Saturday, June 14th.—Ten miles from White House. At 9 A. M. started, and on the road all day, arriving at dark, when I reported to Dr. Douglas.

The balance of the train arrived two days before, having come down the north bank of the Pamunkey, a much shorter route than that by which we came.

Everything in the train was in good order, owing to the efficiency of the Wagon Master, Clarke Emmons.

From White House to City Point.

* * * * *

After the arrival of the Commission train at White House, the wagons were engaged in hauling stores to the front to supply the various hospitals and the wagons in the Field Relief Corps.

On the 19th ultimo, there were remaining at White House sixteen four-horse wagons—the balance of the train having been sent to the front several days previous, with orders to follow the army across the Peninsula to the new base, wherever it might be. The boats of the Commission left a week previous, and I was waiting the first opportunity to start with the remaining wagons.

Having been assigned a position in the Cavalry Corp's train, I drew the wagons in their proper place, and with others, patiently waited the return of Gen. Sherman's command, which was on a raid in the direction of Staunton, and which was to escort the train. On Sunday, (19th ultimo,) he was reported to have arrived at Dunkirk, eighteen miles north of White House, and was expected in the next day.

Monday morning, shortly after daylight, the entire camp was aroused by volleys of musketry and cannonading, but a heavy mist prevented anything being seen beyond a few rods.

Riding out to the outer line of intrenchments, I found the troops in line expecting an attack. The enemy had driven in the pickets, wounding one and capturing several. Returning to camp, I found that no orders had as yet been received; but in view of a sudden move, I had the teams watered and everything packed ready to be loaded. At 6.30 A. M., orders were received to hitch-up, and move the train across the river over the railroad bridge. After remaining there a few minutes watching the enemy, who appeared to be very busy about something, we saw their artillery run out from the woods and unlimbered. Immediately they opened fire from six guns, posted by sections in three different places, paying their compliments to the train which was huddled together on the open plain, presenting a beautiful mark.

* * * * *

While here fourteen shells passed through the train, only two of which took effect, one striking a team horse and killing him; and the other passing through a wagon and out by the driver, doing no damage.

None of the men were injured, although several had narrow escapes.

By one o'clock the entire train was over the river in a place of safety, and the firing nearly ceased, the enemy having lost a caisson, and apparently had rather the worst of the fight.

Sheridan's command arrived during the afternoon and attacked the rebels, and by night succeeded in driving them beyond Tunstall's Station, on the Richmond and York River Railroad.

The following day the wounded of the cavalry began to arrive. Mrs. Husband and Miss Hancock, of Philadelphia, immediately began to prepare food for them. Happily we were able to supply them with plenty of crackers, milk, stimulants, and canned meats. For several days previous to this these two ladies had nursed and fed some twenty or thirty sick in the 13th Ohio cavalry.

In feeding these men our own rations were used, so that we were compelled to draw from the commissary.

On the 22d the train re-crossed the river, and remained near the landing until 12 o'clock, (midnight,) when the entire command began to move. The train, consisting of 860 wagons, stretched out along the road for eight or nine miles, and required nearly four hours for all of it to get in motion, consequently, as the Commission train brought up the rear, it did not start

until daylight. Reaching New Kent Court House about noon, a short halt was made to feed and rest. At 2 P. M., the march was resumed, and continued to the Chickahominy, which was crossed at Jones' Bridge.

The train parked for the night on the south bank of the river, with plenty of wood and water near at hand.

The advance had considerable skirmishing this day with the enemy, in which the 28th colored regiment behaved well for their first fight, charging and driving the rebels.

Thursday, 23d.—The order of march was to Charles City Court House, then on the river road, via Westover Church and Shirley to Haxall's, on the James. The train was in motion at 2 A. M., and marched about five miles, when a halt was ordered, which continued several hours, until the road could be cleared of the enemy, who was making strenuous efforts to cut and capture the train.

After six hours we started again, passing through Charles City Court House and along the river road, but the enemy finally compelled the train to haul in close to the river at a place called Wilcox's Landing, where preparations were made for passing the night. That night I sent a note by a tug going up, to Dr. Douglas, announcing our safe arrival.

Before the men had finished supper, orders were received to hitch up and get out of that place as soon as possible. Marching down the river by the road we came, and bearing to the right at Charles City Court House. Morning found us at a place called Wyanoke.

The fighting of yesterday was very heavy, and our loss considerable, especially in Gregg's command.

At Wyanoke, boats were in readiness to ferry the wagons across the river. The Commission train was the first to cross. On the south bank were two canal boats, over which the horses and wagons had to be landed. The drivers went to work with a will, and in an hour's time built a substantial bridge, by which the train was safely put ashore.

The heat that day was intense, and three of the teamsters were overcome by the effects of the sun, but soon recovered.

Selecting a good camping ground, we made preparations to stay a few days, provided the rebels did not interfere, which we could not have offered much opposition to, as not one man had been sent over to guard the wagons. The same afternoon Mr. Anderson came down on the tug Curtin, bringing a supply of rations for the men, and of stores for the wounded in the hospitals on the other side of the river.

The next day, (Sunday,) Dr. Douglas came down on the propeller Thompson, and proposed sending down boats the next day to carry the horses and wagons up to City Point, deeming it unsafe to attempt to go up the road without a guard. It was necessary to have the wagons at City Point as soon as possible, to haul to the front stores which were rapidly accumulating there.

Ascertaining from contrabands in the vicinity that no rebels had been seen around there for several days, and supposing there were none there, from the fact of their not showing themselves when twenty of them could have captured the train, I concluded to start in the morning and take the chances. There were two Government wagons waiting to go through with the mail. Joining with them we raised quite a formidable party—and at daybreak on Monday started, and arrived at City Point at 8.30 A. M., without any adventure.

To Messrs. Doolittle, Davis, and Oscar Little, I am much indebted for the kind assistance they have rendered on the march.

SPECIAL RELIEF—HOMES AND LODGES.

Washington.

Mr. Abbott reports of the work accomplished at the Special Relief Office at Washington, and the Homes and Lodges under his supervision, for the quarter ending June 30th, 1864:

Special Relief Office.

Discharged Soldiers.

Number of discharged soldiers whose papers have been received and acted upon	447
Number of cases adjusted and applicants paid	326
Amount collected for the three hundred and twenty six applicants	$43,937.30

Back Pay.

Number of applications from men in hospitals for aid in obtaining the back pay due them	670
Number of certificates secured for back pay	657
Amount secured on certificates	$25,107.48

Naval Claims.

Number of naval claims filed	63
Number adjusted	43
Amount collected on naval claims	$ 5,525.01
Total amount collected for the quarter, through the agency of the office	$76,591.11
Number of drafts secured and forwarded	154
Amount of the 154 drafts	$13,964.96

The number who are availing themselves of this privilege, afforded by the Commission, of sending their money home by drafts, thus saving them the risk of losing or having it swin-

dled from them, is increasing. During the last month the number is nearly twice as great as any month previous.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Number of letters written in adjusting the cases acted upon, of sufficient importance to make a copy necessary.....1,665

A large number have been written, of which no copy has been taken.

PENSION OFFICE.

Number of pension claims filed	357
Number of claims for arrears of pay and bounty	47
Claims for pensions completed and allowed	189
Claims for arrears of pay and bounty allowed	6
Claims for pensions rejected	61
Number of *letters* written in full in adjusting the above cases	476
Blanks filled	689
Whole number of letters	1,165

THE HOME.

The report of Mr. P. J. McHenry, Assistant Superintendent, shows the amount of work accomplished at the Home, for the last quarter, to be as follows:

Whole number admitted	2,692
Number of lodgings furnished	7,767
Number of meals furnished	18,190

HOME FOR SOLDIERS' WIVES AND MOTHERS.

Number admitted	444
Women	333
Children	111
Number of meals furnished for May and June	2,797
Number of lodgings furnished for May and June	1,017

LODGE No. 4.

Number of meals furnished to soldiers and ambulance drivers	20,510
Number of lodgings	4,706

Mr. John Kane, Superintendent of the Lodge since July 10, 1863, was discharged on the 23d of June, for disloyal utterances. His services and management of the Lodge were entirely satisfactory, but his sentiments were altogether too rebellious to be tolerated during the last few weeks of his services.

Mr. John Savall was placed temporarily in charge, and thus far I am well pleased with his management of the Lodge.

LODGE No. 5.

The work of this Lodge has been principally the furnishing of food, coffee, lemonade, and stimulants to the sick and wounded, arriving on the cars and hospital boats and transports, and while waiting to be removed to General Hospital. Not less than seventy or eighty barrels of crackers, and from six to eight thousand gallons of coffee, chocolate, lemonade and stimulants have been distributed to the sick and wounded from this Lodge.

ALEXANDRIA LODGE.

The importance of this Lodge has greatly diminished since the army moved its base of supplies from the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. However, its records will show that more than 20,000 soldiers, sick and wounded, have been provided with food and drinks from this Lodge, and more than 1,000 lodged during the last quarter.

The wounded that have been brought up on the hospital boats and transports, and sent into the general hospital of Alexandria, have all been provided with food and stimulants from this Lodge, whenever they have required them.

HOME FOR INVALID SOLDIERS, BALTIMORE.

This Home has not been in operation two months, yet its record shows the following amount of work accomplished since it was opened:

Number of soldiers admitted	32
Number of soldiers wives admitted	30
Number of refugees admitted	27
Total	89
Number of meals furnished	615
Number of lodgings furnished	187
Number furnished Government transporta'n	23
Number furnished transportation by the Commission	19

The Home is situated at No. 62 Conway Street, near the Camden station; a convenient two-story brick house, well arranged for the work, for which a rent of $350 per year is to be paid. It has accommodations for about fifty persons.

The number of meals furnished at the Homes and Lodges in this city, Alexandria and Baltimore, during the last quarter, of which a record has been kept, was 42,112; number of lodgings, 14,677. The number of meals does not include the thousands that have been fed at the railroad stations and boat landings in this city and Alexandria, while waiting to be removed to General Hospitals.

This report of the operations of the Special Relief Office and the several Homes and Lodges, is far from being complete. There are thousands of little acts of kindness, relief and aid

furnished which really make up the best part of the special relief work, that it is impossible to enter into our records, and consequently the most interesting portion of the work is never exhibited in a report.

In conclusion, it is a pleasant duty to bear testimony to the faithfulness and zeal of my associates in the work of special relief, in the performance of their duty, and also the uniform kindness with which we have been treated by the officers and clerks in the various departments of the Government, and all others with whom our business has brought us in contact.

HOME HOSPITAL.

Surgeon Nichols reports of the Home Hospital under his charge for the month of June, 1864:

Cases treated	183
Different diseases	18
States represented	17
Deaths	2
Visits to Soldiers' Rest	10
Outside prescriptions	60
Wounds dressed	500

NEW ORLEANS.

Mr. Bullard reports:

The Soldiers' Home has been eminently successful during the past month, and its utility has manifested itself with unusual force at this particular season, when, on account of the advancing hot weather, many men were being furloughed and discharged from the different sections of the Department, of course daily gathering in New Orleans, to secure their pay and transportation. It is painful to think of the suffering that must have resulted from the entire absence of any such source of relief in this city last summer. Our experience this year is an index, in a degree, of what must have been last year; and probably the active campaign towards and at Port Hudson last year brought a large number of men to this city, who found neither Soldiers' Home nor other source of relief, in a community for the most part literally *secesh*.

The various movements of the army within the last few weeks, the apparent necessity to furlough or discharge many from the large numbers of men already broken down by disease in this trying climate, and the recent interruptions in the usual means of transportation, resulting from the seizure of boats for military purposes, have so crowded the Home that I found it necessary to enlarge the means of accommodation. More particularly the hospital ward was found insufficient. Some of the furloughed and discharged men from the regiments were barely able to reach the city, and in many cases they have been compelled to remain with us several days, waiting for pay or transportation. The only apparent remedy seemed to be to hire the building between the Soldiers' Home and our office. This additional building costs the Commission $30 per month.

The expenses of the Home have been larger the past month than usual. We have had more men to care for, and there have been more sick on our hands than during any month heretofore. Mr. Weaver and all the employees have worked faithfully, and have done themselves credit by their ready efforts to help the sick and needy. Our faithful little matron, Miss James, has been untiring in her attention to the sick, and many a poor fellow has left the Home, blessing her for her kindness.

It may be necessary to modify operations in the matter of exchanging certain rations, which heretofore have helped reduce the expenses of the Home.

I enclose Mr. Weaver's report. It speaks for itself, and shows a good month's record.

The whole amount of rations bought and issued to the men going home, via Cairo and New York, in June, is $598.63; of this amount, $501.65 was refunded by those having money. About thirty men, who were destitute, have been furnished with similar rations, at a cost of $97 to the special relief fund. Some of these cases were sick furloughed men, who could not eat the coarse Government rations usually drawn on furloughs. I think these funds have been well and charitably invested.

In the office work of the special relief individual cases of advice and assistance, aside from mere collection of pay, are constantly increasing. Much that is perplexing and unpleasant helps fill the daily office experience. Enough success crowns our efforts to bring increasing numbers of applicants.

During the month 165 cases have passed through the office for collection of pay. Amount collected, $26,649.10.

During the month of June the number of admissions has been 968; of meals furnished, 5,713; of lodgings, 17,193. Amount of money deposited for safe keeping; $22,396.48.

MEMPHIS.

During the month ending July 3d the number of admissions has been 1,592; of meals furnished, 3,894; of lodgings, 918; the amount of pay collected and paid over, $832.39.

NASHVILLE.

During the month ending July 2d, the number of admissions has been 3,204; of meals fur-

nished, 9,921; of lodgings, 3,413. Transportation has been procured for 2,482; and the amount of pay collected and paid over has been $2,568.48.

CAIRO.

During the month ending June 27 the number of admissions has been 6,696; of meals furnished, 14,046; of lodgings, 3,338; and transportation has been furnished for 289.

DETROIT.

11,885 meals and 4,704 lodgings have been furnished.

THE SANITARY AND CHRISTIAN COMMISSIONS.

Rev. J. P. Thompson, of New York, having lately returned from a visit to General Sherman's army, as a delegate of the Christian Commission, has written for the *Congregationalist* several articles, giving an account of his experience at the front. Dr. Thompson had very favorable opportunities for seeing the methods and working of both the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, although his stay was short. He was present at the battle of Resaca, and had much to do in alleviating the sufferings of the wounded, and in soothing the spirits of the dying. He was in many hospitals all the way from Louisville down, and saw and helped with his words of good cheer many sick and discouraged soldiers.

Dr. Thompson's opinions are so widely and so highly valued, that the following extract from one of his communications to the *Congregationalist* will be read with interest by all the friends of the soldiers who wish them to receive the largest benefit possible from the efforts made in their behalf. Dr. Thompson says of the two Commissions:

Our personal observation, and an extensive comparison of views with those most competent to judge, have convinced us that some arrangement must be made at headquarters of the Christian and Sanitary Commissions, to ensure their harmonious working upon the field. In the West this harmony already exists to a commendable degree. It is favored by the leading minds of both Commissions, and is practically hindered only by the incompetent or ill-advised subordinates of either.

A few simple facts and principles in this matter are so obvious, that the public will insist upon their being regarded by the two Commissions.

1. The work of the Sanitary Commission is indispensable to the best physical condition of the army, and to the prompt succor and relief of the wounded.

2. Its purely humane object enables it to appeal to the widest range of sympathies, and to draw from the amplest field of resources.

3. Its thorough systemization enables it to act with a high degree of efficiency, and with a small percentage of waste.

4. Its principle of distribution, through the official requisition of the medical direction of the army, with a limited discretion of personal distribution by its agents, is obviously the sound principle, and secures to this Commission the proper facilities for access to the army.

5. The composition of the Commission is a guaranty against either sectarianism or irreligion in its prevailing tone. That some members of the Commission may have sought to give it a sectarian bias is possible; that some of its agents have been men of irreligious character is true; but these are evils that can and will be rectified by the Commission itself under the healthy action of public opinion.

6. The Christian Commission is of incalculable importance to the moral and spiritual welfare of the army. It can hardly be over-estimated. For its long winter ministrations when the army is in quarters, and for its steady work in hospitals, as also for the general superintendence of a department, it should have men of wisdom and experience, who will devote their time to the work for months and even for years. Such men are the Rev. E. P. Smith at Nashville, and his worthy coadjutor, Mr. Ewing. Some, however, have been employed in this work who had nothing to recommend them but religious zeal. The special ministration of the Commission when the army is in an active campaign, opens a field for temporary agents, and especially for pastors, who know how to deal with the souls of men, under every variety of experience.

7. To further their spiritual ministrations, the agents of the Christian Commission should be furnished with sanitary stores, and should be able to contribute to the physical comfort of the soldiers *upon equal terms with the agents of the Sanitary Commission.*

8. But in order to do this, it is not necessary that there should be two sets of warehouses, two systems of transportation, two distributing agencies over all the army field, nor that the Christian Commission should enter into competition with the Sanitary Commission in raising material stores for the army. A compact can be made between the two Commissions by which the agents of the Christian Commission shall draw supplies from the Sanitary,

as a matter of rule and of right, to be distributed under regulations jointly agreed upon.

9. By this system the Christian Commission can stand before the churches upon the high ground of its blessed spiritual work, and for this it will draw to it all the resources that it can possibly expend.

10. Pastors and churches must and will insist upon this common sense economy in the administration of these two great kindred charities. All which is submitted with deference to whom it may concern.

New York, *June* 6.

THE WESTERN DEPARTMENT.

The following extracts from the reports of our agents will serve to give an idea of how our work is progressing in this quarter:

M. C. Read.

Chattanooga, *July* 1, 1864.

I have telegraphed you in regard to a supply of smoking and chewing tobacco, and a supply of anti-scorbutics at this point. Tobacco may seem to be of little importance, but very many of the men have been long accustomed to its use; they have been fighting almost constantly for weeks, constructing earth-works at night, sleeping in the trenches, and with arms in their hands most of the time. Sutlers are not allowed to follow the army, and men have no means of supplying themselves with this article which custom has made a necessity. Ought we not to furnish it for them?

The want of vegetable food is a more serious matter still. The constant excitement and constant labor of the campaign, are telling upon the strength and health of the men. "Scurvy" is becoming a frequent word in hospital reports, and calls from the front for vegetables for distribution to the regiments are becoming very urgent. Yesterday a surgeon came in on order from General Thomas, for transportation for three car loads of sanitary stores for his division.

Our efforts have been so long directed for providing for the wounded and sick, that we had nothing to send.

So urgent is the demand, that after advising with Dr. Wright, the Assistant Medical Director, I have ordered one car load, (three hundred bushels of onions,) to be gathered from the garden to-morrow, and sent forward to the regiments needing them most; true, in three weeks these three hundred bushels would make six hundred or more, if allowed to mature, but I believe they will be of more value now than they would then. Ten thousand barrels of pickles, kraut, and cabbage, with a good supply of ale, would be worth ten thousand men if they could be got to the army at once. Cannot something be done in this matter, and at once?

I am confident I can get transportation for that amount immediately, and that it can be pushed promptly through and distributed to the men. It will involve a large outlay, but it will pay, and a thousand fold, if it can only be done. If a movement is made in this direction, and you will telegraph me how many cars are needed, and where, I have no doubt but that the necessary orders can be secured to obtain them promptly, or you can doubtless secure them through the Assistant Surgeon General.

Mr. Sutliffe and Rev. O. Kennedy have reported, and go down to-night, one to take charge of the station at Dalton, and the other at Kingston. We have three stations (at Kingston, Dalton, and Resaca,) for feeding the wounded in transit from the front, while the prompt attention that all receive on arriving here, through arrangements made by the Post Medical Director, Dr. F. Salter, renders additional help at this point to the men coming in and going out unnecessary. The preparations are now ample for securing refreshments to the men in transit, and there can be no just complaints, except in rare instances.

For the wounded, we need milk and beef in large quantities, and large shipments of stores, in variety. Beef is indispensable at all stations for the refreshment of the wounded, as it can be promptly prepared, and there are many who can take little else.

I have such word from the front that I shall delay sending the onions for a day or two. But all reports confirm the idea that it is essential that something on a large scale be done for the men not yet sick.

Dr. Read.

In the Field, near Kenesaw Mt.

So far as I could by telegraph, I informed you why I took the responsibility of coming here, instead of meeting you in Nashville, as directed.

Telegrams from the Medical Director, asking us to aid in feeding the wounded to be sent back immediately, and again the great number of wounded, seemed to me to require all my attention here.

The feeding of the wounded on the road, from Big Shanty to Chattanooga is now, perhaps, the most important part of our work. The trains are run with great irregularity, being sometimes forty-eight hours in making a hundred miles. The men have been sent sometimes without rations, and have not been always sure of drawing them on the way. Such is the irregularity that it is deemed necessary to keep open three refreshment stations, one at Kingston, at

Resaca, and at Dalton. Mr. Eno has undertaken to superintend this work, and to do it reasonably well will require great effort, as we have not and cannot immediately obtain sufficient cooking utensils. We make beef soup, coffee, and milk punch, and furnish soft crackers. Sometimes the trains cannot stop long enough, and thus we are defeated in our best efforts. But application has been made to the Medical Director to secure a longer stoppage of trains.

I find a large general hospital at Big Shanty. The surgeon in charge, Dr. Woodward, offered me rooms, and I sent back to Acworth for stores, as the wants of this hospital, and the gradual advance of our army, seemed to demand that our stores should be brought nearer.

Mr. Tone I found quite unwell. Mr. Mason goes to his aid. I also telegraphed our agents in Stevenson and Huntsville to come to Chattanooga, bringing all that belongs to the Commission; they are wanted much more here now.

The sick and wounded are to be sent back as soon as possible, but only that they may make room for others. The campaign is arduous beyond description. There is a good deal of scurvy among the men. Everything possible should be done to bring forward stores, especially milk, beef, and crackers.

These are the staple articles. So far, we have clothing sufficient, and no more men need be sent back without a change, if really destitute.

Fans are much in demand. Ice at Chattanooga is a great blessing, and is faithfully appropriated. It has come through in good condition, with little waste.

Within a few days at furthest, large demands are likely to be made on us for stores, and everything possible should be done to furnish means for curing or preventing scurvy as well as for taking care of the wounded.

—

Rev. Mr. Ingraham.

Nashville, *July* 1, 1864.

One who is earnestly engaged in the work of the Sanitary Commission finds but little time to write. There is so much to be done, such a field of labor before him, that he begrudges the very time it takes to write, for as long as he can move, he feels that he must be at work, doing some one good, and when he can no longer work, then he cannot write, and yet writing is work, and a good work.

There are many incidents every day occurring which, if recorded and published, would make the hearts of the soldiers' friends most gratified.

An instance of this kind occurred to-day. It had been telegraphed early in the morning to the Medical Director and to the Sanitary Commission, that trains of wounded men would be in during the day. At once the Sanitary Commission made its arrangements to receive them with some little refreshments.

Drs. Castleman and Webster, two gentlemen untiring in their labors at all times for the sick and wounded, obtained a detail of half a dozen soldiers to assist, with one or two of the young men of the Commission, and hastened to the depot. There were already their boxes and barrels, their buckets and cups. Very soon the barrels were filled with water and ice. Baskets were filled with fine soda and other delicate crackers. Cans of condensed milk were opened and poured into buckets. Then bottles of pure whisky were emptied into a barrel of iced water, and when this was sufficiently strong, then the milk was poured in, stirred up, and presto!—there was a barrel of the finest iced milk punch—punch that made some of the gasping bystanders almost wish that they themselves were wounded in their country's cause.

Scarcely were the preparations completed than a train came rushing up to the platform. This in a few minutes time was followed by another, and then not long after, by a third, the whole number of wounded being between three and four hundred; and this is the way they have been coming in here for a week or two past. For they are clearing out all the hospitals at the front, those who can be moved, as well as sending up the later cases of men slightly wounded.

One of these trains was the regular Hospital Train, containing one hundred and twenty-five patients, (forty-two of these having each lost an arm, and twenty-three having each lost a leg,) under the charge of Dr. Barnum, and whose wounded have therefore needed but little at our hands. Every man had been carefully watched and provided for the whole distance from Chattanooga through. The other cars were box or freight cars, some of them with rough seats made of boards nailed temporarily to cleets, and others were provided with shuck mattresses, on which the worst wounded were laid. There were sixteen of these cars in one train, and all filled with wounded men. These cars are very close and hot. There are no conveniences for sick men—no communication from one car to another, and when the train is in motion, if water or food is to be taken to the men, it has to be carried along the top of the cars, and then handed in at the little windows at either end, or reached down into the doorway, and of course, with the best of surgeons and nurses, but little can be done for their comfort; and when the trip, which is seldom less than twenty-four hours from Chattanooga, is unusually long, the suffering is very great.

On one of these trains that came in within a day or two, the men had had nothing to eat for twenty-four hours. The Sanitary Commission had provided refreshments at one of the stations, but through some cause the train did not stop.

You can easily imagine how such refreshments as those above mentioned were received at the depot here. Being so simple, all of both sick and wounded could partake of them. As soon as the train stopped, each car was entered with a basket of crackers, and a basket of punch. The crackers were first distributed. The poor fellows seemed thoroughly exhausted. They looked surprised at our entrance, but said nothing. "Have you had anything to eat lately?" Not since yesterday noon. "Have you had any water?" Yes, some. "Well, here are a few crackers for you." "Thank you." They were too much exhausted to waste strength in words. A large handful was given to each man, as he stretched out his hand for them, or asked to have them laid at his side.

Then, "here is some milk for you." Again a few feeble "I thank you's," as cups brimming full were handed to each man. One good swallow and a change came over them. "That's first rate." "Bully for you—hav'nt tasted anything so good in a year," &c., &c. One of them was an Irishman; he drank and smacked his lips, and says he, "that is *good* milk," it tastes just like the milk from my own mother's cow. "I reckon it does," answered another, "for yer own mother's cow was a whiskey barrel, wasn't it?" And so their jokes and spirits rose, as they felt the effect of the stimulating "spirits" that had gone down. Now all this was but a comparatively little work, and one hardly worth writing about, only that it is just such little attentions on the part of the Sanitary Commission or any one else, and attentions which they who bestow do not like to write about, that the friends of the soldiers at home desire to know are given, and the knowledge of which gladdens and encourages their hearts.

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Rev. J. H. Hazen.

Nashville, *June 25th*, 1864.

After my trip in the hospital train, which I have already noticed, according to your request, I reported to Judge Root, at Nashville, who sent me forward to Chattanooga. On arriving, I received a telegram from Dr. Read, then at Dalton, calling for all the help that could be spared. I started immediately, arriving at Dalton at 10 P. M.; found that Dr. Read had already nine wagons loaded with battle-stores for the field, which he requested me to take charge of and go forward to the battle ground of the previous day, near Resaca. About 11 P. M., in company with Mr. Brundritt, Pocock, Murray and others, we started, traveling all night, most of the distance on foot. We arrived just at daylight at the hospital of the 3d Division of the 4th Corps. Left Mr. Pocock with a wagon-load of stores and proceeded to the 1st Division. Left Murray with another load and went to the 2d Division, where I remained with two loads, one for reserved supplies, and sent Mr. Brundritt with three other men to the 23d Corps.

I commenced my work of distribution, and continued it personally until all of my division was well supplied. I then took a list of all casualties in my division, four hundred and thirty-eight names, made my report to Mr. Hoblit, and remained with my division until the hospital was broken up. I then superintended the removal of the men to the railroad at Resaca, furnishing every one not able to sit up with a good comfortable bed, and making others as comfortable as possible under the circumstances. Having sent back the wounded from Resaca, I secured rooms, and, in company with our good and most efficient agent, Mr. Tone, cleared them and opened the goods we had left, for the purpose of feeding the men on the way to Chattanooga. At the request of A. A. Medical Director, Dr. Hubbard, and of Dr. Coolidge, Medical Inspector, I superintended the loading of the cars with the wounded, and in two days we transported more than two thousand men.

This work done, a good supply of stores having arrived, Mr. Tone and I turned our attention to furnishing the hospitals about town and in the field. While engaged in this work, I received a telegram from you, directing me to report to Dr. Barnum for duty on hospital train, which order I obeyed forthwith, and ever since have been doing what I could as an assistant.

—

Mr. Culbertson.

Knoxville, *June 30th*, 1864.

I am sorry to inform you that the garden will not be so much of a success as others and I have anticipated, the ground being much poorer than it was thought to be when selected. Besides, the worms and bugs have been very numerous, so much so as to destroy even onions and beets—a thing I never knew before.

The first beans I planted failed to come up, but the second planting are up nicely. Had the first come up and done well, I think that I could have issued at least a hundred bushels a week, for the last two and the coming two weeks. The lettuce and radishes proved almost an entire failure, seed being bad, and the ground poor.

Onions will show, perhaps, a third of a crop; dry weather, together with the worms which eat off the tap roots, having nearly destroyed them. Peas did as well as could be expected in such ground, and I am sorry that I had no seed to plant a late patch. The "boys" enjoyed what there were much, and often speak of the benefit derived from the Sanitary Commission.

Early cabbages are looking finely. The past few days there has been a small black bug working on them, but I think that they will come out all right as they have so good a start. Tomatoes look very well, and I have some five acres in. Potatoes, I hope, will be a fine crop; it, of course, depends on the future season entirely; they have suffered much and still do. I have ground prepared for late cucumbers, and am waiting for rain to plant. I want to get as many turnips in as I possibly can, and think that they will be among the most profitable vegetables for hospitals.

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Mr. Brown.

Leavenworth, *July 1st*, 1864.

Both Post and General Hospitals at Fort Leavenworth are full, and many have to be treated outside. Lawrence, Olatha, Paola, Humboldt, and Pleasant Grove, are field hospitals, with very poor accommodations. I found both officers and sick men very glad to see an agent of the Sanitary Commission. Everything that I furnished was very thankfully received.

Fort Scott Hospital is full, and tents are being used for those that are being constantly sent in from below. Dr. C. C. Slocum has gone again to Fort Gibson, and Tallagua hospitals—will report when he returns. I have requisitions from Kansas City, Independence, Westport, and Pleasant Hill, but am out of supplies of such kinds as are most needed. The country is so new, that all articles of the fruit kind are difficult to obtain, and our sick men suffer with all that class of diseases induced by constant use of bacon. Again, we have been threatened with raids of bushwhackers along the entire border of the State, which has kept our soldiers constantly on rapid movements, many times far beyond their power of endurance. The state militia and citizens, in many parts are called out to aid in defence of the border against these desperate bushwhackers, that spare no man when they get into Kansas. All this extra exposure is bringing with it much sickness and consequent need of supplies.

Refugees, both white and colored, are now flooding Kansas—eight hundred and forty-one came in with the last return train from Fort Smith, over five hundred with the train before, and we have advices that thousands more will come. These are mostly women and children, and in most destitute, sick, and wretched condition. Officers in charge are constantly appealing to us as agents of the Sanitary Commission for relief for these unfortunate people, and I do wish it was in my power to do more for them than is possible with my present help, or supply of stores.

—

Mr. Jones.

Decherd, *July 5th*, 1864.

The work here consists in providing food and drink for the sick and wounded soldiers going North on freight trains, mostly box cars, sometimes furnished with straw or leaves, and often without either. There pass from one to three of these trains daily, each carrying from one to three hundred men. To enable us to do this work we have procured two box cars, one of which we use as kitchen and pantry, and the other as storeroom and sleeping room for four detailed men. The kitchen is furnished with a convenient stove and furniture, and everything necessary to enable us to prepare soup and coffee promptly for any reasonable number of men that a single train can bring. The officers of the army at this post sympathize with our work, and cheerfully render all needed assistance. Col. McConnell, commanding, is building an ice-house, mostly with material abandoned by former secesh owners, and with no expense to us, except for nails, &c.

The Assistant Quartermaster hauls our water from a spring half a mile distant, and the institution is now in very good working condition. If the management was to be permanent or to continue through the winter, larger and more comfortable quarters would be necessary, but for the summer campaign, I think the proposed results can be achieved with our present accommodations.

There seems to be necessary some management by which we shall receive reliable advices by telegraph of the coming trains. Sunday we received a dispatch saying that two trains, filled with wounded men, would be due here at 11 P. M. We made suitable preparations, but they did not come. Such circumstances occasion much waste and loss of time. Then, again, trains come in without notice, and we are unable to provide for them as bountifully as we should be glad to. We are trying, however, to have this matter arranged.

Last evening at 11 o'clock, a train came in with about three hundred wounded and sick men. We gave them beef soup, crackers, and coffee. Their crowded, uncomfortable, and exhausted condition indicated great need of such refreshment—the eagerness with which it was received, and the expressions of satisfaction and gratitude which it elicited, could not fail to warm the

hardest heart with the consciousness that it is more blessed to give than to receive, and with the conviction that there is an element of Divinity in goodness.

Besides the four detailed men we have four colored men. We board on the car. I sleep at the tavern.

—

MR. ENO.

KINGSTON, GA., *July 8th*, 1864.

The enclosed report of disbursements at this place to 1st July, shows for itself what has been done at one of the stations in front. I presume you have the report from Ringgold, Tunnel Hill, Resaca, and Dalton, as they were left in Chattanooga.

The stores forwarded to stations in front from this place will appear in Mr. Van Dyke's next report.

Besides distributing sanitary stores, a very important work is being done in preparing and giving refreshments to the wounded on trains going to Chattanooga.

The first was prepared at Dalton on the 17th of May, and the first four days 1,500 were supplied with hot coffee, soup, and crackers. Each of the stations, Dalton, Resaca and Kingston, are now well prepared to feed any number at short notice. Another station will be arranged to-day at Marietta, Mr. Kennedy or Norton in charge.

In doing this work, it is no more than justice to say that the Government are giving us every facility necessary, and we are also under many obligations to the gentlemanly officers of the different posts, and at Resaca and Kingston, the Christian Commission have rendered very efficient aid in distributing to the sick and wounded.

The importance of provision being made for the sick and wounded on trains can only be fairly estimated by those who know and feel the vexatious delays on the road. They are from 24 to 48 hours in reaching Chattanooga, and all this time riding in freight cars, without a blanket for a bed, and no chance for refreshments except at Sanitary stations.

Men in such situations fully appreciate the work, and bless their friends at home for sustaining the Sanitary Commission. Besides coffee, soup, and crackers, we now give them sandwiches, punch or ale, and the men are also instructed to furnish plenty of fresh water to wash their wounds and fill canteens.

Up to 1st July there had been given out at this station,

495 gallons of coffee,
243 " ale,
175 " punch,
465 lbs. crackers,

To 5,630 sick and wounded. The station was out of crackers a few days and had to use hard bread. Arrangements are now made for light bread, which will be used with cold ham to make sandwiches.

Mr. J. W. Van Dyke has been in charge of the station since Mr. Barret left. In him the soldier has a good friend and the Commission a very efficient agent.

HOSPITAL SKETCHES.

NASHVILLE, *July* 6, 1864.

To-day, visited Hospital No. —. Nearly all the patients that, but a few days since were there, have now gone, and new faces everywhere not "greeted," but *gazed* at me. And so many of them! Every bed, every ward, and even the halls were filled with the newly wounded. As there was either a nurse or a patient in every ward who knew me, it was soon whispered among them, that their visitor belonged to the U. S. Sanitary Commission, and that he was a clergyman also. Very soon his kind inquiries after their health and comfort were returned by questions on their part. "Do you belong to the Sanitary Commission?" "Well, that's good." "Can you get me a pair of crutches?" "Can you get me an arm-sling?" "Could you get me some letter-paper and stamps, I hav'nt had a chance to write home for three months."

"Chaplain, will you please to come this way?" The Chaplain goes. "Please stoop down." The Chaplain begins to expect some expression of religious feeling. "Did I understand that you belong to the Sanitary Commission?" "Yes, sir." "Well, that is just the best institution that ever was. I believe that some of us would have died at Resaca, but for that. But Chaplain, do you think you could do me a great favor?" "I will try. What is it?" "Why, I am almost dead for a chew of tobacco. Hav'nt had any for two months, and hav'nt got a cent of money. I know 'taint just right, Chaplain, for a man to have such habits, but then when a fellow's got so used to it," etc.

The Chaplain promises all these men, and many others, that their wants shall be soon supplied, and, having made a note of all, passes on into other wards, with a kind word and inquiry at almost every bed. Directly he observes a patient, who seems to take but little interest in anything about him. Here is a case that requires more particular attention, for he is evidently very sick. Stooping down at his bed-side, the Chaplain asks him, in a very kind voice, how he gets along. "Very badly, sir." What is the matter? "Fever, sir, the doctor says." And fever it is, sure enough. The man is burning up with typhoid fever, which he took after having waded through a river breast-deep, and then being sent out to do picket duty, without an opportunity of drying his clothes. The Chaplain sits silently by his

side, thinking what he can do for him. "Please give me some water." The water is given him, but it is warm and insipid. "Nurse, have you no ice?" "No, sir." "Have you no acid or cooling drinks for such cases as this?" "No, sir, we are all out. The surgeon was saying to-day he wished we had some. When he comes around again I will remind him of it."

"Very good. But we cannot wait for that now. Take this order, and send it to the Sanitary storeroom for a couple of bottles of raspberry syrup, and make a drink for each of your fever patients." For the surgeon had assured the Sanitary visitor that he would be obliged to him for supplying any such want, whenever he should see it to be a case of need. Therefore the order was written and given to the errand boy; but before he leaves, the order is increased to one-half dozen bottles of blackberry cordial for the diarrhea cases, a few lemons for the scorbutic, a few slippers, and some dozen of fans for the fly-tormented wounded.

These wants attended to, a nurse approaches saying, "Chaplain, that man in the corner wants to see you." The Chaplain goes to him. He reaches out his thin withered hand, and says: "Chaplain, I am pretty sick. I don't allow that I shall get well. I've got consumption, and can't last long, and thought I would like to have you write to my woman and children for me, if it ain't too much trouble." "Certainly I will with pleasure, my friend. What is her name and address?" This being all carefully written out—"What shall I say for you?" "Tell her that I didn't get shot, but I did my duty in every fight, and never shirked. But I took cold and got sick, Tell her that I did want to get home to see her and the children, but—but—," and here the poor fellow broke down; soon, however, he recovered himself, and continued; "But God knows best. Tell her I havn't much for her. I made some little trinkets for keepsake, out of shell at Stone River; they are in my knapsack, and there is my testament, and there will be a little money coming to her. Tell her I have had everything done for me here. They have been very kind. And tell her to kiss the dear children for me, and to—to—meet me in Heaven."

He could say no more. Indeed, it was all he had to say. Having written the letter at his bed-side, and then after allowing him time to rest, the Chaplain returned to him and said: "Since you have made such thoughtful preparations for leaving this world, my friend, have you made any preparations for entering the next?" "Yes, sir. I have tried to do so. I have prayed; I have asked God's forgiveness for all the wickedness I have done, for Jesus' sake. He knows it all. He knows how I feel. He knows I am sorry enough. Will you pray for me?" After some further conversation, and reading from his testament, the Chaplain knelt and offered up a simple earnest prayer. The man was very much affected, and yet comforted. He thanked the Chaplain more by manner than by words, and begged him to come again very soon. The Chaplain returned the next morning; the sick man's bed was vacant—he had died during the night.

"Your visit did him so much good," said the nurse. "It seemed to be all he wanted," said another. Each one had a word to say, until requesting that all should be silent, the Chaplain addressed all within the ward upon the true hope of man in death, and then offering up prayers for each and all, he left them for awhile to their own thoughts.

Such is but a brief paragraph in the chapter of one day spent in hospital, by one of the hospital visitors and Chaplains of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

A REASONABLE REMONSTRANCE.

The following extract is from a letter written by one of the most intelligent of the Associate Managers of the "Women's Central Relief Association."

"In one of the late BULLETINS, (I think April 15th,) I noticed a request that each housewife in the country should, during the coming summer, prepare '*at least two bushels* of dried fruit.' Now it is evident that the person who made it knew very little about his subject. He could'nt have been a *countryman*. In the first place, it is the farmer's wives from whom such supplies must come. The demands upon their time and strength, always heavy, are doubly oppressive in just the season when fruits are to be prepared, and it would take eight or nine bushels of the fresh fruit to make the quantity named. If *half* a bushel had been asked of each one, the amount would probably be larger than that you will now receive, for people always like to be praised for doing better than was asked of them. The already over-burthened housewife who hears herself coolly called upon for '*at least*' a month's labor, looks around upon her five or six little children, on the piles of accumulating sewing, on the ten or twelve 'hands' whose daily meals she is to provide, on the heavy work attendant upon the cheese-press or the butter-making, and on the necessary preparations to subsist the household during a long and tedious winter, and says, 'Well, I could prepare *a little*, but those Sanitary folks ask for so much that it's no use for *me* to try, let somebody else do it who has more time.'

"But I must tell you of one or two instances of self-devotion which have come

to my knowledge. The wife of a small farmer, in delicate health, with a large family, last summer gathered and prepared with her own hands, and sent two gallons of jelly, one of currant wine, five of prepared lackspur, (for vermin,) a bushel of dried fruits, and a barrel and a forty gallon cask of pickles, besides sending her daughters to walk two or three miles to an Aid Society to bring home sewing. Another is of a lady eighty-five years old, whose family have during the last winter made thirty bed-quilts, to more than one-third of which she made the linings from almost invisible pieces, besides knitting several pairs of socks. Such labors, although they may not amount to much in money, are no trifles to those who perform them.

"As 'country folks' must be better acquainted with such matters than city ones, I have ventured to speak of the request in the BULLETIN, in the hope that if further demands are made for pickles, &c., the quantity named may be more in proportion to the abilities of the housewife."

ON A HOSPITAL TRAIN.

Riding on a rail in the "Sunny South" is not the most agreeable pastime in the world. Don't understand me to refer to that favorite *argumentum ad hominem* which a true Southerner applies to all who have the misfortune to differ from him, especially to Northern abolitionists; I simply mean that mode of traveling that Saxe in his funny little poem, calls so "pleasant." And no wonder! To be whirled along at the rate of forty miles an hour, over a smooth road, reposing on velvet cushioned seats, with backs just at the proper angle to rest a tired head—ice-water, the last novel or periodical—all that can tempt your fastidious taste, or help to while away the time offered at your elbow, is indeed pleasant; but woe to the fond imagination that pictures to itself such luxuries on a United States military railroad. Be thankful if in the crowd of tobacco-chewing soldiers you are able to get a seat, and grumble not if the pine boards are hard and narrow. Lay in a good stock of patience, for six miles an hour is probably the highest rate of speed you will attain, and even then you shudder to see on either hand strewn along the road, wrecks of cars and locomotives smashed in every conceivable manner, telling of some fearful accident or some guerrilla fight. These are discomforts hard to bear even when one is well and strong; how much worse for a sick or wounded man. But thanks to the U. S. Sanitary Commission and to those gentlemen belonging to it, whose genius and benevolence originated, planned, and carried it out, a Hospital Train is now running on almost all the roads over which it is necessary to transport sick or wounded men. These trains are now under the control of Government, but the Sanitary Commission continues to furnish a great part of the stores that are used in them. My first experience of them was a sad one. A week before the army had moved forward and concentrated near Tunnel Hill. The dull, monotonous rumble of army wagons as they rolled in long trains through the dusty street; the measured tramp of thousands of bronzed and war-worn veterans; the rattle and roar of the guns and caissons as they thundered on their mission of death; the glittering sheen reflected from a thousand sabres, had all passed by and left us in the desolated town. We lived, as it were, with bated breath and eager ears, our nerves tensely strung with anxiety and suspense, waiting to catch the first sound of that coming strife, where we knew so many of our bravest and best must fall. At last came the news of that terrible fight at Buzzard's Roost or Rocky Face Ridge, and the evening after, in came Dr. S——, straight from the front, and said, "the Hospital Train is at the depot, wouldn't you like to see it!" "Of course we would," chorused Mrs. Dr. S——— and myself, and forthwith we rushed for our hats and cloaks, filled two large baskets with soft crackers and oranges, and started off. A walk of a mile brought us to the depot, and down in the farther corner of the depot yard we saw a train of seven or eight cars standing, apparently unoccupied. "There it is," said Dr. S. "Why, it looks like any ordinary train," I innocently remarked, but I was soon to find out the difference. We chanced to see Dr. Myers, the surgeon in charge, on the first car into which we went, and he made us welcome to do and to give whatever we had for the men, and so, armed with authority from the "powers that be," we went forward with confidence.

Imagine a car a little wider than the ordinary one, placed on springs, and having on each side three tiers of berths or cots, suspended by rubber bands. These cots are so arranged as to yield to the motion of the car, thereby avoiding that jolting experienced even on the smoothest and best kept road. I didn't stop to investigate the plan of the car then, for I saw before me, on either hand, a long line of soldiers, shot in almost every conceivable manner, their wounds fresh from the battle-field, and all were patient and quiet; not a groan or complaint escaped them, though I saw some faces twisted into strange contortions with the agony of their wounds. I commenced distributing my oranges right and left, but soon realized the smallness of my basket and the largeness of the demand, and sadly passed by all but the worst cases. In the third car that we entered we found the Colonel, Lieut. Colonel and Adjutant

of the 29th Ohio, all severely wounded. We stopped and talked awhile. Mindful of the motto of my commission, to give "aid and comfort," I trickled a little sympathy on them. "Poor fellows!" said I. "No, indeed," said they. "We *did* suffer riding twenty miles"—it couldn't have been more than fourteen or fifteen, but a shattered limb or a ball in one's side lengthens the miles astonishingly—"in those horrid ambulances to the cars." "We cried last night like children, some of us," said a Lieutenant, "but we're all right now. This Hospital Train is a jolly thing. It goes like a cradle." Seeing my sympathy wasted, I tried another tack. "Did you know that Sherman was in Dalton." "No!" cried the Colonel, and all the men who could, raised themselves up and stared at me with eager, questioning eyes. "Is that so?" "Yes," I replied, "It is true." "Then I don't care for this little wound," said one fellow, slapping his right leg, which was pierced and torn by a minnie ball. Brave men! How I longed to take our whole North, and pour out its wealth and luxury at their feet.

A little farther on in the car, I chanced to look down, and there at my feet lay a young man, not more than eighteen or nineteen years old; hair tossed back from his noble white brow; long brown lashes lying on his cheek; face as delicate and refined as a girl's. I spoke to him and he opened his eyes, but could not answer me. I held an orange before him, and he looked a Yes; so I cut a hole in it and squeezed some of the juice into his mouth. It seemed to revive him a little, and after sitting a short time I left him. Soon after, they carried him out on a stretcher—poor fellow! He was dying when I last saw him, and I could but think of his mother and sisters who would have given worlds to stand beside him as I did. By this time it was growing dark, my oranges had given out, and we were sadly in the way; so we left, to be haunted for many a day by the terrible pictures we had seen on our first visit to a Hospital Train.

My next experience was much pleasanter. I had the privilege of a ride on one from Chattanooga to Nashville, and an opportunity of seeing the plan of arrangement of the train. There were three hundred and fourteen sick and wounded men on board, occupying nine or ten cars, with the surgeon's car in the middle of the train. This car is divided into three compartments; at one end is the storeroom, where are kept the eatables and bedding; at the other the kitchen; and between the two the surgeon's room, containing his bed, secretary, and shelves and pigeon holes for instruments, medicines, etc. A narrow hall connects the storeroom and kitchen, and great windows or openings in the opposite sides of the car give a pleasant draft of air. Sitting in a comfortable arm-chair, one would not wish a pleasanter mode of traveling, especially through the glorious mountains of East Tennnesse, and farther on, over the fragrant, fertile meadows, and the rolling plains of Northern Alabama and Middle Tennessee, clothed in their fresh green garments of new cotton and corn. This is all charming for a passenger, but a Hospital train is a busy place for the surgeons and nurses.

The men come on at evening, selected from the different hospitals, according to their ability to be moved, and after having had their tea, the wounds have to be freshly dressed. This takes till midnight, perhaps longer, and the surgeon must be on the watch continually, for on him falls the responsibility, not only of the welfare of the men, but of the safety of the train. There is a conductor and brakeman, and for them, too, there is no rest. Each finds enough to do as nurse or assistant. In the morning, after a breakfast of delicious coffee or tea, dried beef, dried peaches, soft bread, cheese, etc., the wounds have to be dressed a second time, and again in the afternoon, a third.

In the intervals the surgeon finds time to examine individual cases, and prescribe especially for them, and perhaps to take a little rest. To fulfill the duties of surgeon in charge of such a train, or endure the terrible strain on brain, and nerves and muscles, require great skill, an iron will, and a mind undaunted by the shadow of any responsibility or danger. All this and more has Dr. J. P. Barnum, who has charge of the train formerly running between Louisville and Nashville, but now transferred to the road between Nashville and Chattanooga. With a touch, gentle as a woman, yet with manly strength and firmness, and untiring watchfulness and thoughtful care, he seems wholly devoted to the work of benefiting our sick and wounded soldiers. All on board the train gave him the warmest thanks. As I walked through the car, I heard the men say, "we hav'nt lived so well since we joined the army. We are better than we were ever before. This is the nicest place we were ever in," etc. Should the Doctor chance to see this, he will be shocked, for modesty, I notice, goes in hand with true nobility and generosity; but I risk his wrath for the selfish pleasure that one has in doing justice to a good man.

After breakfast, in the morning, when the wounds were all dressed, I had the pleasure of carrying into one car a pitcher of delicious blackberry wine that came from the Soldiers' Aid Society of Northern Ohio, and with the advice of Dr. Yates, the assistant surgeon, giving it to the men. The car into which I went had only one

tier of berths, supported like the others on rubber bands. Several times during the day I had an opportunity of giving some little assistance in taking care of wounded men, and it was very pleasant. My journey lasted a night and a day, and I think I can never again pass another twenty-four hours so fraught with sweet and sad memories as are connected with my second and last experience on a Hospital Train. C.

THE BLUE COAT.

The following ballad is from the pen of Bishop Burgess, of Maine, and was contributed by him to the book published and sold at the late Sanitary Fair in Baltimore, under the sanction of the State Fair Association of the Women of Maryland.

THE BLUE COAT OF THE SOLDIER.

You asked me, little one, why I bowed,
Though never I passed the man before?
Because my heart was full and proud,
When I saw the old blue coat he wore;
The blue great coat, the sky blue coat,
The old blue coat the soldier wore.

I knew not, I, what weapon he chose,
What chief he followed, what badge he wore;
Enough that in the front of foes
His country's blue great-coat he wore;
The blue great-coat, &c.

Perhaps he was born in a forest hut,
Perhaps he had danced on a palace floor;
To want or wealth my eyes were shut;
I only marked the coat he wore;
The blue great-coat, &c.

It mattered not much if he drew his line
From Shem or Ham, in the days of yore;
For surely he was a brother of mine,
Who for my sake the war coat wore;
The blue great-coat, &c.

He might have no skill to read or write,
Or he might be rich in learned lore;
But I knew he could make his mark in fight,
And nobler gown no scholar wore
Than the blue great-coat, &c.

It may be he could plunder and prowl,
And perhaps in his mood he scoffed and swore;
But I would not guess a spot so foul
On the honored coat he bravely wore;
The blue great-coat, &c.

He had worn it long, and borne it far;
And perhaps on the red Virginian shore,
From midnight chill till the morning star
That worn great-coat the sentry wore;
The blue great-coat, &c.

When hardy Butler reined his steed
Through the streets of proud, proud Baltimore,
Perhaps behind him, at his need,
Marched he who yonder blue coat wore.
The blue great-coat, &c.

Perhaps it was seen in Burnside's ranks,
When Rappahannock ran dark with gore;
Perhaps on the mountain side with Banks
In the burning sun no more he wore
The blue great-coat, &c.

Perhaps in the swamps was a bed for his form,
From the seven days' battling and marching sore;
Or with Kearney and Pope 'mid the steely storm
As the night closed in, that coat he wore;
The blue great-coat, &c.

Or when right over as Jackson dashed,
That collar or cape some bullet tore;
Or when far ahead Antietam flashed,
He flung to the ground the coat that he wore;
The blue great-coat, &c.

Or stood at Gettysburgh, where the graves
Rang deep to Howard's cannon roar;
Or saw with Grant the unchained waves
Where conquering hosts the blue coat wore.
The blue great-coat, &c.

That garb of honor tells enough,
Though I its story guess no more;
The heart it covers is made of such stuff,
That coat is mail which that soldier wore;
The blue great-coat, &c.

He may hang it up when the peace shall come,
And the moths may find it behind the door;
But his children will point when they hear a drum
To the proud old coat their father wore,
The blue great-coat, &c.

And so, my child, will you and I,
For whose fair home their blood they pour,
Still bow the head, as one goes by,
Who wears the coat that soldier wore;
The blue great-coat, the sky-blue coat,
The old blue coat the soldier wore.

THE LEGISLATURE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE ON THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four:

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives of New Hampshire, in General Court convened,

That the United States Sanitary Commission commends itself to our hearty support, and that we hereby testify on behalf of the soldiers and people of this State, to the benevolence of its principles and efficiency of its plans, as a means of promoting the welfare of the army.

Resolved, That we especially esteem the nationality of its views and declarations, by which all our soldiers, without distinction of place, are regarded as United States soldiers, and treated as such in all respects.

Resolved, That the Ladies' Aid Societies of New Hampshire, acting as they do in co-operation with the United States Sanitary Commission, are heartily commended to the continued support of our people, as the most suitable tributaries through which the contributions of New Hampshire may be distributed to the hospitals and camps of the army.

NOTES ON NURSING.

CONCLUSION.

The whole of the preceding remarks apply even more to children and puerperal woman than to patients in general. They also apply to the nursing of surgical, quite as much as to that of medical cases. Indeed, if it be possible, cases of external injury require such care even more than sick. In surgical wards, one duty of every nurse certainly is prevention. Fever, or hospital gangrene, or pyœmia, or purulent discharge of some kind may else supervene. Has she a case of compound fracture, of amputation, or of erysipelas, it may depend very much on how she looks upon the things enumerated in these notes, whether one or other of these hospital diseases attacks her patient or not. If she allows her ward to become filled with the peculiar close fetid smell, so apt to be produced among surgical cases, especially where there is great suppuration and discharge, she may see a vigorous patient in the prime of life gradually sink and die where, according to all human probability, he ought to have recovered.

Nevertheless let no one think that because *sanitary* nursing is the subject of these notes, therefore, what may be called the handicraft of nursing is to be undervalued. A patient may be left to bleed to death in a sanitary palace. Another who cannot move himself may die of bed-sores, because the nurse does not know how to change and clean him, while he has every requisite of air, light, and quiet. But nursing, as a handicraft, has not been treated of here for three reasons: 1. That these notes do not pretend to be a manual for nursing, any more than for cooking for the sick; 2. That the writer, who has herself seen more of what may be called surgical nursing, *i. e.* practical manual nursing, than, perhaps, any one in Europe, honestly believes that it is impossible to learn it from any book, and that it can only be thoroughly learnt in the wards of a hospital; and she also honestly believes that the perfection of surgical nursing may be seen practised by the old-fashioned "Sister" of a London hospital, as it can be seen nowhere else in Europe. 3. While thousands die of foul air, etc., who have this surgical nursing to perfection, the converse is comparatively rare.

To revert to children. They are much more susceptible than grown people to all noxious influences. They are affected by the same things, but much more quickly and seriously, viz., by want of fresh air, of proper warmth, want of cleanliness in house, clothes, bedding, or body, by startling noises, improper food, or want of punctuality, by dullness and by want of light, by too much or too little covering in bed, or when up, by want of the spirit of management generally in those in charge of them. One can, therefore, only press the importance, as being yet greater in the case of children, greatest in the case of sick children, of attending to these things.

That which, however, above all, is known to injure children seriously is foul air, and most seriously at night. Keeping the rooms where they sleep tight shut up, is destruction to them. And, if the child's breathing be disordered by disease, a few hours only of such foul air may endanger its life, even where no inconvenience is felt by grown-up persons in the same room.

The following passages, taken out of an excellent "Lecture on Sudden Death in Infancy and Childhood," just published, show the vital importance of careful nursing of children. "In the great majority of instances. when death suddenly befalls the infant or young child, it is an *accident;* it is not a necessary result of any disease from which it is suffering."

It may be here added, that it would be very desirable to know how often death is, with adults, "not a necessary, inevitable result of any disease." Omit the word "sudden," (for *sudden* death is comparatively rare in middle age;) and the sentence is almost equally true for all ages.

The following causes of "accidental" death in sick children are enumerated:—"Sudden noises, which startle—a rapid change of temperature, which chills the surface, though only for a moment—a rude awakening from sleep—or even an over-hasty, or an overfull meal" —"any sudden impression on the nervous system—any hasty alteration of posture—in short, any cause whatever by which the respiratory process may be disturbed."

It may again be added, that, with very weak adult patients, these causes are also (not often "suddenly fatal," it is true, but) very much oftener than is at all generally known, irreparable in their consequences.

Both for children and for adults, both for sick and for well, (although more certainly in the case of sick children than in any others,) I would here again repeat, the most frequent and most fatal cause of all is sleeping, for even a few hours, much more for weeks and months in foul air, a condition which, more than any other condition, disturbs the respiratory process, and tends to produce "accidental" death in disease.

I need hardly here repeat the warning against any confusion of ideas between cold and fresh air. You may chill a patient fatally without giving him fresh air at all. And you can quite well, nay, much better, give him fresh air without chilling him. This is the test of a good nurse.

In cases of long recurring faintness from disease, for instance, especially disease which affects the organs of breathing, fresh air to the lungs, warmth to the surface, and often (as soon as the patient can swallow,) hot drink, these are the right remedies and the only ones. Yet, oftener than not, you see the nurse or mother just reversing this; shutting up every cranny through which fresh air can enter, and leaving the body cold, or perhaps throwing a greater weight of clothes upon it, when already it is generating too little heat.

"Breathing carefully, anxiously, as though respiration were a function which required all the attention for its performance," is cited as a not unusual state in children, and as one calling for care in all the things enumerated above. That breathing becomes an almost voluntary act, even in grown up patients who are very weak, must have been remarked.

"Disease having interfered with the perfect accomplishment of the respiratory function, some sudden demand for its complete exercise, issues in the sudden stand-still of the whole

machinery." is given as one process;—"life goes out for want of nervous power to keep the vital functions in activity," is given as another, by which "accidental" death is most often brought to pass in infancy.

Also in middle age, both these processes may be seen ending in death, although generally not suddenly. I have seen, even in middle age, the "*sudden* stand-still" here mentioned, and from the same causes.

To sum up:—the answer to two of the commonest objections urged, one by women themselves, the other by men, against the desirableness of sanitary knowledge for women, *plus* a caution, comprises the whole argument for the art of nursing.

(1.) It is often said by men, that it is unwise to teach women anything about these laws of health, because they will take to physicing—that there is a great deal too much of amateur physicing as it is, which is indeed true. One eminent physician told me that he had known more calomel given, both at a pinch and for a continuance, by mothers, governesses, and nurses, to children, than he had ever heard of a physician prescribing in all his experience. Another says, that women's only idea in medicine is calomel and aperients. This is undeniably too often the case. There is nothing ever seen in any professional practice like the reckless physicing by amateur females. But this is just what the really experienced and observing nurse does *not* do; she neither physics herself nor others. And to cultivate in things pertaining to health, observation and experience in women who are mothers, governesses or nurses, is just the way to do away with amateur physicing, and if the doctors did but know it, to make the nurses obedient to them—helps to them instead of hindrances. Such education in women would indeed diminish the doctor's work—but no one really believes that doctors wish that there should be more illness, in order to have more work.

I have known many ladies who, having once obtained a "blue pill" prescription from a physician, gave and took it as a common aperient two or three times a week—with what effect may be supposed. In one case I happened to be the person to inform the physician of it, who substituted for the prescription a comparatively harmless aperient pill. The lady came to me and complained that it "did not suit her half so well."

If women will take or give physic, by far the safest plan is to send for "the doctor" every time—for I have known ladies who both gave and took physic, who would not take the pains to learn the names of the commonest medicines, and confounded, *e. g.*, colocynth with colchicum. This is playing with sharp-edged tools "with a vengeance."

There are excellent women who will write to London to their physician that there is much sickness in their neighborhood in the country, and ask for some prescription from him, which they used to like themselves, and then give it to all their friends and to all their poorer neighbors who will take it. Now, instead of giving medicine, of which you cannot possibly know the exact and proper application, nor all its consequences, would it not be better if you were to persuade and help your poorer neighbors to remove the dung-hill from before the door, to put in a window which opens, or an Arnott's ventilator, or to cleanse and lime-wash the cottages? Of these things the benefits are sure. The benefits of the inexperienced administration of medicines are by no means so sure.

Homœopathy has introduced one essential amelioration in the practice of physic by amateur females; for its rules are excellent, its physicking comparatively harmless—the "globule" is the one grain of folly which appears to be necessary to make any good thing acceptable. Let then women, if they will give medicine, give homœopathic medicine. It won't do any harm.

An almost universal error among women is the supposition that everybody *must* have the bowels opened once in every twenty four hours, or must fly immediately to aperients. The reverse is the conclusion of experience.

This is a doctor's subject, and I will not enter more into it; but will simply repeat, do not go on taking or giving to your children abominable "courses of aperients," without calling in the doctor.

It is very seldom indeed, that by choosing your diet, you cannot regulate your own bowels; and every woman may watch herself to know what kind of diet will do this; I have known deficiency of meat produce constipation quite as often as deficiency of vegetables; baker's bread much oftener than either. Home made brown bread will oftener cure it than anything else.

(2.) It is often said by women, that they cannot know anything of the laws of health, or what to do to preserve their children's health, because they can know nothing of "Pathology," or cannot "dissect,"—a confusion of ideas which it is hard to attempt to disentangle. Pathology teaches the harm that disease has done. But it teaches nothing more. We know nothing of the principle of health, the positive of which pathology is the negative, except from observation and experience. And nothing but observation and experience will teach us the ways to maintain or to bring back the state of health. It is often thought that medicine is the curative process. It is no such thing; medicine is the surgery of functions, as surgery proper is that of limbs and organs. Neither can do anything but remove obstructions; neither can cure; nature alone cures. Surgery removes the bullet out of the limb, which is an obstruction to cure, but nature heals the wound. So it is with medicine; the function of an organ becomes obstructed; medicine, so far as we know, assists nature to remove the obstruction, but does nothing more. And what nursing has to do in either case, is to put the patient in the best condition for nature to act upon him. Generally, just the contrary is done. You think fresh air, and quiet and cleanliness extravagant, perhaps dangerous, luxuries, which should be given to the patient only when quite convenient, and medicine the *sine qua non*, the panacea. If I have succeeded in any measure in dispelling this illusion, and in showing what true nursing is, and what it is not, my object will have been answered.

Now for the caution:—

(3.) It seems a commonly received idea among men, and even among women themselves,

that it requires nothing but a disappointment in love, the want of an object, a general disgust, or incapacity for other things, to turn a woman into a good nurse.

This reminds one of the parish where a stupid old man was set to be schoolmaster because he was "past keeping the pigs."

Apply the above receipt for making a good nurse to making a good servant. And the receipt will be found to fail.

Yet popular novelists of recent days have invented ladies disappointed in love or fresh out of the drawing-room, turning into the war-hospitals to find their wounded lovers, and when found, forthwith abandoning their sick-ward for their lover, as might be expected. Yet in the estimation of the authors, those ladies were none the worse for that, but on the contrary, were heroines of nursing.

What cruel mistakes are sometimes made by benevolent men and women in matters of business about which they can know nothing and think they know a great deal.

The everyday management of a large ward, let alone of a hospital—the knowing what are the laws of life and death for men, and what the laws of health for wards—(and wards are healthy or unhealthy, mainly according to the knowledge or ignorance of the nurse)—are not these matters of sufficient importance and difficulty to require learning by experience and careful inquiry, just as much as any other art? They do not come by inspiration to the lady disappointed in love, nor to the poor workhouse drudge hard up for a livelihood.

And terrible is the injury which has followed to the sick from such wild notions!

In this respect, (and why is it so?) in Roman Catholic countries, both writers and workers are, in theory at least, far before ours. They would never think of such a beginning for a good working Superior or Sister of Charity. And many a Superior has refused to admit a *Postulant* who appeared to have no better "vocation" or reasons for offering herself than these.

It is true *we* make "no vows." But is a "vow" necessary to convince us that the true spirit for learning any art, most especially an art of charity, aright, is not a disgust to everything or something else? Do we really place the love of our kind (and of nursing, as one branch of it) so low as this? What would the Mère Angélique of Port Royal, what would our own Mrs. Fry have said to this?

NOTE.—I would earnestly ask my sisters to keep clear of both the jargons now current everywhere, (for they *are* equally jargons;) of the jargon, namely, about the "rights" of women, which urges women to do all that men do, including the medical and other professions, merely because men do it, and without regard to whether this *is* the best that women can do; and of the jargon which urges woman to do nothing that men do, merely because they are women, and should be "recalled to a sense of their duty as women," and because "this is women's work," and "that is men's," and "these are things which women should not do," which is all assertion, and nothing more. Surely woman should bring the best she has, *whatever* that is, to the work of God's world, without attending to either of these cries. For what are they, both of them, the one *just* as much as the other, but listening to the "what people will say," to opinion, to the "voices from without?" And as a wise man has said, no one has ever done anything great or useful by listening to the voices from without.

You do not want the effect of your good things to be, "How wonderful for a *woman!*" nor would you be deterred from good things by hearing it said, "Yes, but she ought not to have done this, because it is not suitable for a woman." But you want to do the thing that is good, whether it is "suitable for a woman" or not.

It does not make a thing good, that it is remarkable that a woman should have been able to do it. Neither does it make a thing bad, which would have been good had a man done it, that it has been done by a woman.

Oh, leave these jargons, and go your way straight to God's work, in simplicity and singleness of heart.—*Miss Nightingale.*

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1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

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3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

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The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.
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Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.
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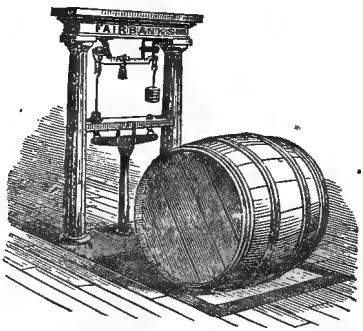
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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. NEW YORK, AUGUST 15, 1864. No. 20.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall Street, or No.* 823 *Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

REPORT OF E. B. McCAGG AND E. W. BLATCHFORD,

PRESIDENT AND TREASURER OF THE NORTH-WESTERN BRANCH OF THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

During the months of May and June we made a brief visit to the headquarters of the United States Sanitary Commission in the West, and a rapid tour through its field of operations in the Army of the Cumberland. We submit the following brief report of our observations, which may not be wholly devoid of interest or practical utility to our numerous co-laborers through the North-West.

Our object, in this visit, was to look into the Sanitary Commission in its details—to examine the manner in which it performs its work—to observe the character and efficiency of the agents employed at various points—in particular, to look carefully and critically into its method of forwarding and distributing sanitary stores, and to ascertain what is the per centage of loss, (if any,) between the first receipt of supplies from the Aid Societies, and their final distribution by the Commission to those for whom they are intended. In our investigation we applied to the Commission the same rules of criticism by which any private business is judged.

We followed along the entire line of sanitary operations from Louisville to Kingston, Ga, talking with almost every agent between the two places, examining critically and systematically their books and accounts, inspecting their bills of lading and memoranda of articles shipped, and observing for ourselves in what manner and spirit they disbursed their stores to the hospitals and hospital trains, to soldiers in the "rests" or "homes," and to those *in transitu.*

At Louisville, Nashville, and Chattanooga are the principal depots or bases of supplies, the radiating centres of the Commission. The amount of labor necessarily performed at these points is very arduous, but only the smallest amount of clerical and other force is employed, consistent with the proper and prompt performance of the work; and no man is employed who is not selected and retained, because of his eminent fitness for his position. It would be too much to say that no mistakes are made by the Commission in the selection of its agents, but we think these mistakes are rare.

The dstributing agents are more often than otherwise men of education, accustomed to the comforts of home, and the refinements of social life. But in the service of the Commission they endure an amount of discomfort for lack of the means and appliances of living, which negatives the idea that they have accepted their positions for selfish ends. They live in narrow and confined quarters, sleeping three and four in a room, and not unfrequently on boxes and counters, subsisting on fare at times unpleasantly frugal, separated from their families, foregoing society, ignoring recreation and amusement, dwelling in an atmosphere of suffering, turmoil and strife, and forced by the circumstances in which they are placed, to practice patience and forbearance, even after they cease to be virtues. All this must be seen to be appreciated or believed.

These agents keep up with the army, and as it moves forward and takes possession of a place, there the agents follow, with a supply larger or smaller, as is deemed advisable, and if it be a point to which sick or wounded men can be sent, the agency is maintained there, and kept constantly supplied. Where the army encamps in the morning, the Commission has pitched its tent long before night. Operating at the front, a prominent and experienced agent accompanies each division of the army, with wagons, supplies, and such assistance as he may need. The danger and hardship attendant on this employment may be imagined.

As soon as Gen. Sherman began his advance from Chattanooga, the Commission, anticipating severe fighting, commenced collecting at that point a large surplus of battle supplies, and were thus enabled to render assistance to some five or six thousand wounded men promptly and efficiently. All the wounded that will bear transportation, during the present campaign, are sent as speedily as possible to the more important and well regulated hospitals at Louisville, Nashville, and Chattanooga. They are there placed in circumstances where they are comparatively independent of the Commission—the provisions of government, and the hospital fund, in the main, sufficing for their needs. But on the battle-field, where the wounded soldier sometimes waits for hours his turn to be removed from the rear to the field hospital, or from the ambulance to the hospital train, or where the crowded hospital trains, with their living freight of misery, wait at a station hours for orders to move forward, there the agents of the Commission are systematically at work, supplying the soldier's immediate wants, and furnishing him with the food and stimulants necessary to keep him alive. It is here that the value of the Commission is most vividly realized, and its noble services most gratefully acknowledged.

When one comes to understand what an enormous labor it is to supply the army proper—the fighting men, and their necessary complement of horses, mules, &c.—with food, forage, powder and lead in such a country as that through which Sherman is advancing, and which taxes the government almost beyond description, one realizes the special need of the Commission, and feels that the beneficent work which it is now doing must be left undone were the Commission not in existence, thereby entailing a more fearful loss of life on the country, and a more frightful amount of suffering on her brave defenders.

It is sometimes objected by the captious, that the supplies of the Commission are tardily forwarded to their destination. But we could find no reasonable ground for such a charge. There is, and there has been, at times, difficulty in obtaining transportation, which becomes more serious as the army advances farther from its base of supplies, arising from the fact that government taxes to the utmost all the means of

transportation, in maintaining the army in good fighting condition. But there is no delay in the transmission of sanitary stores that is not shared by the stores of the Government; while, wherever there is a lack of railroad facilities, the Commission pushes on its supplies by means of wagons.

The railroad from Nashville to Chattanooga, built before the war, was badly constructed, poorly ballasted, and intended only for small travel. Of course it is now inadequate to the carrying of the immense supplies for Sherman's army, and accidents, repairs and delays are inevitable. Six miles an hour is about the highest rate of speed attained; and then, on either side, are seen, strewn along the road, wrecks of cars and locomotives, smashed in every conceivable manner, telling of some fearful accident, or guerrilla fight. Impossibilities should not be demanded of the Government or the Commission; and the only matter of wonder is, under all the circumstances, that transportation to the front of Sherman's army is as rapid and safe as it is.

So also of the loss and waste of supplies. It would, of course, be too much to say that nothing is lost. But our examination led us to the conclusion that we had, in our statements, over-estimated the per centage of waste, misappropriation, and loss in transmission. Almost universally supplies reach the different points of distribution nearly to the full measure in which they are sent, and the loss and waste are, at the largest, not over six per cent. of the supplies. The nurses in the hospitals are very generally convalescent soldiers, with perhaps one or more women to act as matrons, or to have charge of the linen department. If, not yet robust, and still unfit for duty with their regiments, these soldier nurses sometimes use sanitary stores, they must not be too severely blamed, for it must be remembered that they also need recuperation and strength, in common with their feebler patients.

At Chattanooga the Commission has under cultivation an immense vegetable garden for the use of the hospitals. There are 200 acres in all—160 in vegetables, and 40 in grapes; the land being that of an abandoned plantation. It is worked by detailed soldiers, one company being stationed as guards, with 20 or 30 horses and mules for plowing and teaming, all without charge to the Commission, except for head gardener's wages and cost of seed. Its worth to the hospitals is almost beyond computation. Several thousand bushels of green vegetables have already been distributed to the hospitals from this garden, and it will continue productive to the very last of the season. A similar garden is cultivated at Knoxville, and other places.

The hospital cars for the transportation of the sick and wounded men, are also due to the genius and benevolence of the United States Sanitary Commission.

Imagine a car a little wider than the ordinary one, placed on springs, and having on each side three tiers of berths or cots, suspended by rubber bands. These cots are so arranged as to yield to the motion of the car, thereby avoiding that jolting experienced even on the smoothest and best kept road. There are usually several of these cars in a hospital train, with the surgeon's car in the middle. The car is divided into three compartments; at one end is the store-room, where are kept the eatables and bedding; at the other, the kitchen; and between the two the surgeon's room, containing his bed, secretary, and shelves and pigeon-holes for instruments, medicines, &c. A narrow hall connects the store-room and kitchen, and great windows or openings in the opposite sides of the car give a pleasant draft of air.

The men come on at evening, selected from the different hospitals, according to their ability to be moved, and after having had their tea, the wounds have to be freshly dressed. This takes till midnight, perhaps longer, and the surgeon must be on the watch continually, for on him falls the responsibility, not only of the welfare of the men, but of the safety of the train. There is a conductor and brakeman, and for them, too, there is no rest. Each finds enough to do as nurse or assistant. In the morning, after a breakfast of delicious coffee or tea, dried beef, dried peaches, soft bread, cheese, &c., the wounds have to be dressed a second time, and again in the afternoon, a third. As the trains arrive at Kingston, Dalton, Resaca, and other points agents are waiting its arrival, who have

been telegraphed of its coming, having with them a supply of food, drink, and clothing for the men, which they distribute to the poor fellows as they have need.

The Hospital Directory, located at Louisville, is another department of the Commission, which is of unspeakable value. Its specialty has been so often described, and is so well understood and appreciated, as to need no words of ours at this time. Daily the agents of the Directory answer hundreds of inquiries, by letter or telegraph, concerning sick or wounded soldiers, whose whereabouts is lost to their friends at home; and the anxiety, which is thus relieved, cannot be computed.

There is extreme good feeling between the Medical Department and the Commission, the former rendering the latter every possible aid in prosecution of their humane work. The greatest courtesy is also shown to the representatives of the Sanitary Commission by the army and railroad employees, who facilitate their labors in every way within their power.

In conclusion, we would say, that our visit to the Commission, not only at its head-quarters, but throughout its various departments, gave us the greatest satisfaction. Any waste, or loss, or evils attendant on the workings of the Commission, are not worth mentioning, compared with the good accomplished. We have returned, happy in our connection with this colossal humanitarian movement, proud of the good it is accomplishing, and satisfied with its efficiency, honesty and usefulness.

E. B. McCagg, *President.*
E. W. Blatchford, *Treas.*
N. W. San. Commission.

June 15*th*, 1864.

COUNTY COUNCILS.

We have received the official report of a County Council recently held at Tarrytown, Westchester County, New York. It was composed of delegates from the various Soldiers' Aid Societies, and as this is the first one of the kind we have heard of, we publish the entire report, hoping thereby to incite similar gatherings throughout the country. We commend it to the serious consideration of our readers, and hope the plan may be generally adopted. From personal experience of the Branch Councils, held in Washington by the Sanitary Commission, we know how pleasant and how stimulating it is to meet and shake hands with those who have been united in the same great and good work which has so grown into our hearts and lives these past years.

The following is the letter of invitation addressed to the Presidents of the Soldier's Aid Societies:

June 18*th*, 1864.

Madam—In accordance with the suggestion contained in the Third Annual Report of the Woman's Central Association of Relief, it is proposed to hold a County Council of the Soldiers' Aid Societies of Westchester and Putnam Counties, at Tarrytown, July 5th, at 10 o'clock, A. M. This day has been selected, as a very large Fair for the benefit of the sick and wounded soldiers, will be held at Tarrytown during the week, and many delegates would probably attend it.

It is requested that short reports be presented by each Society of what has been accomplished since the beginning of the war; but the main object will be "to diffuse information about the work and the wants of the Sanitary Commission as fully and widely as possible," and to bring into personal contact the earnest workers for this cause. We ask that you will lay this proposition before your Society, and send to the meeting five delegates. We shall be glad to see, beside these, any persons interested in the cause.

The meeting will be held in the basement of Christ's Church, Tarrytown.

Mrs. Pierre Van Cortlandt,
Assoc. Manager W. C. R. A. for Putnam Co. and Northern Westchester Co.
Miss G. B. Schuyler,
Assoc. Manager for Southern Westchester Co.
Miss Fanny Arnold,
Assoc. Manager for Eastern Westchester Co.

Report:

County Council of the Soldiers' Aid Society of Westchester and Putnam Counties, N. Y.

The First Council of the Soldiers' Relief Societies of the Counties of Westchester and Putnam convened at Christ Church, in Tarrytown, on the 5th of July inst., at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Pierre Van Cortlandt, and Mrs. G. Hilton Scribner was appointed secretary.

The roll of the Societies in the two counties was then called, when it was found that the So-

cieties of the following places were represented by delegates in the Council, viz.:

Sing Sing—No. of delegates, 5—Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Pentz, Mrs. Cox, Miss Carpenter, and Mrs. Cunningham.

Garrison—No. of delegates, 2—Mrs. Belcher and Mrs. Livingston.

Tarrytown Union Relief Society—No. of delegates, 4—Mrs. Knowlton, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Ryder, and Miss C. Wilson.

Tarrytown Soldiers' Aid Society of Reformed Dutch Church—No. of delegates, 2—Miss Cobb and Miss Thompson.

Peekskill—No. of delegates, 3—Mrs. D. L. Seymour, Mrs. Stewart, and Mrs. Hussy.

Yorktown—No. of delegates, 2—Mrs. Tompkins and Miss Tompkins.

Irvington—No. of delegates, 4—Mrs. Irving, Miss Irving, Mrs. Crosby, and Mrs. Sturgis.

White Plains—No. of delegates, 4—Mrs. Berrian, Mrs. Clapp, Miss Underhill, and Mrs. Fisher.

Dobbs Ferry—No. of delegates, 3—Mrs. Ackerman, Miss Laight, and Miss Hotchkiss.

Yonkers—No. of delegates, 5—Mrs. Everett Clapp, Miss M. Walsh, Mrs. Justus Lawrence, Mrs. Brett, and Mrs. G. Hilton Scribner.

Each Society was then called upon to report. The reports of the several Societies show them to be in a prosperous condition as regards finances, the amount of work accomplished, and the good feeling existing between the earnest coworkers in the cause.

It was peculiarly refreshing for these delegates from the various societies to meet and each gather encouragement from the stimulating example of the others in this great work, wherein woman may show at once her sympathy with suffering humanity, and her love of country. The White Plains Society deserves especial mention from the fact that they have been contending with many discouragements, but have still kept the good work moving.

The Alert Clubs form a prominent feature in some of the Societies, and seem to be a most decided success, well worthy recommendation. We were happily surprised at the large number of articles of clothing made in all these Societies. Many hands must have worked diligently to have accomplished so much.

After the reading of the Reports, the President read a most interesting and pithy letter from Miss G. B. Schuyler, depicting in graphic terms the sacrifices made by our sisters in the West, compared with whose noble deeds our own seemed to pale into insignificance.

Dr. Frank H. Hamilton, Medical Inspector under Gen. Rosecrans, was then introduced, and addressed the Council, giving us his experience from the first battle of Bull Run down to a recent date, showing the great sufferings that necessarily followed every battle, before the alleviating hand of the Sanitary Commission was stretched forth, and the comparative comforts that the suffering soldiers now enjoy as the blessed fruit of its noble work.

The Doctor was interrogated as to the workings of the Sanitary Commission, all of which interrogatories were satisfactorily answered. Some questions were also asked relative to the efficiency of the Christian Commission. A brief discussion then ensued touching the following subjects:

1st. As to the proper mode of organizing and conducting Alert Clubs as auxiliaries to the Societies.

2d. As to whether the several Societies composing this Council, when considered as branches of the Woman's Central Relief Association, are subordinate to or co-ordinate with that Association, in their powers of contributing directly to any object deemed worthy of their support.

Upon the suggestion of the President, the thanks of the Council were unanimously tendered to Dr. Hamilton for his able and enlightened address before the Council, after which, on motion, the Council adjourned to meet on the first Tuesday of October, with the Society at Sing Sing.

Mrs. Pierre Van Cortlandt, *Pres't.*
Mrs. G. Hilton Scribner, *Sec'y.*

We annex the report of the Society which, upon comparison with the others, was found to have accomplished the greatest amount of work in proportion to its population.

Annual Report of the Soldiers' Aid Society of Irvington, Westchester County, N. Y., June 16th, 1864:

Officers.

Mrs. John E. Williams, *President.*

Mrs. Oscar Irving,
" J. J. Banta,
" Crosby,
" Woodford,
Miss Mulhollen,
} *Vice-Presidents.*

Miss Sarah Irving, *Secretary and Treasurer.*

Officers of Alert Club:

Mrs. Sturgis, *President.*
Miss Storrow, *Secretary.*
Miss Lydia Brown, *Treasurer.*

Report:

There have been made and sent to the Woman's Central Association of Relief, Branch of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, during the year:

Cotton Drawers	473 pairs.
Flannel "	709 "
Socks	77 "
Slippers	53 "
Sheets	523
Arm Slings	44
Thread Cases	16
Whole number of articles	1895

Also, a quantity of bandages, lint, old linen and cotton, books, magazines and newspapers; also, a large amount of dried fruits, jellies, pickles, currant shrub and raspberry vinegar, backgammon boards and dominoes.

The number of members at the present time is 44, being an increase of 10 since the commencement of the present organization.

The weekly *average attendance* of members of the Society for the whole year is 33.

It will be remembered that work for our sick and wounded soldiers has been going on in this village from the commencement of the war, but

owing to the imperfect system of the earlier efforts, less was accomplished in *two years* than has now been performed in *one.*

For our present most successful plan of organization, we are indebted to the Woman's Central Association of Relief, 10 Cooper Union, N. Y. (See SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN, No. 12.)

EUNICE WILLIAMS, *President.*

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The receipts in money during the past year have been from

Alert Club Subscription	$635 21
Donations	417 36
Net Proceeds of "The Fair"	1,717 39
Sale of Rags	3 00
Total	$2,772 96
Expended for materials	$2,341 11
Sent to Treasurer of Sanitary Commission	300 00
Total	$2,641 11
Balance on hand	$131 85

As we have had no other expenses, the whole amount of funds received has been applied directly to the objects of the Society, and, we trust, in the most economical manner.

SARAH IRVING, *Treasurer.*

We understand that the population of the village of Irvington numbers about 800. In comparing this report with what has been done in other parts of the State of New York, the peculiar advantage of these suburban villages of New York City, as regards wealth, should be taken into consideration.

IN MEMORIAM.

It is our melancholy duty to record in this number of the BULLETIN the death of four Agents of the Commission; three, Mrs. Gen. Barlow, Prof. Hadley, of Union Theological Seminary, and Mr. G. C. Edgerley, stricken down by disease, induced by severe and long continued labors in an unfriendly climate, and one, William Wilson, wounded by a shot from the enemy's battery, while on board the Commission's supply steamer, and dying in a few hours.

To give testimony, as observers, to the Christian devotion of these noble friends of our suffering soldiers, is a duty willingly performed, for we have taken note from week to week of their fidelity which counted self-denial a delight, if only life to the living could be made tolerable, and death to the dying more peaceful. Their works do follow them.

Like brave soldiers they have fallen at their posts. Many to whom they brought succor and relief still live, and we wish it were in our power to record here their tearful tribute of thanks for those tender ministrations, bringing comfort and cheering the long night watches.

Dr. Douglas, the Associate Secretary in charge at the front sends us the following brief notice:

PROFESSOR HADLEY.

Professor Hadley arrived at City Point the last of June, and was immediately assigned to duty among the relief agents of the Commission, attached to the depot hospital of the Ninth Army Corps. His devotedness was the remark of all with whom he was associated. Laboring early and late throughout the day, and often throughout the night, going wherever duty called him, unmindful of fatigue, or the exhausting character of his labors, in a climate and a season alone sufficient to tax the powers of the strongest constitution, he toiled on with an earnestness and energy which was a part of his nature, until sickness overtook him. Unwilling to leave the field, he lingered among the hospitals, eager to return to work, struggling against fever, and hoping for a renewal of strength, till the advice of his medical attendant pointed the way to a return home, as the surest means of recovery. It was on his return home, August 2d, (just after arrival of transport at Washington,) that his exhausted nature gave way, and he sank into an early grave.

—

The following is handed us by a Relief Agent, Rev. E. A. Smith, who accompanied Prof. Hadley to the army, and was with him at the time of his death:

Prof. H. was assigned to duty with the Relief Agents of the 9th Corps' Hospital. There he continued from June 30th, the time of his arrival, until his final sickness.

The great characteristic of his life there was his quiet, incessant working. He said so little of what he saw and did, that we can get an idea of his work only from incidental clues. One of these was, that he was very seldom seen resting himself, or lounging about the store tent. We saw him rather going in and out of his wards, or coming to our tent, getting what supplies he needed, and going quickly back again. *He never went to the front.* The curiosity which has at sometime impelled most of us to go, that we could take home stories of bullets and shells, never seemed to influence him. He came to work, not to see. This he acted, though he never said it. Great eagerness was shown during his sickness by certain of his former patients, to be of service to him in turn. During his passage on the hospital boat, it was pleasant to see certain of the sick stop as they recognized their former "Sanitary man," and ask after his welfare. As

they inquired more about him they were surprised to learn his profession. The conversation with them had always been such that they had never suspected their having a Hebrew Professor for a "Sanitary."

He seemed to be so occupied in thought with the suffering that he could not relieve—that he never seemed to consider what he had done, and never seemed disposed to criticise others uncharitably.

In one case, when a newly appointed nurse showed himself grossly unfit for his place, Prof. H. said very little about it to others, but set himself to work to make up the short comings. His habit was to remedy evils and not to declaim about them. It was on this occasion that Prof. H. brought on him his last sickness. His repeated watchings with a lad sick with typhoid fever, so prostrated him he never rallied. This illness we all expected would pass off in a day or so, but it soon took the form of a fever, and it was decided that he must return home. He began the journey under as favorable conditions as one could choose for a sick friend. The steamer Connecticut is as comfortable a boat and as much filled with the atmosphere of kindness as one would think possible for a hospital boat. The first day Prof. H. seemed to improve, but on the next sank so rapidly, that by noon he had ceased to breathe. His body was taken charge of by the Sanitary Commission, and after being embalmed, was forwarded to his friends, who met it at New York. He was buried in New Haven, on Thursday, August 4.

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The New York *Evening Post*, August 8, says:

The sad intelligence comes from Fortress Monroe of the death of Professor Henry Hamilton Hadley, of the Union Theological Seminary in this city, while on his way from the front, where his health had become shattered in the discharge of his arduous duties as a relief agent of the Sanitary Commission with the Army of the Potomac. Among the many noble lives that have been laid upon the country's altar in this war none was a costlier sacrifice than his, though none has been more freely offered. A ripe scholar, an accomplished instructor, and an earnest Christian patriot, he counted his life as nothing, if it could advance the cause in which his sympathy was so warmly engaged.

Professor Hadley was a son of President Hadley, of Geneva College in this State, and a younger brother of Professor James Hadley, of Yale College. He was graduated at Yale in the class of 1847 with all the highest academic and literary honors of his class, and even now his remarkable ability and the ease with which he carried off the palm in all the college contests for superiority are traditions in that institution. He subsequently studied divinity in New Haven, and became a tutor in the under graduate department of the college in 1850, which position he occupied for about three years.

Many men, under whose eye this brief notice will fall, will remember with affection the slight, delicate looking little tutor of Greek and Mathematics of their Freshman and Sophomore years in college, and the respect he commanded by his profound scholarship and sound judgment.

At a later period, he was Professor of Hebrew at Yale Divinity School, and at the Union Theological Seminary in New York, alternating between the two places—but he finally resigned the former position, and held the latter at the time of his death. His whole heart was enlisted in the cause of his country, and he was on one or two occasions only deterred from entering the service as a private by the earnest representations of his friends of the consequences that would result to one of so delicate a constitution as his. He sent a substitute every year, however, and finally unable to endure inaction longer, entered the service of the Sanitary Commission, and devoting himself to his duties with all the earnestness and energy of his nature, sank under them into an early grave. The country can ill afford to lose such men, but the cause is doubly hallowed that receives the sacrifice of a life so upright and noble.

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Mrs. Barlow.

Died at Washington, July 27, 1864, Mrs. Arabella Griffith Barlow, wife of Brigadier General Francis C. Barlow, of fever contracted while in attendance upon the hospitals of the Army of the Potomac, at the front.

With the commencement of the present campaign she became attached to the Sanitary Commission, and entered upon her sphere of active work during the pressing necessity for willing hands and earnest hearts, at Fredericksburg. The zeal, the activity, the ardent loyalty and the scornful indignation for everything disloyal she then displayed, can never be forgotten by those whose fortune it was to be with her on that occasion. Ever watchful of the necessities of that trying time, her mind, fruitful in resources, was always busy in devising means to alleviate the discomforts of the wounded, attendant upon so vast a campaign within the enemy's country, and her hand was always ready to carry out the devices of her mind.

Many a fractured limb rested upon a mattress improvised from materials sought out and brought together from no one knew where but the earnest sympathizing woman who is now no more.

At Fredericksburg she labored with all her heart and mind. The sound of battle in which her husband was engaged, floating back from Chancellorsville, stimulated her to constant exertions. She faltered not an instant. Remaining till all the wounded had been removed from Fredericksburg, she left with the last hospital transport for Port Royal, where she again aided

in the care of the wounded, as they were brought in at that point. From thence she went to White House, on one of the steamers then in the service of the Commission, and immediately going to the front, labored there in the hospitals, after the battle of Cold Harbor. From White House she passed to City Point, and arrived before the battles in front of Petersburg. Going directly to the front, she labored there with the same energy and devotion she had shown at Fredericksburg and White House.

Of strong constitution, she felt capable of enduring all things for the cause she loved; but long-continued toil, anxiety and privation prepared her system for the approach of fever, which eventually seized upon her.

Yielding to the solicitation of friends she immediately returned to Washington, where, after a serious illness of several weeks, she, when apparently convalescing, relapsed, and fell another martyr to a love of country. J. H. D.

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The following extract from a private letter expresses the grateful emotions of many families whose loved ones came under Mrs. Barlow's devoted care:

"We were shocked to hear yesterday of Mrs. Gen. Barlow's death. We knew Mrs. Barlow well, and have felt a peculiar interest in her, as she was with my cousin the night before he died, after Gettysburg, ministering most tenderly to him. She and her heroic husband have presented a rare picture of unselfish patriotism ever since the commencement of the war; it is such examples which incite anew our faith in the holiness and final triumph of our cause."

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We add two notices which have appeared in the papers. The initials will be recognized as those of Dr. Francis Lieber, of Columbia College:

To the Editors of the Evening Post:

I received yesterday a telegraphic despatch informing me of the death of Mrs. Gen. Barlow. She died yesterday morning of typhus fever at Washington.

Mrs. Barlow, (Arabella Griffith before she married,) was a highly cultivated lady, full of life, spirit, activity and charity.

General Barlow entered as private one of our New York volunteer regiments at the beginning of the war. The evening before he left New York for Washington with his regiment, they were married in the Episcopal Church in Lafayette Place. Barlow rose, and as Lieutenant Colonel, made the Peninsular campaign under General McClellan. He was twice severely wounded, the last time at Antietam. Since then we have always read his name most honorably mentioned, whenever Major-General Hancock's corps was spoken of. Mrs. Barlow in the meantime entered the Sanitary service. In the Peninsular campaign she was one of those ladies who worked hard and nobly, close to the battle-field, as close indeed as they were permitted to do. When her husband was wounded she attended, of course, upon him In the present campaign of General Grant she has been at Belle Plain, White House, and everywhere where our good Sanitary Commission has comforted the dying and rescued the many wounded from the grave, which they would otherwise have found. The last time I heard of her she was at White House, and now I am informed that she died of typhus fever in Washington. No doubt she contracted the malignant disease in performing her hallowed and self-imposed duty in the field.

Her friends will mourn at the removal from this life of so noble a being. All of us are the poorer for her loss; but our history has been enriched by her death. Let it always be remembered as one of those details which, like single pearls, make up the precious string of history, and which a patriot rejoices to contemplate and to transmit like inherited jewels to the rising generations. Let us remember, as American men and women, that here we behold a young advocate, highly honored for his talents by all who knew him. He joins the citizen army of his country as a private, rises to command, is wounded again and again, and found again and again at the head of his regiment or division, in the fight where decision centres. And here is his bride—accomplished, of the fairest features, beloved and sought for in society—who divests herself of the garments of fashion, and becomes the assiduous nurse in the hospital and on the field, shrinking from no sickening sight, and fearing no typhus—that dreadful enemy, which in war follows the wings of the angel of death, like the fever-bearing currents of air—until she, too, is laid on the couch of the camp, and bidden to rest from her weary work, and to let herself be led by the angel of death to the angel of life. God bless her memory to our women, our men, our country.

There are many glories of a righteous war. It is glorious to fight or fall, to bleed or to conquer, for so great and good a cause as ours; it is glorious to go to the field in order to help and to heal, to fan the fevered soldier and to comfort the bleeding brother, and thus helping, may be to die with him the death for our country. Both these glories have been vouchsafed to the bridal pair. F. L.

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The *Herald* correspondent, writing from Petersburg, July 31, says:

General Miles is temporarily in command of the First Division during the absence of General Barlow, who has gone home for a few days for the purpose of burying his wife. The serious loss which the gallant young general and an extensive circle of friends in social life have sustained by the death of Mrs. Barlow, is largely shared by the soldiers of this army. She smoothed the dying pillow of many patriotic soldiers before she received the summons to follow them herself; and many a surviving hero who has languished in army hospitals will tenderly cherish the memory of her saintly ministrations when they were writhing with the pain of

wounds received in battle or lost in the delirium of consuming fevers.

—

Mr. G. C. Edgerley.

[Extract of a letter from Dr. E. A. Crane, dated New Orleans, *July* 20, 1864.]

I have already alluded in some of my communications to the Central Office—if not to yourself, to the illness of several members of our corps, resulting from overwork and exposure, while in the discharge of the duties in which they have engaged. While most have recovered, and are now in the enjoyment of a fair measure of health, I am exceedingly pained to be compelled to announce to you the death of one of our most valued agents, Mr. G. C. Edgerley.

He returned to this city from Cairo on the hospital transport, N. W. Thomas, feeble rather than sick, convalescent from an attack of measles, contracted during the voyage up the river. His symptoms were neither regarded by himself or others as likely to prove serious, until a few days previous to his death, when by our advice he went to the "Home," where we were better able to render to him that service, attention and good nursing, which we believed to be chiefly essential to his recovery.

While at the "Home" he grew rapidly worse, and continued to sink until the morning of the 15th instant, when he quietly and peacefully left us for that brighter and better world, where there is no more pain and trouble, and all is peace.

Mr. Edgerley was always regarded as one of our most valuable and efficient employees, and his loss is one which falls heavily upon us, as also upon the large circle of friends and the many acquaintances he had formed while in the discharge of his duties as Agent of the Commission.

To you as well as to us, it may be a satisfaction to know, that nothing was spared which might contribute to his well-being and comfort while sick—that dying he was surrounded by those whom he knew and loved best—that the last sacred offices of burial were conducted in the presence of friends, who had learned to know him, to esteem him, and to love him.

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A correspondent of the New York Tribune, under date of July 26th, thus alludes to Mr. Edgerley's death:

The Commission lately met with a serious loss, in the person of Mr. Edgerley, of New Hampshire, who came to this city a year ago, and has labored since in the work of the Commission, with unflagging assiduity and zeal. He was taken sick while engaged in taking care of the sick and wounded on board the hospital boat N. W. Thomas, while on her way hence to Cairo, a few weeks since, and returned to this city soon afterward to die. His loss is much regretted by the Sanitary Commission, and by many friends in this city, as well as among the soldiers whom he had ministered to in the army.

In so noble a work it seems almost an enviable thing thus to die with the harness on one's back. J. B. C.

—

William Wilson.

William Wilson was a resident of this city, He was probably the youngest in the Relief Corps, and on applying to enter the service of the Commission, was considered too young, but he manifested such an appreciation of the proposed duties, that he was accepted. He did not disappoint our expectations, and the record he made for himself in a good work may well be a consoling thought to his parents and friends in this great bereavement.

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We add a letter from Dr. Parrish, giving somewhat in detail the circumstances attending the attack on the steamer, on which William Wilson was fatally wounded:

City Point, Va., *August* 4, 1864.

To J. Foster Jenkins, M. D., *General Secretary, U. S. Sanitary Commission:*

Dear Sir—I have to record a sad accident in the history of the Commission. In consequence of the extreme heat of the weather, and of the over-worked condition of everybody who will and can work, since the battle of Saturday last, I determined to give as many of our agents as could be relieved, an excursion up the river, and directed that the tug-boat should be in readiness at two o'clock to-day for that purpose.

I went with the boat to the hospital landing, and received on board the S. E. Brown about twenty of our Relief Corps, three ladies, and a number of invalid soldiers, placed them and the boat under the guidance of Dr. Swalm, and bade them a good trip for their health on the James.

When about seven miles above City Point, they were fired upon by guerrillas from the shore, and before they could receive the protection of the gun boats, two of our valuable co-laborers were seriously injured, and the engineer of the boat instantly killed.

1. G. Mayo, of Milo, Piscataqua County, Maine. Ball passed into the left side, just above the hip, injuring somewhat the crest of the ilium, and creating much suffering. Mr. Mayo is doing well.

2. William Wilson, No. 68 Grove Street, New York City. Ball passed through the right ilium, entering the peritoneal cavity, and perhaps will terminate fatally. (Since dead.)

3. John Hamlin, Engineer, Brooklyn, shot through the head, and killed immediately.

I must acknowledge gratefully the unremitting attention of Dr. Thomas Haigh, Acting Assistant Surgeon, and Dr. T. W. Swalm, both of whom accompanied the excursion, and did much toward the relief of the suffering. They were supplied with bandages, lint, etc., from the gunboat Piquot, and were accompanied to Bermuda Hundred by the Commodore Morris, under the command of Capt. R. G. Lee.

Poor Hamlin's body was carried to the hospital landing, and will be embalmed under the direction of Mr. F. B. Fay. It awaits orders.

The boat was sailing under the Sanitary Commission flag, and the ladies were sitting on the bow, in full view of the shore. The wicked daring of the attack is characteristic of the foe, whom we have fed and nourished as our own men, when they have been suffering and helpless.

Yours respectfully,

JOSEPH PARRISH,
Acting Associate Secretary.

FIELD RELIEF CORPS.

HOSPITAL 5TH CORPS, *July* 25, 1864.

Following instructions of Dr. Jenkins, General Secretary of the Sanitary Commission, which were received during a brief visit to my home, I reported to you on my arrival at City Point, on the 25th ultimo, to resume my duties as Superintendent of the Field Relief. The absence from the storehouse of several efficient assistants, making my presence at that place desirable, it was not until the 8th of July, that I returned to the front.

Since then my time has been fully occupied in the duties connected with the very large distribution of vegetables and other supplies, and in an effort under your instructions to make this Commission better known to the soldiers, as the ever ready and liberal almoner of the bounty of the country. To secure this latter object, an agent has been assigned to each division of the Field Hospital of every corps, whose time is to be devoted to such assistance to and intercourse with the patients, as will best promote their comfort, whilst his continued presence and observation will tend to correct whatever inclination may exist on the part of the hospital attendants, to misapply the articles obtained from the Commission. At present this field of labor is comparatively unproductive, owing to the small number of cases under treatment, and the convalescent condition of a large portion of these. The wounded, of whom there have been but few recently, are generally removed to the hospitals near City Point.

Should an engagement fill these field hospitals, there will be abundant opportunity for efficient service by the entire corps. It is to be regretted that the gentlemen sent here for this duty are prepared to give so short a time to its discharge, as a familiar acquaintance with the Surgeons and attachés greatly increases their opportunities for usefulness, and experience adds so much to their ability. It having been deemed by you advisable to make our issues of vegetables to the troops in the trenches more direct and with greater liberality, I commenced with the extreme left wing of the army, and arranged to issue orders on our supplies at City Point, in favor of the Commissaries of the 1st and 2d Divisions of the Sixth Corps. The march of these troops during the ensuing night to Harper's Ferry, prevented the execution of our plan. This was on Saturday, July 9th. The ration proposed, and afterwards given to other corps, was one pint of pickles to every man in the front.

On the following day, one hundred barrels of pickles were turned over to the Corps Commissary of the Second Corps; on the 11th of July, the same amount was delivered pro rata to the Commissaries of Division and Artillery Brigade of the Fifth Corps. About the same time the Ninth Corps was supplied through Dr. Stevens, with one hundred barrels each of vegetables and pickles. During the same day I called on General Martindale, in command of the 18th Corps. He appeared to approve very highly of the distribution of this class of supplies, and issued an order, to be read to the troops, stating that the Sanitary Commission had delivered a ration of a pint of pickles to every man in the corps; this consumed an additional hundred barrels.

It is probable that this order never reached the troops in the trenches, but its publication did good, and showed the animus of the General.

On my way next morning to Point of Rocks, I met Dr. McDonald, and learning from him that a supply of fresh vegeta-

bles were subject to my order at City Point, I added them to the distribution for the 10th Corps, making out orders for eighty-eight barrels of pickles and one hundred barrels of vegetables. This completed one full issue of pickles to the entire army, and of vegetables to the 9th and 10th Corps.

General Butler issued an order somewhat similar to that of General Martindale. For supplies distributed since that issue, a tabular statement is appended.

The same liberality that has marked our distribution of vegetables to the troops, has been extended to the sick in the Field Hospitals, and to those who while unable to do duty are not ordered to the rear.

Weekly visits to the front lines by the Field Agent, have brought the supplies of the Sanitary Commission prominently before the Surgeons on duty, and enabled us to meet with preventives a large number of cases that otherwise might have proved serious. These visits have shown us, that the distribution of supplies has reached the men in the trenches, and been of great benefit to them.

Relief Agents have been assigned to the various Army Corps, one to each Division Hospital, as stated, and efforts have been made through them, and by the direct action of the Superintendent, to encourage a liberal, yet prudent application of sanitary stores. In many instances, supplies of fruits or vegetables of a delicate character were received, in smaller quantities than were required for issue to the troops. These were divided among the various hospitals, to the great satisfaction, we may hope, of all the inmates.—*Superintendent Johnson's Report.*

HEROIC BRAVERY—THE BROKEN FLAGSTAFF.

Dr. Marsh, Sanitary Commission Inspector in South Carolina, relates the following incident connected with the late military movement which he accompanied:

"The enemy having got the range of our flagstaff, cut the halyards by a piece of shell, and the flag fell immediately. Private Tibbitts, Company M, Third Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, seized the fallen flag, climbed the staff, and holding to it with one arm, with the opposite hand held the flag to its place, until new halyards were obtained and the flag secured; the enemy meanwhile firing."

BLACKBERRIES.

In addition to the frequent calls for preparations of Blackberry, we are advised from our issuing storehouses to repeat the appeal, as the demand is rapidly increasing, and will continue through all the winter as well as summer months.

The Dried Fruit will be of the greatest value, and many families who cannot afford to purchase the sugar needed in preparation of the Wine and Syrup, and much less the Spirits for Blackberry Brandy, can collect many pounds of the fruit and dry it.

Of the four preparations Brandy is the most valuable; it being less exposed to fermentation, and in most cases more highly prized by the Surgeons. The loss on the Wine and Syrup, through fermentation after bottling, is large and it is desirable that the Branches do not relax their efforts to secure more perfect preparation and packing, and increase, if necessary, the unwelcome labor of carefully examining every bottle before repacking. Such expenditure of time and money is true economy, as a glance at many boxes of empty or broken bottles with the bills for their transportation, would convince any observer. We would suggest that the Aid Societies during the fruit season, take up the manufacture of the Wine, or Brandy, or Syrup, collecting the fruit from the country in their vicinities, and making the articles and packing under their own direction, or employing a skillful person for the work.

Much might well be put up in kegs instead of bottles.

It is advisable that if a good stock is secured, the Societies put in store a portion of it, three-quarters at least, for issue during the winter and spring months, when the risk of loss through fermentation is much less. The motion and exposure connected with transportation, it will be remembered, stimulate the fermenting process.

☞ A report on the "Work of Relief in Grant's Army," on p. 585 (No. 19) of BULLETIN, was erroneously attributed to Mr. Smith, instead of Dr. T. B. Smith, one of our old and valued inspectors.

Issues of Anti-Scorbutics at City Point, Va., during July, 1864.

3,520	bbls. potatoes.	54	bbls. curried cabbage.
66	" fresh tomatoes.	8,930	heads fresh "
780	boxes " "	363	bbls. fresh beets.
100 000	lbs. canned "	133	" " turnips.
67	bbls. pickled "	68	" " beans.
2,600	bbls. fresh onions.	6	" " peas.
12	boxes "	152	" assorted vegetables
448	bbls. pickled onions.	27	" green apples.
1,480	bbls. " cucumbers.	451	" dried "
356	" saur kraut.	11	" cranberries.

HOSPITALS AT WASHINGTON.

Mr. Caldwell reports:

SIR—From April 1st to this date, (June 24th,) of my resignation of my position in the service of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, I have made one hundred and eighty-eight visits to general and post hospitals, in and about Washington, Alexandria and Baltimore. For nearly four weeks between these dates I was, as you know, very closely confined at the desk of the Chief Clerk, and no visitor of the Commission went the rounds of the hospitals.

During the month of April, there was but little call for supplies at the hospital. While I was at the Chief Clerk's desk in May, the calls were large, and some hospitals that for months had needed almost nothing, drew largely upon the Commission.

Since resuming my work of hospital visiting, about three weeks ago, I have dispensed with liberal hand wherever I was satisfied as to the need, and have requested the purchase of many articles not usually supplied by the Commission, such as green cambric for curtains, life-preservers for ring cushions, charcoal powder for a preventive against gangrene, etc. One large Barrack Hospital, newly opened in Alexandria, situated on a plain, bare of trees, has thus been supplied with curtains, that were indispensable for the well being of the patients, and could be obtained in no other way.

In April I began to distribute among the patients in the hospitals a small circular, giving a full account of what is done in the Special Relief Department—so that they might know where to apply for aid in getting claims settled. This will be carried on by my successor, and I know will be of great benefit to the soldiers.

The aid we were able to give so abundantly during these memorable months of May and June, has been gratefully acknowledged by many Surgeons in charge of hospitals.

The demand has been most heavy for head-rests, air-cushions, spit-cups, shirts, drawers and socks, (cotton,) slippers, thin wrappers, blackberry cordial or brandy, brandy, crackers, dried fruits, jellies, lemons, oranges, pickles, porter, ale, sugar, tea, lint, old linen bandages, crutches, fans, slings, stationery, handkerchiefs and towels. Thin wrappers, arm-slings, jellies, bandages and old linen, I have not been able to supply as wanted; none of these articles can be had of the Medical Purveyor, except bandages—and the old cloth bandages of the Commission are greatly preferred by all, to the new cloth ones furnished by Government. I am doing all that I can to induce Surgeons in charge to prevent all possible waste of bandages, and in almost every hospital they are washed, when not from gangrenous wounds.

Of pickles, and particularly pickled cucumbers, we should have a good supply; of Blackberry Cordial or Brandy, and Cherry Rum, we cannot have too much—and the same may be said of head-rests; and I would recommend that the Commission have made for issue "bed-tables"—to put on the bed before the patient, from which to eat, or for writing; a pattern can be found in the Camden Street Hospital, Baltimore.

WHAT THE AUXILIARY RELIEF CORPS HAS DONE.

Mr. Fay, the Superintendent, reports:

As Superintendent of the Auxiliary Relief Corps of the Sanitary Commission, I beg leave to submit the following report:

In April I received a request to go to Washington to assist in the organization and take charge of the Auxiliary Corps. Twenty-five gentlemen, mostly students from the Princeton Theological Seminary, New Jersey, Union Theological Seminary, New York, and the General Theological Seminary, New York, were employed for four months' service in this corps. Other gentlemen, volunteers from Boston and vicinity, were sent for and joined the corps, so that it had about forty members when it started for the field. There were 25 Divinity Students, 5 Clergymen, 1 Physician, 1 Professor of Natural History, 1 Teacher, 1 Shipmaster, 1 Editor, 3 Clerks, and 1 Merchant. These men were organized into separate divisions, or squads of six to ten each, under the charge of a captain, who should control their action after being assigned to duty by the Superintendent.

While at Washington the corps were called together repeatedly, for instruction in their duties as nurses, and in general hospital work.

We left Washington, May 10th, on the Rapley, arrived at Belle Plain at night—found wounded men on barges and on shore. Detailed first and second divisions to feed them with crackers and coffee.

In the morning established a feeding station on the shore. Left second division, (10 men) in charge; and the rest of the corps started on food for Fredericksburg. On arrival there found wounded in houses, churches, stores, etc. Reported to Dr. Dalton, and obtained permission to carry out our plan. I immediately detailed four men,

second division, second corps; six men, fourth division, second corps; nine men, first and second divisions, sixth corps; five men, Asylum Hospital, sixth corps, who became at once nurses, cooks, dressers, assistant stewards, etc.

We remained at Fredericksburg seventeen days, during which time twenty thousand wounded men passed through. The Auxiliary Corps served them in trains as they arrived—at the boats, as they were sent away, and also at the cars on the other side of the river, at Falmouth. We were called upon also to furnish nurses on the transports at Washington, which we were able to do.

Our next point was at Port Royal, where we remained but two or three days; about two thousand wounded passing through. A feeding station was established on shore, and this, with the care of trains arriving, covered our labor here.

We next went to White House and established our system of Auxiliary Corps tents and regular field hospitals. It was the first attempt, and was generally successful. We arrived in half an hour after the Medical Director, and established a feeding station in a few hours afterwards. Not less than ten thousand wounded passed through this point. Remained till Sunday, June 12th, when a small party were started in the Rapley, alias James Guy, with a small quantity of supplies, and sent to Fortress Monroe to meet the Superintendent, who had been temporarily absent. We proceeded to Bermuda Hundreds. This, it will be remembered, was before any considerable portion of the army had crossed the James River. Leaving a few supplies here and at Point of Rocks, on the Appomattox, we made headquarters at City Point, which had not then been taken as a base of the Army of the Potomac. Served a few hundred wounded, who came in from the 18th Corps, and sent two or three loads to the front to supply the wounded of the 18th and 2d Corps, which had arrived and been engaged.

When the supplies on the Rapley were nearly exhausted, the other boats and barges not arriving from White House, I went down the river about fifteen miles, to the pontoon over which the army was crossing, and learned that the boats were detained at Fortress Monroe by the Provost Marshal, upon a general order of General Butler. I returned, immediately applied to General Grant, who had then established his headquarters at City Point, and obtained a telegraphic order for all Sanitary boats to be allowed to come up. On the same day, however, you had obtained an order from the Secretary of War to the same effect, and arrived with the boats and barges, and the balance of the Relief Agents. As soon as the hospitals were established at a point about one and a half miles up the Appomattox, the plan of Auxiliary Corps tents was again put in operation, and has continued to the present time, more successfully even than at White House, as we profit by our past experience.

Up to the present time from eight to ten thousand men have arrived at this base, and more or less have been subject to our care.

System of Work.

The Auxiliary Corps is divided into divisions of six to ten men each, under the command of a captain. Upon the establishment of hospitals, each division is assigned to a corps, and directed to pitch a tent within the limits of the hospital. Requisitions of supplies are made by the captain, which are used by the Superintendent.

This is done daily, or oftener, if needed. It is designed to keep a small assortment of every kind of sanitary supplies in each corps hospital, and that all requisions upon the supply barge shall come from the captain, rather than from the surgeon. The surgeons of course having permission to draw upon the tent supply at any time. The principal distribution of the goods is made by our own men, who are assigned each to a certain number of tents, with directions to confine his labors to his ward, and to see to the special needs of the patients in that ward. By this system proper distribution of the supplies is secured.

When special diet kitchens, for which the Sanitary Commission furnish cooking stoves, are established for the preparation of farina, corn starch, soups, toast, etc., they are supplied with all needed articles, when the Government supply fails. It

frequently happens that the whole supply comes from the Sanitary Commission's tent. Our men prepare and administer milk punch or lemonade, at regular hours, under the direction of the surgeon. On the arrival of trains of wounded, the Auxiliary Corps are always ready to assist, feeding and otherwise caring for the patients.

By this system we feel confident that every patient will be visited, that his wants and that of the surgeons will become known, and can in due time be met.

Of course, this added facility in obtaining supplies will add largely to the demand, but so the work is wisely done, and the articles confer comfort and save and prolong life, no demand can be too great for the Commission to strive to supply.

We have now at this point a tent in the 2d, 5th, 6th and 9th Corps' Hospitals, and in the Colored Hospital and that of the Cavalry Corps.

In the 10th and 18th Corps, they being in another department, the auxiliary work has not been introduced. In addition to these, we have a feeding station near the hospital landing, designed to feed trains of wounded who come down directly from the field, without passing through the Corps Hospitals, and also to supplement the Corps Stations when a large train arrives at hospital.

Feeding Station near Barges.

To relieve the table of the hotel barge from the large number of calls from hungry soldiers, a station has been established on the shore, where a very simple meal is prepared of hard tack, crackers, coffee, pickles. Since that time, one hundred and fifty to two hundred men have been daily fed, and one day when a division passed by, about seventeen hundred men received more or less aid from the tent. There is no eating house here, and many men who are left in charge of stores or horses, or are dropped here from barges or steamers, and are delayed in getting to their regiment, have need of just this kind of aid. It is not rendered attractive, and none but a hungry man will avail himself of it.

Nearly 300 different men have served in the Auxiliary Corps for a longer or shorter time within the last sixty days.

Our Standard.

I have endeavored to impress upon the minds of the Auxiliary Corps that "home comforts" should be our standard in our efforts for the sick and wounded. Not that we expect to reach or nearly approach it, but let us keep it constantly before us. If one of these wounded men were our brother and were in our own home, how many hours of how many members of our family and of the neighborhood would be devoted to his comfort? He is "somebody's brother;" more, he is *ours*, suffering for us, and because he is uncomplaining and content with little, shall we cease our attentions? The American citizen gives little, who gives only his time, his money, or his sympathy in this hour, compared with the soldier who gives his life or his limbs. It is *not* "sickly sentimentality," it is *not* "excessive benevolence," that calls upon us to do the *best* we can for these men. It is simple justice.

Relations with Medical Officers.

We have every reason to be gratified at the harmonious relations existing between the Commission and the Medical Officers. The Auxiliary Corps have in nearly all instances, been cordially received and encouraged in their work.

I cannot avoid naming Dr. Dalton, Medical Director of all the Hospitals at the several bases, who has not only extended to us the courtesies natural to him as a gentleman, but has granted us almost as many favors officially.

"How have we Lived?"

At Fredericksburg, I think I may safely say, that more than half the time, a blanket and a floor were the only bed of the Auxiliary Corps. Two empty, unfinished, unclean houses were obtained, swept out and called "Homes." Stewards were appointed from our own number, and a Commissary to provide food. The diet for the first few days was crackers, farina, and coffee. There was no Government Commissary of whom to purchase, and the larder of the Commission was not extensive. Later, we lived better, but never with any approach to home comforts. On the barges, the table variety has been comparatively good,

the sleeping accommodations not luxurious. (See letter from Rev. Mr. Potter, p. 632.) The men permanently assigned, sleep in the tents at the field hospitals. When there is a change of base a floating home is necessary, as well as for unassigned men, and for those coming and going. Recently, we have had a hotel barge, which is comfortable, though too small.

But all our discomforts have been met by the Auxiliary Corps without complaint, which among so many men is remarkable.

Burials.

By reference to report of Rev. Dr. Stone, it appears that we began to superintend the burial of the dead at Fredericksburg, although we had participated in it at Belle Plain with the Christian Commission. Since that time, at Port Royal, White House, and City Point, we have had entire charge, selecting the burial place, performing the service and erecting and marking the head boards. A record is kept and forwarded to the Sanitary Commission Directory, at Washington.

At Belle Plain, Rev. S. H. Thompson officiated; at Fredericksburg, Rev. Dr. Stone; at Port Royal, Rev. Mr. Thompson and Mr. W. H. Holstein; at White House, Mr. Holstein; at City Point, (on first arrival,) Mr. W. P. Webster; at City Point at Hospital, Mr. Holstein. Mr. Holstein has been assisted by Mr. Allen, Mr. Griffith, and Mr. Eggleston. At Port Royal, the burial ground was surrounded by a suitable fence, and a bouquet laid upon every grave!

The whole number buried under our Superintendence at the points named, has been about 600.

We have of late furnished some suitable head-boards, sent from Washington, but there is still great need of them. The graves are numbered and head-boards can be erected whenever a supply is obtained. A private accustomed to lettering has been detailed, and this part of the work will be well done.

None have been buried in coffins since the campaign commenced. It is not usually so.

Letters.

A letter box has been kept at each Auxiliary Corps' tent and on the barge, and up to the present time nearly 150,000 letters have been forwarded to Washington in the last sixty days. They have been received whether paid or unpaid, and pre-payment made at the Central Office.

It has been a source of great comfort to the soldiers, and the expenditure is a most wise one. Many of the letters are sent from regiments, being directed to wounded men who have been sent to the rear.

"Milk-punch Wagon."

Appreciating the sufferings of the wounded in being transported in army wagons and ambulances from the field to the base without suitable nourishment or stimulants, I sent from White House out to the front a wagon loaded with crackers, milk, whisky, utensils and empty bottles, and five Relief Agents to meet the incoming trains and distribute in each wagon and ambulance, a bottle of milk-punch and some crackers. It was entirely successful and should be followed hereafter when opportunity offers.

Washing.

There has always been a great waste of clothing in hospitals, for want of means of washing. They cannot ordinarily be supplied for some weeks by Government. I recommend that the Commission make preparation for a movable washing establishment entire, to be put in operation as soon as a hospital is organized. By it, the whole expense of it could be saved in a single week.

We have already fitted out two small affairs at this point, and Government are adding others, but better preparations should be made for it hereafter.

Conclusion.

In behalf of the members of the Auxiliary Corps, I desire to say, that their reports are less numerous and less interesting on account of the nature of the work. Every moment is occupied during the day, and they are too wearied at night to write. Nor do I believe that one can fitly describe his own labor in a work like this, as it seems too much like self-commendation.

They have exhibited a spirit of self-sacrifice, and an earnestness none can question.

The Commission, the community, and the soldiers are deeply indebted to them.

They have continued to labor in these unhealthy localities without desertion. Many have lost their health and been obliged to leave, and are now upon sick beds, hovering between life and death. One, Charles H. Stanley, of Beverley, Mass., has laid down his life, as truly a sacrifice for his country, as the men who die upon the field. He was a devoted worker, fell sick from over-exertion at Belle Plain, went to Washington on furlough, returned too soon, was immediately sent to his home, but lived only ten hours after his arrival. Appropriate resolutions were passed by the Corps upon receipt of notice of his death. (See BULLETIN, No. 18, p. 568.)

Let us cherish his memory, as one, who in his efforts to save the lives of others lost his own.

We subjoin copious extracts from the reports of various members of the corps—all volunteers—serving under Mr. Fay's direction:

DR. NEILSON.

SCENES ON THE "NEW WORLD."

I arrived at City Point, Va., on the 21st of June, 1864, and immediately tendered my services to the Acting Relief Agent for the Commission. He accepted my offer, and requested me to proceed at once to the steamer New World, (then used as a Government hospital ship,) with a number of nurses, dressers, etc. Went accordingly, and found the steamer, a large three-story boat, was crowded by the sick and wounded. Cots were placed as close as could be together, leaving barely room for the attendants to pass between the rows—even the little state-rooms, close, and not ventilated at all, contained each four patients. In fact, the whole boat was crowded to excess, the number of Government attendants were limited and overworked, and I can say that, had it not been for the Sanitary, the amount of suffering would have increased tenfold. Oh! could you have seen and heard the constant outpouring of gratitude of the poor fellows; their eager watchings of the agents of the Commission, as they moved among them in the discharge of their duties, you would have felt more than repaid a thousand times for every exertion made for them. "God bless the Sanitary Commission" was the constant cry from the poor fellows, as one after another their wounds were dressed and their wants supplied. "If it were not for them we would die!" This is not intended to cast any slur on the Government officials—they were overworked, and in the pressing calls made by the sudden arrival of a large number of wounded from the battle-field, could not, in the nature of things, be otherwise, and it is in emergencies of this kind that the true value of the Commission is shown. With their large and well organized band of assistants, they step in and fill the gaps, which the best efforts of the Government must ever leave unfilled, and I do not think their efficacy was ever more displayed than on the above occasion.

On the 22d I first noticed the appearance of that dreaded disease, hospital gangrene. It spread rapidly, and on the 24th, it was deemed necessary to clear her of all the patients, and haul her out into the middle of the stream. The odor of the disease affected every part of the boat, and made some of the attendants sick; but in despite of the dangers to which they were exposed from infection, not one of the agents in the Commission faltered in his duties. They bravely stood up to their posts, and some of them staid by the boat until she was nearly cleared of the patients and anchored in the stream.

My experience has been short, but I saw enough to cause me heartily to join in the prayer of the poor soldiers, "God bless the Sanitary Commission."

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MR. S. T. KEESE.

THE GENERAL FEEDING STATION.

I reported to you soon after our arrival at White House, and the day was assigned to the command of a squad of eight persons. We reported immediately to Feeding Station, No. 1, near the railroad bridge, and were engaged till late in the evening assisting in the care of a large number of wounded men lying in wagons on the north side of the river. The next day, June 3d, we were ordered to report to Capt. Evans, at Feeding Station, No. 2, situated about 300 yards above the landing place of the Sanitary boats, and in a central location. The labor of feeding and caring for the wounded men at that time arriving, so far as the Commission undertook to act, devolved chiefly upon this feeding station, and the consequent labor was very great. Capt. Evans was soon worn out by the worry and responsibility incident to such a place, and was compelled to resign his charge, to which I succeeded. I wish to say of Capt. Evans, that I have seen no man whose heart was more fully in the work, or any one who has exhibited so great tenacity and

industry. In this opinion, all my men agree heartily with me. For some time after I had assumed charge of the post, the labor continued to be severe and without intermission. We supplied the wounded men with soft crackers, coffee, soup, lemons, and various relishes. We fed many well men from the front, going or returning; we dealt out shirts, drawers, stockings, handkerchiefs, shoes; we kept a post office; we dressed wounds; we dispensed simple medicines; we answered innumerable questions. * * * *

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Mr. John Stiles.

THE "WATER BASE" FEEDING STATION.

On the 29th of June, in compliance with instructions from you, a feeding station was opened here, to furnish meals to *hungry* soldiers not otherwise provided for. Three days' experience gives the following result:

No. fed 1st day, 307.	*2d day*, 268.
1 bbl. crackers.	1 bbl. crackers.
1 box "hardtack."	1 box "hardtack."
9 lbs. ground coffee.	6 lbs. ground coffee.
8 cans condensed milk.	6 cans milk.
11 lbs. sugar.	2 bbls. saur kraut.
	10 lbs. ice.

3d day, 319.
1 bbl. crackers.
1 box "hardtack."
10 cans milk.
15 lbs. brown sugar.
10 lbs. ground coffee. Total, 884 men.

Of the above goods, there is on hand—½ bbl. saur kraut, 1 box hardtack, 1 bbl. crackers, 4 cans milk, 3 lbs. coffee, 5 lbs. sugar.

Tent and Utensils.

Tent 16 by 16, under which is a table and benches for 12 men.

The coffee boiler is under a small "fly." The only additional articles used are—24 tin cups, 12 spoons, 2 tin pails, 1 wooden bucket, 6 towels, a broom, and an axe—all of which can probably be turned in at the breaking up of the Station.

Two men attend the Station and furnish meals to those *only* who have previously received tickets.

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Mr. J. F. B. Marshall.

AT FREDERICKSBURG.

May 30.

In accordance with your request I submit herewith a brief report of the doings of the 11th Auxiliary Relief Corps, assigned by you to the hospitals on the heights of Fredericksburg, of the second division, 9th Army Corps. This hospital comprised several buildings, the principal of which was the Mansion on St. Mary's Heights, formerly an elegant residence, but now so defaced by shot and shell as to be almost untenable; other houses and cottages comprised within a range of half a mile were filled with wounded. The daily changes of men rendered it impossible to keep an accurate record.

One train of ambulances left about five hundred men, all of whom were suffering from lack of attention. The average number in the hospital was between five hundred and six hundred. Some four hundred, who were wounded in the attack by Ewell on our wagon train, were left over night in the ambulances in front of our hospitals, and though we were all fatigued by our day's work, we gave the most of the night to these men. The next morning at 6 A.M., the train moved on towards the city, and every man had something in the way of refreshment before he left. We then buried eight poor fellows who had died either on the road or during the night. Rev. Mr. Channing performed a most impressive ceremony.

Their effects were collected and sent to their friends. With all our labors early and late, we could only feel that we had done but a small part of what was needed to be done to make these wounded suffering men comfortable.

The patient, heroic endurance with which they bore their sufferings, and the want of the comforts and almost the necessaries of life, was beyond all praise. They fully appreciated all that was done for them, and were overflowing in their expressions of gratitude to the Sanitary Commission and its agents.

We found these poor fellows lying on bare floors mostly without blankets, pillows, mattresses, or even straw. Their clothing fetid with filth and blood, without proper or sufficient food. Although the depot of the Commission had been almost drained of supplies by the great demand from the city hospitals in its immediate vicinity, we succeeded in obtaining some tea, coffee, oatmeal, farina, and sugar, and left at once, and the same evening came that wonderful relief chest, containing a little of almost everything that could be thought of for hospital uses. But for the aid afforded to this hospital by the efforts of the Commission, the sufferings of the inmates must have been very much greater, and I feel confident that many lives were saved by its humane interposition.

The Government supplies were wholly inadequate to the wants of these men even had they been not wounded. Coffee, and occasionally salt pork or salt beef, or fresh beef, which latter was generally served out in a very greasy soup, which seemed to give the men bowel complaints, whenever they partook of it. I was called upon for nothing more eagerly than for medicine to stop the diarrhea, which was a very prevalent complaint.

The medicines found in the relief chest, for this purpose, I used with remarkable success.

The Government had no medical supplies for several days, and my remedies were their sole dependence; and I was told over and over again by the men who insisted upon giving me the title of doctor, that they had never had any medicine that acted so "like a charm" upon them. It would be hardly too much to say that many lives were saved by the instrumentality of the Auxiliary Relief Corps, which has proved its great value most thoroughly and satisfactorily during the fortnight of hospital service at Fredericksburg.

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Mr. J. F. B. Marshall.
in the field.

June 21.

We left City Point on Thursday, June 16th, at noon, with one four-horse wagon load of sanitary stores. My Corps consisted of eight men, viz.: Messrs. McMurty, Bates, Eggleston, Francis, King, Sutherland, Hammer and myself. Mrs. Barlow and Miss Gilson also accompanied the expedition. Col. Rand, of the 4th Mass. Cavalry, who was in command of the post, and for whose ready courtesies we were much indebted, furnished the wagon for the stores, a horse and vehicle for the ladies, and an escort of cavalry for our protection. The gentlemen were on foot, and the march of seven or eight miles over a very dusty road and under a hot sun, was a slow and fatiguing one. We were also delayed by falling in with the 9th Army Corps on the march.

Reached the Hospital of the 18th Army Corps about 4 o'clock, where we learned that a general engagement was expected to commence about 5 P. M. I found at this Hospital two wagons of the Christian Commission. The Hospital was not established until after we had arrived. I sent round to find the different hospitals, and which was in most need, and was indebted to the Christian Commission for finding a messenger acquainted with their location. As my Corps were very much fatigued with the march, we went to a house near by, and prepared to pass the night. About 9 o'clock, however, the messenger returned and reported that the Hospital of the 2d Division, 2d Army Corps was very much in want of hospital supplies, none of the wagons having arrived, and the wounded being brought in in great numbers. The Hospital of the 18th Corps, where we first stopped, was also in urgent need of some articles. I started at once with the wagon and three men, leaving four to sleep off their fatigues so as to be able to relieve us in the morning. Left at the 18th A. C. Hospital a part of our supplies, as per annexed list, and started with a guide for the 2d Division, 2d Corps. After losing our way in the woods, we reached the hospital about midnight, and never were sanitary supplies more needed than at this place. None of the wagons had come up; the hospital was filled with the wounded, who were constantly being brought in, and the Surgeons in need of stimulants for the operating table, clothing for the men, many of whom were shivering in the dews, without coat or blanket. We were busy for several hours, issuing supplies and caring for the wounded, till about 3 A. M., when we were compelled from exhaustion to turn in. The next morning the Sanitary Commission wagon of the Field Corps arrived, with but few supplies. The ladies visited the hospitals of the 1st and 3d Divisions, of this Corps, and reporting that the 1st Division was in great need, I sent over an ambulance load of supplies to that hospital, which took nearly all I had. Mr. Eggleston having over-taxed his strength in working all night among the wounded, I sent him in with the wagon to City Point. Our supplies being nearly exhausted and the wagon not having arrived, which we learned had been sent, I concluded that not being able to find us, its contents had been distributed at some other hospital, which proved to be the case. I concluded we had better return to City Point, and we were to start on Saturday morning, June 18th. Before we got off, however, Mr. Vassan arrived with a two-horse wagon, partly loaded, and the information that a four-horse wagon load was on its way. I concluded to go with these supplies to the 1st Division Hospital. Just as I was starting, I met Dr. Steiner, who reported that he had abundant supplies in his wagons of the regular Field Corps, but that they had been detained in the rear, as the roads were blocked up by troops and ammunition trains. We were most heartily welcomed at the 1st Division Hospital by Dr. Potter, Surgeon-in-charge, who furnished a store-room and guard, a tent for the ladies, and one for the gentlemen, and offered us every facility we could desire. Here we found 1,000 wounded and sick, and more coming in hourly. The Hospital was the best ordered and most perfect in its system of any one I have seen, and the corps of surgeons humane, gentlemanly, and efficient. Our supplies were in great demand, and our efforts most readily received and seconded by the officers in charge. We found enough here to do to keep us all busy.

The next day, Sunday, June 19th, we were early at work, as a train of ambulances and wagons were being loaded for City Point. All day we were busy preparing and distributing milk punch, farina, lemonade, crackers, &c., &c. About 1,000 wounded were sent in, leaving but a few serious cases, and the sick. Fresh arrivals from the field were taking place hourly, and they had to be cared for.

Rev. J. A. Stone.

THE BURIAL OF SOLDIERS AT FREDERICKSBURG.

Agreeably to your request I make the following report in reference to the *burial* of the soldiers here. Having been accustomed to witness the celebration of Christian rites at the burial of the dead, and being sent here by those who were likewise accustomed to see them, I could not bear to see brave men placed in their graves like animals, without any religious service whatever. I therefore made application to the Provost Marshal for authority to officiate at the burial of those soldiers who were to be buried within the military limits of the city. This authority was not only readily but thankfully granted, as I had been the first and only person who had made such an application. The Military Governor, Col. Shriver, also most cheerfully approved and signed this authority.

I have officiated up to the present time at the burial of one hundred and thirty-three officers and privates. The whole number buried at the General Burial Ground is two hundred and two. The soldiers are buried in their clothing and blankets, just as they are brought from the hospitals. No proper headboards or coffins are provided, but we use shingles, with the names written thereon, and placed at the heads of the dead as carefully as possible, so that friends can readily find the bodies of those they seek.

Mr. W. Aikman.

AT BELLE PLAIN.

We went out on a delegation from the "Delaware Soldiers' Aid Society," and for the purpose of primarily caring for the wounded of Delaware, but also for any service and for any of our suffering men.

On our arrival in Washington, we were satisfied that we could accomplish the object of our mission far better by putting ourselves in connection with the Sanitary Commission than in any other way.

At Belle Plain we put ourselves under the direction of Dr. Steiner, who requested us to relieve a party of overworked young men, who, at the tent and on the hill, were endeavoring to supply the wants of the ten thousand sufferers who were passing in one continuous stream. We took charge of this work, and began to see the beneficent work of the Sanitary Commission.

It were a piteous tale to speak of the seemingly interminable mass of human suffering which we witnessed there—the road for miles crowded with ambulances and wagons, filled with wounded and dying men, and almost every yard of roadside lined with pale and wearied men, leaning on sticks, or on the shoulders of companions less severely wounded; all making their way painfully to the boat. For the relief of these men, as far as I could see, the only provision was that which the Sanitary Commission had made. How often I blessed it, as the abundant stores enabled us to feed and refresh, and cheer our noble fellows, and made it possible to dress wounds, festering, and some of them undressed for nearly a week. The amount of suffering assuaged then and there gave me new ideas of the work.

The next day we passed on to Fredericksburg. We know in what an inexpressibly dreadful condition our wounded men were, in the crowded churches and houses of that town, and for the first few days the only means of relief for the sufferers was obtained through you; the bandages and lint, and the stimulants, and the disinfectants, as well as the soft crackers, and the farina and milk.

Every blanket and shirt, and every pair of drawers or socks, we were able to get, came from you long before the Government stores had arrived. Here again, and again, while we saw some poor fellows made a little comfortable, or heard his warm thanks, we blessed the work of the Sanitary Commission.

My sympathies were stronger elsewhere, but I have seen so much of the work of the Sanitary Commission, that I cannot but feel the deepest interest in and admiration for it, and am exceedingly glad that it was my privilege to spend a couple of weeks in connection with it. I shall esteem it a privilege to labor with you again, and hope to be called upon by you in time of need.

Mr. J. O. Denniston.

We disembarked at midnight, pitched our tent and fed with bread and coffee the wounded men who came straggling in. The operations of the Corps until the following Friday, consisted almost entirely of feeding the wounded and hungry soldiers who came along. On Wednesday morning, May 12th, our labors properly began, for then the Corps was specially assigned for duty at this station. At half past four in the morning, camp kettles were procured, and the work of feeding began. Wounded men and soldiers not wounded came pouring in by the thousand, all hungry and in need of food. Bread and coffee were served out to them all as fast as the coffee could be made. The number of those fed it is impossible to determine. All were fed who could be served with the force in hand. The best estimate which can be made, places the number of those fed from Wednesday morning until Friday night at five thousand daily. These men were mostly wounded men, who came by foot, wagons and ambulances, from the front, but very many were unhurt, but came as guards,

and were in need of food. We labored under great inconvenience from the rain and the mud; our tent was pitched in a location which was very accessible, but very muddy in wet weather. It is believed, however, that no inconvenience resulted to any wounded men from this cause. The members of the Corps were ever found ready to go through the deepest mud when necessary to the relief of those in need. It is thought that since Friday morning last, May 13th, no wounded men went on to the boats without being fed, the exceptions were of those who were slightly wounded, and who of their own choice passed by the feeding stations in order to quietly reach the boats. Previous to Friday it was absolutely impossible to feed all. It would be very unjust to claim all this for the Sanitary Commission. The Christian Commission and Dr. McKay's and Father Gilroy's stations, each did their full share of the work. We have freely furnished delicacies, such as milk punch, oranges, farina. The milk punch has been specially acceptable to all wearied by their long journey from the front. During the present week every man unable from mouth wounds to eat solid food has been supplied with farina. A large number of shirts, drawers, and stockings, have been supplied to those in need. Many bushels of letters have been received at our tent for the mail. We have also fed a large number of delegates and of officers who were hungry.

The work of burying the dead has been attended to by Mr. Thompson, in connection with the Christian Commission; the graves have been marked and a record kept. The Corps has also aided in giving breakfast to the wounded who have remained over night in the hospitals. This work has been very well supervised by Mr. Stanly. It is impossible to give a very explicit report of our whole work, because of the indefinite nature and magnitude of it. We have been treated in the kindest manner by the Government officers; especially are we indebted to the Quartermaster Company and to Dr. Cuyler. We have obtained from them many thousand rations of bread, coffee and sugar, for distribution. We have also been aided greatly by the common soldiers, who have always been ready to do the heavy work of carrying and lifting stores, &c. During the present week a wooden shanty has been erected at our station, which has added to our comfort. The tents have also been floored. The gratitude of the wounded men to us all for our aid has been very demonstrative. The Commission has achieved for itself at Belle Plain the good will of all. The Corps has been at a disadvantage from lack of experience; during the last few days we have been able to do more with less fatigue, by better system, and by securing the aid of others. I cannot too highly express my conviction of the usefulness of the Sanitary Commission. The Christian Commission and the Government agency have worked very harmoniously with us.

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Mr. Geo. Ferguson.

at fredericksburg.

After leaving Washington, on the 10th inst., the first work in which I was engaged, was in feeding several hundred wounded men at Belle Plain landing, many of whom had had no food for two, three, and even four days.

On the next day we arrived in Fredericksburg, when I was assigned to duty in the 2d Corps, 2d Division Hospital, where I still work. We have always been gladly received by those in authority. The Surgeons have continually worked with us, looking to us for many things that the Government did not provide, or were behind hand in providing, and always got what they looked for.

The room that we took possession of and fitted up for sanitary stores, has become the constant resort for all the Surgeons in the hospital, nurses, Christian Commission men, and all and every little thing they want, they have learned can be had there. It would be impossible for me to attempt to make a statement of the articles that have been distributed from this place.

Among the men, the blessings that are given to the Sanitary Commission are not a few. Many say that they would have starved had it not been for the Sanitary Commission. In the eight days that I have been working here, I have written 33 letters to soldiers' friends, have had three men baptized by the Rev. Mr. Stone, two of whom have died, and the third, who was baptized to-day, is now dying.

The condition of the men generally, has been much improved. At first, the men were sadly in want of under-clothing, but now there are hardly any calls for this; and though beds are still much needed, the men are as comfortable as in their wounded condition they can be. It is not until all these greater wants are supplied that men think of calling for pipes and tobacco. These are constantly in demand now, and as I go among them with tobacco and matches, having previously distributed pipes, I find many takers. The comfort derived from this source is great, and the gratitude of the men for all these things, though quiet, is heartfelt. Another source of pleasure to the soldier has been singing. A small company of us, myself their leader, have gone from one hospital to another in the evenings, and sang to the men, which they have always been much pleased with, begging us to come again.

REV. J. O. MEANS.

I received a telegram from you on Sunday afternoon as I was entering my pulpit at Roxbury, asking me to come to Washington that night. Missing the evening train, I started the next morning, and reached Washington in season to come here in company with the first who came to the relief of our wounded.

After spending Wednesday forenoon in feeding the poor men who had come to Belle Plain, and assisting the severely wounded out of the army wagons and ambulances, I started with my co-laborers and walked to this city in the afternoon, and began systematic work the next morning. I have been particularly impressed by four things in my experience:

1st. The *admirable system* by which the efforts of the Sanitary Commission have been made most practically useful.

2d. The absolute necessity of this auxiliary labor for the lives and welfare of the wounded.

3d. The heartiness with which the medical officers of the army have received and welcomed us, and allowed us to co-operate with them. And

4th. The opportunity of relieving the spiritual as well as the physical necessities of the sufferers.

First. There was a systematic distribution of our company of fifty on board the steamboat on the way from Washington. Six gentlemen were placed in charge of a chief, made in a measure responsible to him, to labor under his general supervision, to receive directions from him; thus on arriving at Belle Plain, each corps was at once able to go to work with least loss of time, or waste of strength or confusion. On reaching Fredericksburg, each corps took its hospital or district of labor, and became responsible for it. This, I think, has secured to an unusual degree economy, efficiency, ease and rapidity in relieving the great disabilities we found existing.

Second. As to the absolute necessity of this auxiliary labor, I am sure I should have had no conception of it, if I had not been engaged here for those first most pressing days which immediately succeeded the great battle. As I write this, matters wear so different an aspect in this city, that we can hardly believe what the condition was ten days since. Our corps was assigned to the Female Orphan Asylum Hospital.

No surgeon had yet been ordered to the hospital, though Dr. Terhune, Surgeon of the Third New York Volunteers, was temporarily looking after matters. Some seventy-five men, among them ten or twelve cases of amputation of legs above the knee, or arms at the shoulder, several with severe wounds in the head, groin and body, and others of great severity in other places, were in pressing need of attention. The wounds, when we came to dress them, we found had not been attended to for four, seven, and in some cases even nine days. Nothing had been done to organize the hospital. The floors of the building were covered with filth to an indescribable degree, exuviæ of rebel troops, who had littered in them for previous months. Dr. Terhune had no assistants, and desired us to undertake the whole work. We began to feed the men, and place them in as comfortable a position as possible. With no details of soldiers, for the pressure was so great in every direction that none could be furnished, we took hold with our own hands and performed the most disagreeable scavenger work, and cleaned the rooms. The Surgeon started us with such instructions as seeing and assisting him in half a dozen cases could give; and then we continued and went through dressing the wounds of the poor sufferers. Our chief of corps was made steward of the hospital to procure supplies. The Sanitary Commission was drawn upon for the first essentials, and for the largest part of our necessaries. No lint, bandages, plaster, blankets, or stimulants could be procured from the army stores for many days. Without what the Sanitary Commission furnished, I do not see how anything could have been done. When Dr. Terhune left for the front, he said in my hearing, to Dr. Sturtevant, who relieved him, four-fifths of all that had been done here, has been by the Sanitary Commission, and four-fifths of our supplies came through them. Gentlemen, I do not repeat this out of compliment to us, but it seems right that the Commission should have, if it needed, the advantage of such explicit indorsement. For the first four days and nights our labor was well nigh prostrating. Since then assistance has come, in admirable volunteer surgeons and assistants, gentlemen from the Auxiliary Commission and other bodies, and nurses have been detailed by the Medical Director, so that our work is less arduous in certain forms.

Third. We have had, as has been already intimated, the fullest and most hearty welcome from the medical and other officers of the army. They have even devolved upon us duties and responsibilities from which we should have been glad to have been relieved, and the constant consultation as to what should be done and how, and their ready compliance with our suggestions and deference to our judgment, would have flattered us if there had been room left in such work for any personal feeling. I think it very remarkable that not any sign of friction in any direction has appeared for one moment; but we, in our humble measure, have been recognized to such an extent as ought to satisfy any reasonable man.

Fourth. I had not anticipated so large an opportunity of promoting the spiritual welfare of the sufferers. While it was indispensable first to make them in some measure comfortable in body, (and every effort must take that direction,) by words of cheer, and by suggestions in various ways while about our work, it seemed as though many a poor sufferer was receiving spiritual strength and consolation.

Our interviews with the men, as they saw and felt us seeking their good, so opened their hearts that they received gladly all we had to say to them. In writing letters to friends at home, speaking of the gospel salvation to the dying, and praying with them, helping their thoughts upward, there has been a most delightful and blessed opportunity of doing in some small measure what our Lord and Master did. With daily prayers in each ward, and special Sabbath services, most kindly, joyfully and thankfully received by the men, it may be hoped that it will be found at last that something has been done for the highest and best interests of our noble, patient, and uncomplaining men.

No pressure of other cases has prevented us from performing decently the last rites over the dead, taking care of the precious momentoes which the soldiers have left for transmission to their homes, and writing letters, in all cases communicating such particulars as we could give them, and speaking such words of comfort as might be possible.

If it were not absolutely imperative that I should return, I should count it special felicity if I might spend some of the coming months in this new philanthropy.

—

Mr. A. M. Sperry.

Fredericksburg, *May* 18, 1864.

On the morning of the 12th, the 3rd Division of the Relief Corps was assigned to duty in the 1st Division of the 6th Army Corps. We found in the hospital not less than seven hundred men, and the number soon rose to eight hundred, while the constant arrivals and departures made the grand total of wounded men very much larger.

The first few days were so occupied in efforts to feed the hungry, and to dress wounds untouched for days, that any attempt at statistics would have been a wicked waste of time, nor am I aware that the Surgeon in charge attempted anything of the kind.

We have now in nearly every ward a regular system of morning reports, and all the main features of an organized hospital. In this work of organizing, it will be seen that the Relief Corps has been of much assistance.

Even now, in one instance at least, a member of this Corps makes out the morning report of his ward. But it was "when there were none to help," when all but God had apparently deserted these men, that our work was most valuable. Brought in and laid upon the floor of damp unwholesome stores, or small dark rooms in the poor dwelling-houses on Caroline Street, they lay for days with only a blanket under them, often covered with blood and filth from their wounds, or saturated with water and often with urine.

For the first ten days the work was to cover the naked, only those absolutely destitute or worse than destitute, being supplied. Slowly and surely their condition was improved; as soon as possible noble-hearted volunteer Surgeons dressed their wounds, soldiers were found for nurses, blankets at first from the Commission, afterward from the Medical Purveyor, took the place of those covered with filth and vermin, and shirts and drawers in limited quantities were supplied. The number at present remaining in the hospital is perhaps five hundred. These are in many different buildings, and probably forty rooms. Hardly one of these is fit for a hospital ward. Insufficient light; damp and decaying floors; lack of proper drainage and sinks for the use of the men; little or no ventilation, all contribute to the general unhealthfulness of their condition. It seem impossible that erysipelas and gangrene can long be kept away; even now cases are coming to notice.

The system under which we have worked has in the main proved successful. If it be the theory that we are to look to the wants of the men not supplied through the regular channels, then it seems the best way to do by assigning men to different wards, where by long acquaintance they may be able to judge of each man's condition and wants correctly. Where also, by his personal presence, he may keep a constant restraint upon those inclined to be unfaithful in duty, or in the use of stores. So far as practicable, all stores taken in hand by our men, have been followed directly to the soldiers for whom they were intended.

Hundreds of men in this city to-day owe their lives to the stores furnished, and the work done by the Auxiliary Relief Corps of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

—

Mr. W. Dana.

When I entered the service of the Sanitary Commission, I came with a prejudice against this organization—a prejudice held in common with many others who have thought that a large portion of the comforts and money given so freely by the people never reached the soldier. I, there-

fore, watched those at the head of the Sanitary Commission with a jealous eye, as well as those who were at the heads of the different departments, and I must say I am greatly disappointed. I have yet to meet one who is not a gentleman, who to all appearance is not an honorable man, and who has not the true interests of the soldier at heart. I say this freely, as I think I may have done the Sanitary Commission an injustice through ignorance heretofore.

My experience in working for the Sanitary Commission thus far is very brief, one night at Belle Plain, and six days in the hospital at Fredericksburg. Yet, even this has been sufficient to convince me that the Sanitary Commission is filling a gap, and meeting a great want which it is impossible for the Government to do.

For my part I do not see what the soldiers could have done in these hospitals without its aid. While the Government was using all transportation for the supplies of the army at the front, the Sanitary Commission was relieving, by their stores and agents, the sufferings of the wounded and dying.

I have had connection with but one hospital—that of the Second Division, Second Corps, and here, though the Surgeon in charge has been doing all he can for the comfort of those under him, yet to the Sanitary Commission he looked for a large share of the stimulants, clothing, etc., even now, though the Government is furnishing a large quantity of necessary and substantial articles, yet it is from the Sanitary Commission that they draw those articles of delicate food which are so much relished by a sick man.

As for the work, I for one, have enjoyed it exceedingly. I have always found the soldiers glad to see me, and they have been exceedingly grateful for anything I could do for them.

The medical attendants have met me kindly, and are apparently glad of reliable assistance. In fact, I am now convinced, the longer I work here, that the Sanitary Commission is one of the noblest charities of our land, and that it opens a broad field for humane and Christian efforts.

—

Mr. J. P. Marshall.

To cheer the loneliness of the invalid soldier; to make him feel that he is still an object of tender solicitude—to nourish, sustain and encourage, the Sanitary Commission comes like an angel of mercy. The eye of the sufferer lights up with sudden joy, at the first appearance of the long-hoped for aid, and from his lips come such expressions as these: "God bless the Sanitary Commission;" "The wounded would fare hard if it were not for the Sanitary Commission;" "Government does all it can, but it is good to see somebody from home;" "What should we do without the Sanitary Commission." Every one who has spent a few hours even in the hospitals has heard many such testimonials of grateful feeling from the sick and wounded.

Such were the glad expressions that saluted our first advent into the hospitals of Fredericksburg, after a tiresome walk from Belle Plain, on the afternoon of May 11th, 1864. The smiles that greeted us from long rows of sunburnt men, stretched upon floors of the stores, with nothing but a bloody blanket beneath them, was ample compensation for the fatigue of our journey.

The 4th Corps of Relief Agents, was assigned to the Fourth Division Second Corps Hospital, located principally on Caroline Street. The hospital was already well organized and divided into twelve wards. Dr Ewing, the Surgeon in charge, received us kindly, and assigned us a room in the second story of the building at the corner of George and Caroline Streets, over ward four of our hospital. We remained there until the effluvia from the ward below, and from another which had been established in the rooms in the rear, on the same floor, compelled us to evacuate the premises.

Our corps originally consisted of John P. Marshall, of College Hill, Massachusetts; Dr. Daniel A. Johnson, Rev. Dr. Stockbridge, Capt. John C. Hubbard, and John S. Bent, all of Chelsea, Massachusetts, and Mr. Noble, Jr., of New York City. Miss Helen L. Gilson, was also assigned to our hospital. Dr. Johnson and Mr. Noble were removed from our corps for special service elsewhere. The remaining members were organized into a working party, as follows:

John P. Marshall had supervision of corps and charge of arrival diet; Captain Hubbard had charge of vegetable diet; Rev. Dr. Stockbridge had charge of soldiers' correspondence; Mr. Bent had charge of stimulants; Miss Gilson had supervision of the cooking department, and distribution of clothing, etc. Captain Hubbard was healthy, faithful and active. Mr. Bent, though not well, much of the time, bore up manfully, and by his devotedness, won the affectionate regard of all connected with the hospital.

Dr. Stockbridge conducted the correspondence with fidelity, writing some days as many as thirty letters.

Upon Miss Gilson's services, we scarcely dare trust ourselves to comment. Upon her experience we relied for counsel, and it was chiefly due to her advice and efforts, that the work in our hospital went on so successfully. Always quite self-possessed and prompt in the discharge of duty, she accomplished more than any one could for

the relief of the wounded, besides being a constant example and embodiment of earnestness for all. Her ministrations were always grateful to the wounded men, who devotedly loved her for her self-sacrificing spirit. Said one of the 5th New Jersey in our hearing, "There isn't a man in our regiment who wouldn't lay down his life for Miss Gilson."

We have seen the dying man lean his head upon her shoulder, while she breathed into his ear the soothing prayer that calmed, soothed and prepared him for his journey through the dark valley.

The Surgeons of our hospital were kind-hearted, active young men. The wounded and sick were taken just as good care of, by them and their assistants, as the state of the supplies would permit. The nurses were generally attentive and careful. When one neglected his duty, he was at once discharged. The ward-masters of ward 1 and 2 were men whom we shall always remember with gratitude, for their unwearied labors in behalf of the badly wounded men under their charge.

We were not required to dress a single wound, while connected with the hospital. In answer to an inquiry, if it was expected of us, the Surgeon assured us it was not, but if we desired some experience, we were at liberty to dress some simple wounds under the direction of his assistants. The wounds were dressed regularly once a day in the forenoon, except one or two days, when no supplies of lint and bandage could be procured. As a proof of the superior care taken of the wounded men in our hospital, we do not remember a single case in which the wounds became infested with maggots. Out of eleven hundred men who were temporary inmates in the hospital, only fourteen died.

Under the direction of Miss Gilson, the special diet was prepared, and we cannot strongly enough express our sense of the invaluable service she rendered in this department. The food was always eagerly expected and relished by the men, with many expressions of praise. Dr. Ewing prescribed the diet, and the hours of serving it, which were very faithfully observed by the agents.

After Dr. Ewing was summoned to the front, Dr. Ribble took charge, maintaining the same excellent supervision that characterized his predecessor.

These medical men were glad to avail themselves of our services, and from the first treated us with marked respect and kindness—a proof that they recognized the utility of the work the Sanitary Commission was created to do.

We can but feel that the presence of judicious and cultivated agents of the Sanitary Commission will do much to impress more fully upon the Surgeons and nurses the sacred obligation they are under, to treat with the utmost tenderness the commonest soldier, who falls in the service of our common country.

At the same time too much care cannot be exercised by the agents, not to interfere with the Surgeon's appropriate duties. By showing a disposition to help without interfering, by doing much and talking little, the agents can soon inspire confidence, and gain the hearty co-operation of the medical authorities, in any wise measure for the relief of the suffering.

The wounded men need more nourishing, or at least a more palatable diet, than is provided by the Government authorities. We often found men in a weak and feverish state, with their beef soup and hard tack untasted near them, but glad to get a dish of farina or some little article of diet prepared by Miss Gilson. The lives of men, under such circumstances, are often saved by some simple kind of food, which the hospital stores do not furnish, or the cooks do not know how to prepare.

If all the hospital nurses were honest, they might be intrusted with the distribution of the special diet. But without any intention of reflecting very severely upon the general character of the men employed by Government, we do know from personal observation that all cannot be trusted with the delicacies intended for the wounded. It becomes necessary that responsible men should have charge of the extra diet, and see faithfully that each wounded or sick man has his share of the nutriment, upon the proper and regular supply of which his life depends.

Nor is it strange that some soldiers, who act as nurses, long deprived of luxuries, should be unable to resist temptation, and sometimes appropriate to their own use the delicacies intended for the wounded.

The Agents of the Commission, by the faithful discharge of their duties, can prevent all such abuse of trust, and guard the interests of the invalid soldier.

[Remainder in our next number.]

HOW WE LIVED.

LETTER FROM REV. MR. POTTER.

WHITE HOUSE, VA., *June*, 1864.

I hardly know whether to laugh or to feel indignant at the reports I hear concerning the luxurious habits of living, in which the Sanitary Agents indulge. I did laugh at first, for the thought of luxury was so incongruous with all my surroundings at the moment, and so far from any thing in my experience of the Sanitary Commission, that I could hardly believe the charge of luxurious living was made seriously. But when I saw that it was, I was inclined to wax indignant, and to wish that the people who circulate and believe such charges, would come out here

to see and try this luxurious service themselves. When I read the letter, we had just dined, sitting on boxes, off a table constructed of rough boards laid on barrels. Our table furnishings are all tin—just such as the soldiers have. Our food is very often served in washbasins—precisely such as we may have used half an hour before in dressing wounds—and very suggestive also of the morning toilet. The dinner, to-day, was the best I have seen since leaving Washington. It consisted of canned chicken, potatoes, apple-sauce, pickles, bread and butter, and coffee, served in a good deal of confusion, and with no very special regard to neatness. Nothing but the good appetites that most of us possess, could possibly overcome the obstacles of such a dining table.

I suppose some would say that canned chicken was a luxury, and that we are eating up the stores sent for the wounded and sick soldiers. But the canned chicken, tell the carpers, was a rarity. I have never seen it on the table but once before. Our usual meat is salt ham. We do not complain, though we do not always relish our meats; we expected such discomforts. Here, we have been provided for rather better than at Fredericksburg or Port Royal. It is necessary for the health of the agents. They cannot long work, without good and sufficient food, and here some things which would not be provided for them elsewhere are put upon the table, because of the natural unhealthiness of the location. It is a malarious district, and it is not well to drink much of the water. We sometime have ale. Whatever we have, of course comes out of the sanitary stores; and this, of course, the public must know, when they contribute the funds. The agents can live in no other way, and the funds cannot be used without the agents. And whoever could see how these men work here—working many of them night and day, and sleeping only when and where they can—could never begrudge them their roughly served and often neglected meals. And as for luxury in any other shape, the term is still more ridiculous, at least as far as the agents who follow the army are concerned. Even I, who expected hardship, am surprised to find how little provision is made for their comfort. The barges and steamboats are filled everywhere with stores, and passengers must get along as they can. We sleep, a hundred or more of us, counting all hands, wherever we can crowd a straw mattress down, on the floor, or on boxes of goods. The mattresses and choice places, (if any there be,) are free to those who can first get them—the agents, boatmen, or contraband cooks. One night, coming on board rather late, I was so unfortunate as to get only the edge of a bale, where I was conscious all night of an effort to hold on, lest I should slip over the railing of the deck. It may have been an attitude of luxury, but it did not strike me so at the time? And whatever the attitude may be at night, comfortable or uncomfortable, and however well disposed one may be to sleep, there is always the possibility, very frequently made actual, of being called up at any hour, to go, it may be a mile or more, through rain and dark and mud, to feed a train of wounded and suffering men. This is a part of the work we came to do, and we do it uncomplainingly, but we do not call it a luxurious mode of life.

Nor did those of our number who were detailed the other day to go up to Washington as nurses on a boat, where there were only three surgeons with four hundred wounded men, and who were almost the only nurses on board, and who had to do every kind of service for thirty-six hours for these men, dressing their wounds, cooking for them, as well as for themselves, and serving them, not only as care-takers but in the most menial ways, consider their service as a mode of luxury. They were glad, and felt honored, to perform it, there being no one else to do it. But I did not intend to go into this long story. It will serve, however, to show you something of our style of living, which was what you wished to know. I felt moved, too, to defend these Sanitary Agents whom I know about, against so false a charge, not on my own account, for I am but a temporary volunteer among them, but because of their own long and faithful service.

HOSPITAL NOTES FOR FRIENDS AT HOME.

RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER, STEAMER KENT,
SUNDAY P. M., *May* 29, 1864.

After my experience here with the Sanitary Commission, I only wish I had the "gift of tongues," that I might place a fair record on paper of its operations, and give some hints by which you at home could realize the work it is doing for the nation, for the army, for the hospitals and for the wounded. But even now, with all my intimate connection with these active operations in this gigantic campaign, I declare to you that I do not know where to begin in my eulogy, for I do not yet begin to realize myself one half of its beneficent work. In the first place it is always ahead in every thing. It reaches a new base as soon as there are soldiers to protect it; it is at work establishing hospitals and providing necessary stores long before the government machinery begins to move; and

its red flags are seen every where with the stars and stripes, establishing its feeding stations, and its depots of supplies.

WHAT BECOMES OF THE MONEY?

People ask at home, and it is a natural question, for they can form no conception of the vast field it covers in its operations, "what can the Sanitary do with all this money? Their present funds should last them till the war is over." Let them try to realize the wants and necessary comforts to be supplied to a hundred wounded men. The rolls of bandages to cover legs, arms and bodies; the lint, clothing, shirts, drawers, and stockings; the pillows and pads for stumps; the bedticks, slings, and bedpans; the hay for bedding, the tents, blankets and slippers; the oakum for wounds; the crutches, fans and basins; sponges, drinking cups and spoons, each man requiring more or less of each of these and a hundred other things for his outward comfort, for the soothing of shattered limbs or aching wounds. And then the articles of food, embracing every necessary stimulant, oranges, lemons, soft bread, oat meal for gruel, farina, cordials, canned and dried fruits, vegetables and meats, condensed milk and coffee, sugar and tobacco, eggs and crackers, and a long list besides, and all this not for one man, nor a hundred, nor a thousand, but for tens of thousands in *one department* only of the vast campaign.

It is also to be remembered that in Virginia the work is not simply *with* or in the *midst* of the army, nor alone upon the battle field; it is spread over vast tracts of country through which the army sweeps, where has been left its wounded, in the wilderness or on the plains. Its stations are established not only where it is absolutely *known* they will be needed, but where there may be a possibility of want. All this requires comprehensive forethought, prompt and energetic action, unwearied labor in an infinite detail. Of some articles the requirements are enormous. Condensed milk by the ton. Shirts by the tens of thousands, ice and hay by the cargo, and so on with the long list of supplies. And this material has to be transported by wagon trains from one base to another, forage for horses has to be provided, drivers have to be paid, steamers chartered, and coal consumed; indeed it is a gigantic machinery, and as beneficent in its ministry as it is vast in its proportions. I understand that the cash expenditure for May will be $250,000, and this does not include the material contributed, nor the supplies sent to its central depots as a gift; and all this is well applied; the percentage of waste is very s mall; indeed, I have yet to see the first can of meats or coffee misused, the first bottle of liquors uselessly consumed, or the first article which is placed thus in the hands of its agents sacrificed either by careless or injudicious use.

ITS MANAGEMENT.

If I had the time, I would go into some detail of the hospital management in Fredericksburg, but I can only say that on our arrival there, the military authorities took possession of houses, stores, churches and all public buildings. Each Army Corps had its hospital department, the city being divided in such a manner that each wounded man as he arrived was sent to the street or building which represented the Division of the Corps to which he belonged. These buildings were divided into wards, and corps of nurses were assigned to them and held responsible for their proper management. Our Ninth Corps' Hospitals on the Heights of Fredericksburg were sadly destitute. Our buildings were overcrowded. From mansions of grandest proportions, to leaky sheds and out-houses, crumbling to decay, our wounded men found shelter. But it was little more than shelter. As closely as men could lie side by side, they were packed in upon the hard floors, some without blankets and many without shirts. I cannot tell the story of individual suffering; I cannot tell how we lived and worked through those days and nights, bringing order out of chaos and comparative comfort out of the most fearful suffering. I can only remember scenes and sounds and smells as we sometimes look back upon some long agony. Men feverish and weary, with aching wounds and shattered limbs, so patient, hopeful, resigned and uncomplaining. As the days passed by, each hour brought a more liberal supply of hospital stores, and before the evacuation we had our more immediate wants supplied. The central store of supplies of the Sanitary, occupied the warehouse of the infamous Mayor Slaughter; it was here that the wagon trains were unloaded as they came up from Belle Plain, and from these stores our requisitions were answered for every variety of supplies which our hospitals required.

I have in my book a memorandum of our requisitions for our five or six hundred men, and in looking it over I am amazed to see how large our daily drafts were upon this central store.

HUNDREDS OF LIVES SAVED.

It is an unquestionable fact that the Sanitary Commission has saved in this campaign *hundreds* of lives simply from its food. There would have been deaths without number from actual starvation, if we had not had an abundance of stores upon the spot, for I saw and fed

many who were in the last stages of exhaustion and who must have died if we had not been able to relieve them.

Aside, however, from any personal matters, the Sanitary Commission has done, perhaps, the noblest Christian work of any age. Always fresh with warm and tender sympathies, ever constant with its sweetest ministries, never failing with its living consolations, it comforts sorrowing homes, it whispers to dying hearts, and it bends with an untiring devotion over those who have seemed to be on the verge of the dark valley, but who have come out at last into the bright sunlight again, in God's good Providence and love; and if there is one song on earth which the angels may also chant in heaven, it is, "Inasmuch as ye did it unto the least of these my brethren, ye did it unto me."

R.,
Relief Agent.

EXTRACTS FROM OUR JOURNAL.

AT CITY POINT.

Three cars were loaded for Cedar Level to-day, consigned to Mr. Butler, at the Commissary Depot at that place, where we have a Field Depot. They contained:

74 bbls.	potatoes.	10 bbls.	cranberries.
63 "	onions.	53 "	pickled cucumbers.
27 "	green apples.	27 "	pickled tomatoes.
1 "	tomatoes in cans.	2 "	beets.

Making 257 bbls. in all.

Dr. Douglas visited the hospitals of the 10th A. C. at Point of Rocks. The arrangements are excellent, and the use of Flies alone for hospital purposes appeared to be most admirable. Inquired of Dr. Potter, Surgeon-in-charge, what views he had as the result of his experience in regard to the use of Flies alone. He highly approved of their use for all cases of sickness or of wounds at this season of the year. Said they furnished during yesterday's rain quite as complete a protection as the tent.

The working organization of the Commission at this point is as follows:

Dr. J. H. Douglas, Associate Secretary in charge.

Dr. Alexander McDonald, Inspector and Executive Officer.

Dr. Wm. F. Swalm, Inspector and Controller of Issues.

Mr. Jno. A. Anderson, Supt. of Transportation and Supplies.

Mr. Chas. S. Clampitt, Chief Storekeeper.

Mr. Jas. J. Brooks, Purveyor.

Mr. J. Warner Johnson, Superintendent Field Relief.

Mr. Frank B. Fay, Superintendent Auxiliary Relief.

The whole force here, including all employed by the Commission, numbers about 220 men.

There were sent to the front via Cedar Level this P. M.:

268 bbls. potatoes.
148 " onions.
46 " beets. Total, 462 bbls.

July 22d, 1864.

Last night about eleven o'clock the report was brought to the office that the Kennedy was filling with water rapidly. All hands were roused, and the cargo which had been transferred from the Liberty and Thomson was rapidly put back upon the Thomson, until the water ceased to gain upon the pumps. It was long after midnight when work ceased. It is gratifying to record that every man worked with a will and an energy which is rarely witnessed, showing a personal interest in the saving of the cargo.

We were requested yesterday by Capt. Pitkin, A. Q. M., to loan one tug, S. E. Brown, to bring up a schooner of supplies for Gen. Grant and Staff. The tug was immediately turned over temporarily to Capt. Pitkin, and received her sailing orders to proceed to the Potomac River, and even to Alexandria, in seareh of the said schooner.

Sent to Cedar Level to-day:

494 bbls. potatoes.
303 " onions.
142 " beets.
1 bbl. saur kraut.
1 " pickles. Total, 941 bbls.

July 23d, 1864.

Sent by rail to Cedar Level:

45 bbls. tomatoes.
1 bbl. " (large.)
780 boxes "
2 bbls. potatoes.
5 " onions.
3 " beets.
1 bbl. cranberries.
Total, 837 bbls. and boxes.

Vegetables for want of wharf room are sent to Cedar Level, subject to the order of Mr. Johnson, who goes from Division to Division of the Army, and gives orders upon our Vegetable Depot, as he in his judgment deems best. To-day we have supplied our own Field Stations belonging to the 5th, 9th, and 18th Army Corps, and to the Stations in the Depot Hospital at this point, attached to the 10th, 18th, 2d, 9th, and 5th Army Corps; also to the Post Hospital at Bermuda Hundred, at City Point, and at Wilson's Landing.

Secretary Seward and daughters were here to-day. Left about noon.

Two rebel batteries are planted on the river above Bermuda Hundred and below our fleet. The dispatch boat is fired at every day.

City Point, *July 24th*, 1864.

Drs. McDonald, Swalm and Douglas went to the front. Visited the Field Stations of the Sanitary Commission of the 5th and

9th Corps. Called at the head-quarters of the Army of the Potomac. Had a very satisfactory interview with Dr. McParlin. Called on Dr. McDonald, Medical Director 9th A. C. Learned from him that the most marked effects had been observed upon the health of the troops after the introduction of vegetables. Dr. McParlin said that the army was improving in health at the present time.

Most of the cases of sickness were mild cases of fever, or exhaustion which would yield with quiet and rest in hospital. The hospitals in the front are admirably managed; in most respects more comfortable than those at City Point.

The army is well supplied with vegetables with the exception of onions, which have always been scarce, though more desired than any other.

Letter from Brig. Gen. Cutter.

Head-Quarters 4th Div., 5th A. C.,
July 21st, 1864.

J. W. Johnson, Esq.,
Agent Sanitary Commission:

Sir—I have received your order for a supply of fresh vegetables to be issued to the men of my command; allow me to say that in my judgment, the Commission cannot do better than to continue their efforts in that direction. A supply of vegetables not only contributes to the present comfort of the men, but it is the surest preventive of those army scourges, diarrhea, scurvy and dysentery. Three years' service with this army has very fully confirmed me in the opinion that no where can men be more healthy than in the army, with a proper diet, of which vegetables are an indispensable element.

Your Commission seem to be acting upon the adage "that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." I hope they will adhere to that opinion.

Very respectfully,
L. Cutter,
Brig. Gen. Commanding Division.

The following letter was sent in by Mr. Johnson:

Head-Quarters, 18th A. C., near Petersburg,
July 27th, 1864.

Mr. J. Warner Johnson,
Supt. Field Relief, Sanitary Commission:

Sir—Please present the thanks of the men and officers of this Corps to the Sanitary Commission for the very large and seasonable supply of fresh vegetables just received from you. The potatoes and onions were much wanted, as scurvy began to threaten, and the two hundred and fifty boxes of tomatoes answer the same purpose, as well as prevent the men feeling heavily the recent reduction in the rations.

I am, sir, with respect,
Yours truly,
E. O. C. Ord.

RELIEF WORK IN BOSTON.

Boston, *July 1st*, 1864.

F. N. Knapp,
Associate Secretary, Washington:

My Dear Sir—On behalf of the Executive Committee of Boston Associates, I submit herewith a Report concerning the Special Relief Service of the Commission as administered in this city, under the direction of our Committee, for the quarter ending June 30, 1854.

The number of recipients for this period has been 5,416 as compared with 5,455 for the previous quarter, and the total number registered for the fifteen months during which the service has been administered, is 16,606.

For the quarter ending June 30, 1864, the following is the record of "aid rendered:"

Furnished Transportation at Government rate to..	1,735
" " paid by Commission ...	21
" " by U. S. Quarter-Master	64
" Carriage within the city	1,283
" Special attendance to their homes	7
" Lodging	3,109
" Meals	3,904
" Clothing	137
" Aid in arranging papers	25
" Aid in obtaining pay	32
" Medical advice	142
Wounds Dressed	1,565
Procured Commutation of Rations	1
Loaned Money	51
Gave Money	26
Sent to Hospital	18
Referred to Local Relief Associations	2
Deaths	1
Furnished Undertaker's services	1
Amount of Pay collected	$4,030 91
Daily average number of Soldiers Registered ..	59½

These are apportioned to their respective States as follows: Maine, 2,121; New Hampshire, 231; Vermont, 24; Massachusetts, 2,229; Connecticut, 13; Rhode Island, 15; New York, 37; New Jersey, 1; Pennsylvania, 8; Maryland, 2; District of Columbia, 23; Ohio, 3; Illinois, 8, Iowa, 3; Minnesota, 2; Wisconsin, 4; Missouri; 6; Indiana, 3; North Carolina, 2; Georgia, 2; Louisiana, Michigan, Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, 1 each; U. S. Army, 137; U. S. Navy, 56; Veteran Reserve Corps, 478; Corps D'Afrique, 2. Total, 5,416.

The following supplies have been drawn from the Supply Department of the "New England Women's Auxiliary Association:"

12 woolen shirts, 24 cotton shirts, 24 woolen drawers, 24 cotton drawers, 60 pairs socks, 469 slings, 1 dressing gown, 5 lots bandages, and 6 pairs crutches; also, 1 lot of old rags for use of Pemberton Square (Mason General) Hospital.

1,735 orders have been issued upon respective roads for transportation at Government rate, and 61 furnished by the U. S. Quartermaster.

8,080 meals have been furnished to 3,904 men, at a cost of $2,700.79, showing an average of $2\frac{1}{20}$ meals per man, and an average cost of $33\frac{1}{2}$ cents per meal.

$143.94 has been loaned or given to 35 men, being an average of $4.11 per man. Of this amount $52.78 has been returned, being $\frac{9}{14}$ths of the whole amount. 16 of the 35 men have returned the amounts loaned them.

137 men have been furnished with 382 artiles of clothing, being an average number of $\frac{6}{7}$ articles per man.

The total cost of the service for the quarter has been $6,070,23, classified as follows:

Rent and Taxes	$247 00
Furnishing and Repairs	200 60
Salaries	718 65
Traveling Expenses	45 00
Advertising	21 00
Stationery and Printing	575 47
Postage	22 00
Hospital Stores	105 94
*Superintendent's Expense Account	3,643 81
Miscellaneous	104 40
	$6,070 23

The average cost per man of the service for the quarter, as shown, is $1,04⅞, as compared with $1,08 for the previous quarter, showing a reduction of 3⅛ cents.

The average cost per man, of the service for the successive quarters since its inauguration, is as follows:

Quarter ending	June 30, 1863		$2 35
"	"	Sept. 30, 1863	1 28
"	"	Dec. 31, 1863	1 15
"	"	March 31, 1864	1 08
"	"	June 30, 1864	1 04⅞

The following statement exhibits the result of the Hospital Car Service between New York and Boston for the quarter ending June 30, 1864:

Number of Soldiers transported	3,405
Total cost of the Service	$373 86

Average cost per man, 10 9/10 c., which is a reduction of 10½c. from the previous quarter.

The following supplies have been furnished for use on these cars, viz.: Brandy, whisky and wine, 5 bottles each; 1 bottle cologne, 1 bottle ammonia, 1 roll plaster, 1 bottle pills, 1 bottle cough mixture, 1 dozen cakes soap, 2 gallons oil, 1 dust brush, 1 feather duster, 2 packages lint and bandages.

During the last quarter the Special Relief Service at this point has assumed increased importance. The movement of well soldiers, upon furlough, has almost entirely ceased, and while the number of arrivals continues nearly as great as at any previous time, they are almost exclusively wounded or sick men going to their homes upon short furloughs, to recruit, or in process of transfer from one hospital to another.

The emergencies which the establishment has proved itself able to meet, without disturbing its ordinary routine, has, of late, been strikingly illustrated. Upon one occasion, within a space of an hour and three-quarters, 390 wounded men were received, their wounds dressed, and dinner given them (each man selecting, according to his taste, from a bill of fare.) At the appointed hour every man was comfortably aboard the train provided for their transportation to Augusta, Maine, and the train supplied through our agency with requisite appliances for their comfort. Of this number, 301 required to be brought to our rooms in carriages, and so taken again to their train. The regular ordinary record was made in the case of every man. His name, regiment, company, name of officer, place of residence, wound and condition, and aid rendered being correctly entered upon the register.

An arrangement has been recently concluded by which we are enabled to draw rations from Government for all furloughed men, whom we furnish with meals. Our communication with the Commissary Department at Washington in relation to this matter, has been of the most satisfactory character, our views having been met in the most cordial and liberal manner. It gives us pleasure, also, to add that our relations with all Government and State officers at this point are altogether satisfactory and agreeable.

I am, my dear sir, with great regard,
Very respectfully yours,
JNO. S. BLATCHFORD,
For Exec. Com. of Boston Associates of U. S. Sanitary Commission.

* Classification of Superintendent's Expense Account:

Transportation	$361 00
Traveling Expenses	98 27
Meals	2,709 79
Furniture	8 56
Fuel	55 80
Washing	170 66
Salaries	80 00
Money loaned and given	143 94
Postage	6 45
Sundries	97 09
Undertaker's Services	27 50

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OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
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F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
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R. C. Wood, Assistant Surg.-Gen'l U. S. A.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., New York.
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C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clarke, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, Jr., Philadelphia, Penn.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Prof. Fairman Rogers, Philadelphia, Penn.
C. J. Stillé. " "
Ezra B. McCagg, Chicago, Ill.

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A. D. Bache, LL.D., Vice-President.
George T. Strong, Treasurer.
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J. H. Douglas, M.D., Associate Secretary.
F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary.

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George T. Strong.
William H. Van Buren, M.D.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D.
C. R. Agnew, M.D.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.
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Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, Ohio.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

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Soldiers' Home, near Baltimore Railroad Depot, Washington, D. C.
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Nurses' Home, Washington, D. C.
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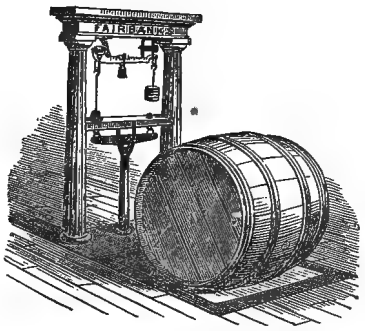
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☞ *Descriptive Circulars furnished or mailed to any address, on application to either of the above.*

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Total Amount of Premiums	3,252,256 76
Excess of Earned Premiums over Losses, &c.	1,137,063 33
Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies	441,206 49
Guaranteed Cash Dividend to Dealers, (holding certificates of same) on Paid Premiums Earned during the Year, whether Loss has Accrued or not	269,614 80
Scrip Dividend to Dealers, on Earned Premiums	15 per cent.
Dividend for the Year to Stockholders	26 per cent.

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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 1, 1864. No. 21.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall Street, or No.* 823 *Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

"FEDERAL ATROCITIES."

The London *Times* says that we carry on our war against the Slaveholders' Rebellion "with a cruelty that far surpasses anything that can be laid to the charge of England, though the lapse of eighty years has softened war's manners and has caused humanity to be respected even in the camp." This is the repetition of an old story. For the last three years English peers and statesmen in Parliament and out of it have been making the "unprecedented inhumanity and barbarity" of our soldiers a most telling point in their oratorical apologies for slavery.

All this talk has had some effect in the circle of gentle and kind-hearted women in my little town, who have been busily working for the relief of our army, through the Sanitary Commission, ever since the war began. They look at each other and ask in whispers, are we really working for an army of cut-throats and ruffians, whose brutalities and atrocities exceed even those of the British soldiers, who stormed Badajos and Ciudad Rodrigo? We know war is a cruel business, but are the violence and brutality of our armies really *unprecedented?* If what these disinterested English outsiders say be true, we feel as if we ought to do no more work for men whose atrocities actually exceed the incredible horrors of which we read in history.

This is natural enough. We were all brought up to reverence England, and the grandfather of Mrs. Sniperfidgets, President of our Soldiers' Relief Society, is said to have been fourth cousin to the brother-in-law of a gentleman quite nearly related to the British Peerage. She is therefore naturally regarded as an authority as to the

opinions of the aristocracy of Europe, and she assures us that we are regarded in the "highest circles" abroad as conducting this war in a spirit of fiendish atrocity and ferocity, unknown since the days of Louis XIV. and the devastation of the Palatinate, and which British humanity could not endure for a single day.

Now it is quite true that soldiers in active service are sometimes guilty of criminal violence. No doubt there have been such cases among our hundreds of thousands of enlisted men—though the only reason I have for so believing is the appearance of an occasional newspaper paragraph, at long intervals, stating that Private so-and-so was duly hanged day before yesterday for some such offence. But this misfortune occasionally happens to people in civil life.

I wish, however, to show my humane and sensitive friends through the columns of the BULLETIN that whatever "atrocities and barbarities" our soldiers have committed are not in the least degree "unprecedented," and that the worst charges ever brought against them, true or false, fall far short of what a British historian records of British soldiers, in a campaign of which he was an eye witness, and which was conducted not "eighty years ago," but *six*.

I have before me a copy of "My Diary in India, in the year 1858–9, by William Howard Russell, LL.D., Special Correspondent of 'The Times.' In two volumes. London: Routledge & Co., 1860." Mr. Russell is a cool man of the world, and an experienced observer of campaigns, and this is the last considerable war in which our peace-loving philanthropic British critics have thought it profitable to engage.

Their persecution of the Maoris and their shelling and burning of a Japanese port or two, are more recent to be sure, but these are mere retail transactions, charged to the account of "petty cash," and are not entered in detail in the books of the British Empire. Let us see with what entire freedom from "cruelty" this East Indian campaign against native princes, whose titles date back for centuries, and who had risen against a foreign commercial tyranny, established among them partly by force and partly by fraud, was conducted by the humane and merciful armies of Great Britain.

On page 222, Vol. I, Mr. Russell tells us that "when Neill marched from Allahabad, his executions were so numerous and indiscriminate, that one of the officers attached to his column had to remonstrate with him, on the ground that *if he depopulated the country he could get no supplies for the men.*"

Just imagine one of Gen. Sherman's staff advising him that if he *would* persist in exterminating all the people on his line of march through Tennessee and Georgia, he would have difficulty in obtaining subsistence and forage!

At Lucknow, Mr. Russell informs us, (Vol. I, p. 301,) a certain house, occupied by rebels, was desperately defended. It was shattered by artillery at last, and then stormed. "Some of the Sepoys were still alive, and they," we are told, "were *mercifully* killed. But *for some reason or other, which could not be explained*, one of the number was dragged out to the sandy plain outside the house, he was pulled by the legs to a convenient place, where he was held down, pricked in the face and body by the bayonets of some of the soldiery, while others collected fuel for a small pyre, and when all was ready, the man was roasted alive. There were Englishmen looking on. More than one officer saw it. No one offered to interfere. The horror of this infernal cruelty was aggravated by an attempt of the miserable wretch to escape when half burned to death. By a sudden effort he leaped away, and with the flesh hanging from his bones ran a few yards ere he was caught, brought back, put on the fire again, and held there by bayonets till his remains were consumed. 'And his cries, and the dreadful scene,' said my friend, 'will haunt me to my dying hour.' 'Why did'nt you interfere?' 'I dared not.'" Mr. Russell adds, in a foot note, "I saw the charred bones some days after, on the plain." (P. 302.)

There is no evidence that any officer or soldier of our army, who renounced his allegiance and military fidelity, (like this unlucky Sepoy,) and went over to the rebels, has up to this time been roasted alive by any squad of patriotic and zealous Un-

ionists, belonging to a New York or New England Regiment.

"I must confess," says Mr. Russell, on p. 320 of the same volume, "that I do not altogether approve of anything but the extraordinary courage and self-possession which marked his (*Hodson's*) conduct in shooting down the sons of the King of Delhi, but" &c.

If one of our Colonels should capture a batch of blue-blooded rebel "Congressmen," and finding it doubtful whether he could carry them safely to headquarters, should proceed to blow their brains out, *seriatim*, I think the London *Times* and Lord Brougham would see little to approve in his "courage and self-possession."

It would seem that the armies of England made a most ungenerous use of the religious superstitions of these luckless Orientals, to render their death more bitter. Mr. Russell is unfortunately not very explicit on this subject, but his remarks suggest a great deal. "All these kinds of vindictive, unchristian Indian torture," he says, (vol. 2, p. 43,) "such as sewing Mohammedans in pig-skins, and smearing them with pork-fat before execution, and burning their bodies, and forcing Hindoos to defile themselves, are disagraceful, and ultimately recoil on ourselves. They are spiritual and mental tortures to which we have no right to resort."

So England treats her Oriental rebels. What would she say if we followed her example, (at a remote and humble distance,) and obliged every chivalric South Carolinian prisoner to take a liberated black man for his chum and bed-fellow?

"One of the civilians of the station who visited me," says Mr. Russell, (vol. 2, p. 82,) "boasted that he had hanged fifty-four men in a few hours, for plundering a village." Mr. R. thought the proceeding rather strong, but his friend regarded it with "intense satisfaction, and regretted that he had not more of the same work to do." Suppose General Rosecranz should "hang fifty-four men for plundering a village in Missouri!"

On page 295 of vol. 2 Mr. Russell says: "I heard a man tell a story which astonished me, not the tale so much, for I had heard *many of them*, as the way he told it —a very worthy man, no doubt, but what he said was this: On a certain occasion, in a recent celebrated action, a place to which I shall not more particularly allude, [politic Russell!] was strongly occupied by the enemy. Our men carried it with great gallantry, and bursting in, proceeded to kill all whom they found inside. The work was nearly completed, when this officer perceived a number of Sepoys crouching upon the flat roof of the enclosure. They had been firing on our men, but seeing the terrible fate of their comrades, they sought to escape notice, and had taken to this place of refuge. They made signs to the officer that they would surrender, and he ordered them to come down the narrow staircase leading from the roof, and as the first Sepoy appeared, he told the man to take off his belt and pouch and to lay it with his musket down upon the ground. The same thing he did with each succeeding Sepoy, till he had got them all, fifty-seven in number, upon which, he said, I fell them in against the wall, and told some Sikhs, who were handy, to *polish them off*. This they did immediately, shooting and bayoneting them, so that altogether they were disposed of in a couple of minutes." This prompt execution of justice was doubtless most creditable to Great Britain. Our national soldiers have never ventured on anything so masculine and vigorous.

At Lucknow, Mr. R. tells us, (vol. 1, p. 348,) "after the Fusileers had got to the gateway, a Cashmere boy came toward the post, leading a blind and aged man, and throwing himself at the feet of an officer, asked for protection. That officer, as I was informed by his comrades, drew his revolver, and snapped it at the wretched applicant's head. The men cried 'shame on him.' Again he pulled the trigger, again the cap missed—again he pulled, and once more the weapon refused its task. The fourth time—thrice had he time to relent—the gallant officer succeeded, and the boy's life-blood flowed at his feet!"

Whether this ornament to the service was promoted for his "distinguished conduct" in this affair does not appear, but what would we American barbarians have said, if Gen. Butler, for example, walking through the streets of New Orleans the day

after its surrender, had encountered an elderly secessionist with a young son or nephew of 12 or 14 accompanying him, and had thereupon produced his revolver and blown out the child's brains?

I think the humane and patriotic women who work for our soldiers need give themselves no concern about foreign lamentations over their violence and cruelty. No armies have ever shown themselves so forbearing and merciful as ours. Our national soldier is, in the language of the Morte d'Arthur, "the kindest man that ever struck with sword." England, at least, has no right to charge us with inhumanity, while Mr. Russell's record of her dealings with a rebellious colony at the antipodes remains uncontradicted.

A "DISILLUSIONATED" ANGLOMANIAC.

THE WESTERN DEPARTMENT.

IN THE FIELD.

Dr. A. N. Read, writes from Nashville, on the 3d August, as follows:

According to your instructions I left Nashville the last of April, to give attention to the work of the Commission in the field.

On my arrival at Chattanooga, I consulted with Surgeon G. Perin, U. S. A., and Medical Director, and subsequently with Gen. Thomas, as to the best manner in which the Commission could aid in the care of the sick and wounded.

The great difficulty was to secure transportation, and the question arose as to the practicability of the Commission furnishing their own. It was deemed best not to do this, but to depend upon Government teams. As it was expected that soon after the movement of the army, large supplies of stores would be needed, I sent you on the 27th the following telegram:

"Can you send twelve thousand pounds of milk, eight thousand bottles of spirits, and a general supply of delicacies? How soon?" Dr. Perin, added the following indorsement: "Please forward as soon as possible."

G. PERIN, U. S. A., Medical Director,
Medical Director's Office, April 27, 1864.

I then visited a portion of the troops in the field, and at Ottawah a Brigade Hospital in charge of Dr. F. M. Cook, Surgeon 101st Ohio Regiment. It contained only forty-four patients, but they were from different States, as follows: Ohio, thirteen; Indiana, ten; Illinois, four; Pennsylvania, one; Iowa, five; Michigan, two; Kentucky, nine. I mention this, as the doctor showed me a letter from a friend of State Agencies, asking him to send for stores for Ohio soldiers exclusively, which, as you can see by the inmates of his hospital, he justly declined to do. This hospital had received some, outside of the brigade. The patients all had beds and bed-ticks filled with straw. The bunks were made by the Surgeon and his attendants; every sick man had a pillow; the beds were clean, the food good, with a liberal supply of vegetables, such as potatoes, onions, pickles, etc. They also had milk, and every day each man was served with stewed fruit. The Surgeon remarked that "all these were obtained from the Sanitary Commission, and could be had in no other way."

Soon after this visit, the army advanced, and on May 1st, in company with Dr. Perin and my brother, I visited Ringgold, for the purpose of obtaining a suitable room for medical and sanitary stores. We took an order from Gen. Thomas, that rooms should be furnished us, and secured a suitable one for the Purveyor's stores and our own. This accomplished, we returned, and immediately 175 packages of stores were forwarded.

About this time Dr. Perin, by his own request, was relieved from his duties as Medical Director. We parted from him with sorrow; he had been a faithful and efficient officer, ever ready to aid us in our work, and to give us a reason, if he could not.

As most of the troops had left Knoxville and joined this army, I telegraphed Dr. M. M. Seymour, Sanitary Inspector, in charge of the work in the Department of Ohio, asking him to come and aid us in the anticipated work. He came promptly, and until he was disabled by sickness, gave invaluable assistance. Mr. F. R. Croy also came back with him, and for a time took charge of the storeroom at Ringgold.

Our plan for the campaign was to have an Agent of the Commission with each Army Corps, and, if possible, with each Division, whose business should be to supply them with stores and attend to their

distribution, and, as soon as possible, make lists of casualties; the stores to be obtained from the nearest railroad depot to the army.

During my visits to the regiments I found much complaint, and much cause of complaint, of the fraud practiced by sending inefficient men for the new recruits. Some were sent who had been twice discharged for disability, others were deformed—one was blind in one eye—had double scrotal hernia, and deformed hands. Of one squad of men drilling, none were over fifteen years of age, by their own confession.

On May 6th, our army had passed Ringgold, and a battle was daily expected. For several days there had been skirmishing, and many wounded were brought to Ringgold hospitals. Many Surgeons called and anxiously inquired what we could do for them. We had only enough for present use on hand, and I could only tell them that stores were expected daily in much larger quantity.

About this time I invited Rev. Mr. Smith and Mr. Lawrence, of the Christian Commission, to join us in our work, assuring them that all our stores should be as freely given to their agents as to ours, and upon the same terms. This invitation was accepted, and we worked in harmony.

I cannot better give you a knowledge of our work at this time than by extracts from my journal:

"May 7th, telegraphed to Nashville, for pails, cups, brooms, spoons, lanterns, and other hospital stores.

"May 9th, sent back stores to Tunnel Hill—Mr. H. Tone arrives, and goes with the Army of the Tennessee. The same day, 350 wounded men were placed in the hospitals at Tunnel Hill; a storeroom had already been opened there, and milk, beef, ale, crackers, oranges, lemons, clothing, rags and bandages were ready and freely used.

"On the 10th, Mr. Croy brought up all the stores left at Ringgold, and during the day a list of wounded was taken and sent to the Hospital Directory at Louisville."

At evening I was informed by Dr. Kilton, Medical Inspector, U. S. A., and Gen. Sherman's Medical Adviser, that a movement of the army was being made, which would expose our goods to raids from the enemy; that the wounded would be immediately sent to Chattanooga, and our goods should be sent to Ringgold. Ten wagons were procured of the Medical Purveyor, and such goods as were not distributed, or could not be taken with the army, were returned.

Many goods were distributed, and the Agents of the Christian Commission joined us in the work. We gave to wounded men goods marked, "Cincinnati Branch U. S. San. Com.;" "Boston Branch," "Pittsburg San. Com.;" "Soldiers' Aid Society of Northern Ohio," "Chicago," or "Western Branch," etc.

The freewill offerings of the people from all parts of the country, were thus brought together, and given in the most Catholic manner, even as they have given their sons.

On the 11th, Government stores, sanitary stores, and the wounded, were all sent to the rear.

As we were greatly distressed lest a battle should occur, and we should not be fully supplied with stores, on the 12th instant I sent you the following telegram: "In case of a battle we have barely sufficient stores at the front for two or three days. There are none at Chattanooga. The wounded have been sent there, and we cannot aid them further. Are there sufficient stores on the way? The articles wanted are milk, beef, spirits, tea, sugar, oranges, lemons, farina and ale. They are most wanted in the order mentioned."

Most of the agents went to the right with the army. I remained with that portion left in front of Buzzard's Roost Gap, where every day some were killed or wounded, until the 13th, when our army had left Snake Gap, and the rebels left their strong position in front of us. At 10 o'clock of that day, I engaged a storeroom in Dalton, and sent back for stores. The stores engaged contained some private goods, including several boxes of tobacco. This, with other stores, was taken a few hours later by our soldiers, and the goods appropriated. For some time it was passed by. I had thrown open the doors, put up a small sign, that it was taken by the Sanitary Commission—and

standing in the door as the soldiers would attempt to rush in, it was sufficient to say, "This is a Sanitary Commission Store-room," and they passed, notwithstanding the crowd became every moment more excited and more dense. However, an entrance was effected at a back door, that I could not guard, and the goods were taken. After this was done, I made arrangements for putting the room in order—telegraphed to Ringgold for stores, and then returned with the Rev. J. C. Hoblit to that portion of our army which had made the flank movement, and passed Snake Gap.

As we came within hearing, we found that a battle was in progress. We hastened on, found the hospitals of the different divisions along the line of battle; secured teams to go to Dalton for goods, and returned with them; found our goods already arrived, and loaded six teams that night, which started back without delay. At this time, I had the pleasure of meeting with the Rev. Geo. B. Bacon, of Orange, N. J.; Rev. John Milton Holmes, Pastor of the First Congregational Church of Jersey City; Rev. Dr. J. P. Thompson, of New York City, and Rev. Dr. J. W. Buddington, of Brooklyn. The two last mentioned gentlemen were agents of the Christian Commission, and came with kind feelings to all who were laboring for the soldiers. They were fatigued, as they had ridden the two previous nights in box-cars, but decided to go on with our goods the same night. We could give them no better conveyance, and they rode in army wagons with Dr. Hazen, Mr. Brandreth, Mr. Pocock, and Mr. Murray, Agents of the Commission. They started at half-past ten.

Not knowing whether there was communication between Ringgold and the army by the way of Snake Gap, I telegraphed the agents there to ascertain, and if there was none, to transfer the goods to Dalton.

Having made the arrangements, Mr. Hoblit and myself slept until 4 o'clock the next morning, when I made a cup of coffee, while he fed the horses, and we started in season to reach Wood's Division Hospital at 7 o'clock. One load of stores was unloaded there, and Pocock left in charge of them, and to collect a list of the wounded; before 8 o'clock another load was left with Stanley's Division, in charge of Murray, and about the same time two loads reached the two divisions of the 23d Corps, which had been in the battle, in charge of Mr. Brandreth, while Dr. Hazen took two loads to Morton's Division, holding one load in reserve. The fighting continued all day, and the stores were ready when most wanted. Drs. Thompson and Buddington remained with the 23d Army Corps, where we joined them about the time of their arrival. Here many wounded were lying on the ground, outside of the tents, their wounds still undressed, although all were at work. At the same time, the wounded continued to arrive. I introduced my friends to Surgeon Hewitt, Medical Director of the Department, and also in charge of these hospitals. They placed themselves under his direction, and he seeing that they were much fatigued, advised them to sleep a few hours, which they did under a friendly shade tree.

Leaving these two hospitals thus provided, I passed on to others, but not before I saw many oranges and lemons in the hands of the wounded and thirsty, as well as the more substantial articles of milk, beef, crackers, etc.

This visit of the clergymen just mentioned, was just in time to be of much good to the wounded, and it was very pleasant and did much to encourage and strengthen us. It was good to have the sympathy of good and wise men, to be assured by them that they fully approved our plan of work. They saw at a glance the great benefit of working under the direction of the Surgeons; they felt as they said, more at home—avoided confusion by interference with others, and were enabled to accomplish much more than they could by an independent effort.

This day I visited twelve hospitals of divisions on the field, saw that the six loads brought reached their destination, and made necessary arrangements with my associates to collect and forward lists of the wounded. But the work was not yet done. Just at night, there was severe fighting by the 20th Army Corps, in which they had over twelve hundred wounded in two divisions, and a less number in another division. I secured three teams to go to Dal-

ton that night for stores; brought up those held in reserve on the field, and obtained volunteer help from the 1st Division Hospital of the 4th Corps, to aid in feeding the wounded. So well was the hospital supplied with help, that this was scarcely needed, and by ten o'clock they were all well fed, the work being greatly facilitated, or even made possible, by the supply of extract of beef and condensed milk on the field. By ten o'clock in the morning of the next day, complete lists of the wounded were on the way to Louisville. The same day the three wagons sent to Dalton returned, loaded with valuable supplies, sufficient to last until the hospitals were moved to the railroad at Resaca. The enemy left our front the same day, and leaving my associates with these hospitals, I rode to Resaca, and the same day to Dalton, that I might hasten forward stores to Resaca, where the next hospitals were to be established. Here the wounded were brought from Division Hospitals and placed in General Hospital, previous to being sent back to Chattanooga on the cars.

At Dalton, I found it necessary to go back to Chattanooga, after leaving directions to send forward all the stores, reserving only sufficient to feed those sent back.

On the 18th, the hospitals were established in Resaca, and Dr. Hazen telegraphed me that stores were very much wanted, that the men were starving. For two or three days there was a deficiency of stores, as it was found impossible to obtain a sufficiency of transportation, but after that the Surgeons in charge assured me they had all they wanted.

While in Chattanooga, I visited the Hospital Garden, found that it had suffered from frost, drought and hail, the frost killing several thousand tomato plants the night after they were planted from the hotbed. The drought has checked the growth of many early vegetables, and the day previous there had been a severe rain with hail, which was so violent as to wash a large part of the onion sets out of the ground, and apparently to cut the tender vegetables all to pieces. The gardener was very much discouraged, but the rain was just what was needed, and I saw at a glance that the vegetables would recover from the effects of the hail, and there were sufficient tomato plants to replace those that were killed by frost.

So, I assured him while he was fretting as badly as a mother over a sick babe, that in two weeks he would feel as well as that mother would on her babe's recovery—that the rain would more than compensate for the damage done by the hail; that the only evil was to make more work, and to check the issues for a few days, and then the garden would be better than before.

On the 19th, in company with two of our agents, Mr. Crary and Mr. Barrett, I returned to the front, but left Rev. Mr. Bacon and Dr. Seymour, sick at Chattanooga. Soon after a storeroom was fitted in Resaca; then Kingston was taken, and a depot taken and filled there. At this place, the army was ordered to take twenty days' rations, and leave the railroad. Before starting, each division was notified that they could be furnished with a load of stores to take with them. Many sent teams, and they were loaded. Where this amount of transportation could not be furnished, a team was obtained for the Corps, thus taking a load which was to be divided with its Division Hospitals. Gen. Howard, being very short of transportation, gave one of his headquarter teams to take goods for the 4th Corps.

Many of the goods taken at this time were furnished by the Western Sanitary Commission. Such goods as could not be taken and were not distributed, were sent back to Resaca for safety, as Kingston was to be left liable to raids. From this place Dr. Webster started with the 20th Army Corps; Rev. Mr. Fairchild, with the 14th; Mr. Brandreth, with the 23d; Rev. J. C. Hoblit, with the 4th, and Mr. Pocock with the 15th. We left to take the fortunes of the army, not knowing when we could again communicate with the rear.

The first night after leaving, Dr. Webster was taken sick, and not deeming it prudent to go on, the next morning he returned. The same morning, under a covered bridge over the Etowah River, was found a wounded soldier. We learned, by letters in his pocket, that his name was Chas. E. Eteler, Company E., 15th Ohio, and that his wife lived in Mount Pleasant, Jefferson County,

Ohio. Arrangements were made to notify her, and to send a lock of his hair, which was cut off and washed from his blood. I left him in the care of a good man of the Christian Commission, who was fanning him, giving him occasionally a little brandy and water, and making efforts to rouse him, but he died without making an intelligent sign.

We rode on, and reached Raccoon Creek at night, but could not find shelter, and were separated from our wagons, begged a cup of coffee from our soldiers, and ate our hard bread for supper. A severe thunder storm came up, and we took shelter under one of the wagons which had been parked on the bottom near the creek, after having sought in vain, by the light of the "storm fire," for something better. After staying there a part of the night, and until the storm passed over, I was invited into the tent of Lieutenant Ayres, of the Sixth Ohio Battery.

The next day in the afternoon commenced that series of battles near Dallas, which were continued with greater or less severity until the 5th of June—ten days. The hospitals were located south of Pumpkinvine Creek, on or near the Marietta Road. At the commencement, they were well supplied with the stores they brought from Kingston, as well as with fresh beef, but subsequently the great number of the wounded exhausted the stores, and teams were obtained and sent back for more supplies. This was repeated sufficiently often to supply all the most urgent wants. In these woods were located the hospitals of the 20th, 23d, 14th and 4th Army Corps; and a little later those of the Army of the Tennessee, even brought from the extreme right to the left, and located with them. The soldiers had been at all times well supplied with rations, except fresh vegetables, but during this time the horses were reduced to four pounds of grain a day, and for three days many of them had none, and could obtain but very little grass. From these woods, the wounded of the 20th Army Corps were sent back to Kingston in ambulances and army wagons. They suffered dreadfully by the movement, several of them dying by the way. Although several of the worst cases were sent to the First Division Fourth Army Corps' Hospital to remain—men were sent with compound fractures, recent amputations, gunshot wounds through the body—over twenty miles or more of rough road—and when they reached Kingston there was inadequate hospital accommodations for them, and for a time many of them had no beds but the ground, and no shelter.

It is but just to Dr. Kilton, to say that he disapproved of this, and assured me it was done without orders from headquarters, and that he thought it would have been better if they had fallen into the hands of the enemy. The officers of the Corps and the wounded men both thought differently. It is difficult to say which were right. In such a campaign where changes are unavoidable, there must be much suffering. During these ten days before we reached the railroad at Acworth, we distributed not less than twenty-four large army loads of sanitary stores, along the line of battle. Estimate who can the worth of these at such a time.

Early on the morning of the 27th, there was more than the usual sound of battle, and the Surgeons had been notified the night previous to make additional preparations for more wounded. While this is being done, stragglers come back from the front, some sick, others shirking duty in the hour of danger, leaving their companions to stand or fall alone; some pleading a lame back, others lame arms from bad vaccine pustules, some sore feet, others had been ailing for several days, and had "gin-*rot*," could not march, but had marched back more than a mile—could have found the enemy by going forward half that distance. These were examined by a Surgeon appointed for that purpose, and the shirkers sent back under guard.

As the battle progresses, the wounded are more rapidly brought in; and I saw one placed upon the tables, chloroform administered, his arm examined, and amputated. As he comes to himself, he says, "you had to take it off, doctor; I did not feel it, but every one likes to have his arm, if he can." His torn and bloody shirt is taken off, and a clean one from the Commission stores takes its place.

They are soon brought in faster than

their wounds can be dressed, the ground for some distance around the tables being covered. Most of them are cheerful, now and then I hear a stifled groan. I notice one with face and hands black with powder and dust, lying upon his back, resting partially upon his elbows, his hands uplifted, slowly approach each other, and then as slowly separate—his face is calm, and his lips move slowly as if in prayer; no groan escapes him, although his wound was frightful. Is it for himself, victory for his comrades, or some dear friend at home, that he prays? So great is the number of wounded, that Mr. Pocock goes back to Kingston for more stores. In the meantime I send a telegram to Chattanooga, to be repeated, if deemed necessary, to Louisville, urging the necessity of keeping up our supplies; that we want at least sixteen hundred pounds of milk and beef at the terminus of the railroad all of the time. This will not give to each hospital more than one box a day for four days.

During the ten days of fighting there were frequent changes of the hospitals made necessary, as the army took different positions. As soon as we had possession of Acworth the wounded were moved there, to await the opening of railroad and transportation to prominent hospitals. This movement again caused much suffering.

We opened a storeroom in Acworth, but before goods were brought by rail, several loads were brought from Kingston by teams. Our goods had sometime previously been brought back to that place. Within a few days, the army again advanced, and every thing connected with the hospital was moved with it, except tents, barely sufficient to cover the wounded, a few Surgeons and nurses, and a very little hospital furniture. Those who remained were left very destitute, were overworked, and had very little to work with. At no time was help from the Commission more needed, or more freely and liberally given. This help may be forgotten, but it was appreciated at the time. From the storeroom at Acworth, not only the hospitals there but at Altona, and those with the army during the long series of battles at Kenesaw and Lost Mountain, were supplied. For a time the Western and Sanitary Commissions put their goods in the same room, and they were issued as common stock, but subsequently they removed to Big Shanty, and to avoid duplicating our issues, they gave mostly to the Army of the Tennessee, while we distributed alike to the rear, and to those of the Army of the Cumberland and of the Ohio in the field.

On the 13th of June, the number of wounded in the field and at Acworth and Altoona, was two thousand three hundred and seventy-nine; of these six hundred and forty-nine only were wounded, all others had been sent to the rear. This was the condition of the hospitals just before the fighting before Marietta and Kenesaw Mountain, which continued from June 11th to the 27th, without interruption. Almost daily the troops took some new positions, and the hospitals were moved to accommodate them, and every day each hospital was visited by our agents, lists of casualties taken, and as stores were wanted, teams were obtained and sent to Acworth for them. Subsequently the advance of the right wing made it necessary to open a store room at Big Shanty. A room was obtained, cars loaded, but the evacuation of Kenesaw by the rebels enabled us to take them to Marietta.

Thus again, during sixteen days more of fighting, day and night, including that terrible assault on the works of the enemy, were our goods placed in the hands of Surgeons, or distributed to individuals by our agents, along the line of battle, and frequently under heavy fire. The Surgeons construed an order of Gen. Sherman's to require them to place their hospitals much nearer to the line of battle, although previously one man had been wounded while in hospital, and the whistle of minié balls was not uncommon, yet, during these days here they were placed. While Mr. Hoblit was copying lists of wounded, a ball passed through the tent close by his side. One of the hospitals of the 20th Corps was broken up in confusion—so thick did shot and shell fall among them. There was constant rain, and the roads were almost impassable, thus increasing the difficulties of transportation, but by the constant efforts of the agents with the different divisions, goods were brought forward, and the wounded

were thus from day to day supplied at a time when only the army ration could be otherwise obtained. There they were most wanted, and most gratefully received.

The strong expressions of thankfulness at the unexpected gift of a drink of water, a lemon or orange, a dish of soup, a cup of coffee, or a clean shirt, a pair of drawers, a blanket or a pillow, would seem to disparage the work done by the Government, which, after all, is the soldiers' best friend, and his chief support. Compared with what he receives from this source, all is but a trifle.

Each division of the army has a large number of teams devoted exclusively to hauling hospital tents and hospital stores, besides which there is a reserve train of over forty wagons for the Army of the Cumberland. Those with the divisions accompany the troops, and move up to the places selected for hospitals. This is usually so near the line of battle, that the wounded may be carried but a little distance, and get out of reach of shot and shell, that they may not be disturbed, and the Surgeons and nurses may work without danger. It must be near water, as that is indispensable.

Suitable ground having been selected, men are detailed to make the necessary preparations. They have usually been established in dense woods, and one set begin to cut up by the roots the dense underbrush, others make brooms of the twigs, sweep and level the ground, and remove the stones; another set pitch the tents, or build arbors when there is not likely to be sufficient canvas to cover the wounded; others make bunks of poles to make the beds; another set pick the green leaves of the oak, the chesnut, or the pine, to fill the bed ticks, or, if the ticks are not to be had, the leaves are placed on the poles, or on the ground. In front of the tent large piles of leaves are laid, upon which the wounded are to be laid to be examined and dressed. There are three piles for each Division Hospital, corresponding to the Brigades, and before them are three strong tables—provided with a pillow, and covered with a rubber cloth—"the operating tables." Tents for cooking must be put up, sacks must be dry—and while all are busy, and before the work is half done, the wounded may sometimes be brought in. They either walk back as they are able, or are sent back in ambulances. If the battle is severe, the leaves prepared are soon covered, and hundreds are laid upon the ground around the tents, as was done at Resaca, where not less than twelve hundred were brought to two hospitals in a few hours.

Among the sufferers, most are quiet; some are crying from pain; some calling for water, and some for a blanket to cover them; others for the Surgeon; and amidst all this comes the Agent of the Sanitary Commission, with loads of milk, beef, crackers, spirits, tea, blankets, pillows, bandages, and perhaps a few boxes of lemons and oranges.

With the beef, soup can be made at once. Coffee is made rich with the milk, or milk punch; and many among this number, will be found to be cold, shivering, thirsty, life failing from the first shock of injury; but, by the administration of these timely stimulants they revive. A lemon or orange is given, and with eagerness is pressed to their thirsty lips, and they thank God for the Sanitary Commission, and regard it as *home* following them to battle and to death. They do this justly, and it is good to be the dispenser of such help at such a time.

Over three hundred of such hospitals as I have attempted to describe, have been put up during this campaign, so long has been the line of march, and so frequent the change of position, and every one of these has been visited by the agents of the Commission with stores, and to obtain lists, and to learn the condition of the wounded.

But what has the Government done? Let the tents erected, beds prepared, medicines and food furnished, ambulances which have brought them in from the field, nurses who wait upon them—Surgeons who work day and night until all are dressed—answer. And it is no wonder that the faithful Surgeons who have done, or superintended the doing of all this, and continue to do it from day to day, are just a little disturbed, when their work seems to be less appreciated than ours.

But it seldom disturbs them, and they regard us as their best friends.

From the storeroom established in Marietta, each division was again furnished with a load of stores, previous to crossing the Chattahoochie; and large supplies were distributed to the hospitals in town.

The wounded have been well cared for, considering the frequent changes, and the great distance from permanent hospitals. True, there has been great suffering during transportation, both in ambulances, army wagons and railroad cars. Some have been sent without suitable food or drink, and sometimes a Surgeon has been sent in charge, who was selected for duty, simply because "he was of no use here, and could be as well spared as not." But such appointments have been few, as there are but few such Surgeons to be found. As to the lack of food and drink on the cars, the cause, on inquiry, has never been found to have been from want of interest in the comfort of the men. I will cite an instance: As the wounded were sent from one of the divisions of the Fourth Army Corps, at Big Shanty, an order was given by the Medical Director to send rations. It was found that there were none in camp, but the teams were starting to obtain them. Then an order was given to supply the men before they took the cars; but it was not done—why, I do not know. Perhaps the teams could not meet in time. The Surgeon had given the necessary order, and, perhaps, even now believes it was obeyed. At no time have the wounded been as promptly brought from the field to the hospitals. From this I judge that the ambulance organization is a success.

To the men sent, as these were, the aid of the Commission is inestimable. At the feeding stations established at Kingston, Resaca, and Dalton, over seventeen thousand meals were furnished up to the first of July, consisting of beef-soup, milk punch, soft bread or crackers, and boiled ham. Mr. E. J. Eno, State Agent from Illinois, also an agent of the Commission, has had the superintendence. He and his agents have been aided by agents of the Christian Commission. I left Rev. J. C. Hoblit, Messrs. Eno, Mason, and Brandreth with the troops in the field, assisted for a time by the Rev. Mr. Wolcott, of Cleveland, Ohio; Messrs. Van Dike, Johnson and Sutliffe, in charge of the feeding stations.

From the Hospital Garden in Chattanooga as many as six thousand bushels of vegetables have been issued. The one in Murfreesboro' was furnishing more than could be used in the hospitals in that place, and they ask for a large number of cans to put up tomatoes.

From Chattanooga to Nashville transportation has been much better than before; a feeding station has, however, been established on this line at Dechard, in charge of Dr. Hillman. I should not omit to state that these stations have been established by request of the Medical Director of the Department, and rations have been furnished by Government. I have failed to receive a full account of the amount of stores issued during the campaign, but it has been large, and in many cases has been *life* to the wounded.

Scurvy is largely on the increase, compared with the commencement of the campaign. Perhaps it is not increasing as much now, as a few vegetables have been gathered by the troops. As the campaign continues vegetables will be more wanted, and I would earnestly ask that an effort be made to furnish a few rations of onions to the troops in the field. Surely they are more needed here than in the Army of the Potomac, where so many have been sent, inasmuch as they have been much longer deprived of them. Those for whom I ask this favor have endured hardships as good soldiers. They have for nearly three months worked and fought day and night, without rest. They have driven back a stubborn enemy over 100 miles, while the ground was contested inch by inch. They have taken seventeen lines of fortifications, and as strong natural positions as any in the world. They have made over 150 miles of fortifications, and the work is not yet done. They are cheerful, in good spirits, strong in faith, both of the justice of their cause and their ability to conquor. They continue to need our help.

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We have other interesting reports from the Western Department, but are obliged to postpone their publication until the succeeding number.

PRISON AT ANDERSONVILLE, GA.

CAMP SUMTER.

The following statement was drawn up for the Commission and sworn to by the parties signing it. They were exchanged on the 16th of August, and with three others were appointed by their companions in prison as a deputation to see President Lincoln in their behalf.

I am a private in 82d N. Y. Regiment of Volunteers, Co. G. Was captured with about 800 Federal troops, in front of Petersburg, on the 22d of June, 1864. We were kept at Petersburg two days, at Richmond, on Belle Isle, three days, then conveyed by rail to Lynchburg. Marched 75 miles to Danville, thence by rail to Andersonville, Ga. At Petersburg we were treated fairly, being under the guard of old soldiers of an Alabama Regiment; at Richmond we came under the authority of the notorious and inhuman Major Turner, and the equally notorious Home Guard. Our ration was a pint of beans, 4 oz. of bread, and 3 oz. of meat a day. Another batch of prisoners joining us, we left Richmond 1,600 strong. All blankets, haversacks, canteens, money, valuables of every kind, extra clothing, and in some cases the last shirt and drawers had been previously taken from us. At Lynchburg we were placed under the Home Guard, officered by Major and Capt. Moffett. The march to Danville was a weary and painful one of five days, under a torrid sun, many of us falling helpless by the way, and soon filling the empty wagons of our train. On the first day we received a little meat, but the *sum* of our rations for the five days was 13 crackers. During the six days by rail to Andersonville, meat was given us twice, and the daily ration was four crackers.

On entering the Stockade Prison, we found it crowded with 28,000 of our fellow soldiers. By *crowded*, I mean that it was difficult to move in any direction without jostling and being jostled. This prison is an open space, sloping on both sides, originally 17 acres, now 25 acres, in the shape of a parallelogram, without trees or shelter of any kind. The soil is sand over a bottom of clay. The fence is made of upright trunks of trees, about 20 feet high, near the top of which are small platforms, where the Guards are stationed. Twenty feet inside and parallel to the fence is a light railing, forming the "dead line," beyond which the projection of a foot or finger is sure to bring the deadly bullet of the sentinel. Through the grounds, at nearly right angles with the longer sides, runs or rather creeps a stream through an artificial channel, varying from five to six feet in width, the water about ankle deep, and near the middle of the enclosure, spreading out into a swamp of about six acres, filled with refuse wood, stumps, and debris of the camp. Before entering this enclosure the stream, or more properly sewer, passes through the camp of the Guards, receiving from this source and others farther up a large amount of the vilest material, even the contents of the sink. The water is of a dark color, and an ordinary glass would collect a thick sediment. This was our only drinking and cooking water. It was our custom to filter it as best we could, through our remnants of haversacks, shirts and blouses. Wells had been dug, but the water either proved so productive of diarrhea, or so limited in quantity, that they were of no general use. The cook house was situated on the stream just outside the stockade, and its refuse of decaying offal was thrown into the water, a greasy coating covering much of the surface. To these was added the daily large amount of base matter from the camp itself. There was a system of policing, but the means were so limited, and so large a number of the men was rendered irresolute and depressed by imprisonment, that the work was very imperfectly done. One side of the swamp was naturally used as a sink, the men usually going out some distance into the water. Under the summer sun this place early became corruption too vile for description, the men breeding disgusting life, so that the surface of the water moved as with a gentle breeze.

The new-comers on reaching this would exclaim, "is this hell;" yet they soon would become callous, and enter unmoved the horrible rottenness. The rebel authorities never removed any filth. There was seldom any visitation by the officers in charge. Two surgeons were at one time sent by President Davis to inspect the camp, but a walk through a small section gave them all the information they desired, and we never saw them again.

The Guards usually numbered about 64; 8 at each end, and 24 on a side. On the outside within 300 yards, were fortifications, on high ground overlooking and perfectly commanding us, mounting 24 12 lb. Napoleon Parrots. We were never permitted to go outside, except at times, in small squads, to gather our fire wood. During the building of the cook-house, a few, who were carpenters, were ordered out to assist.

Our only shelter from the sun and rain and night dews, was what we could make by stretching over us our coats or scraps of blankets, which a few had, but generally there was no attempt by day or night to protect ourselves.

The rations consisted of 8 oz. corn bread, (the cob being ground with the kernel,) and generally sour, 2 oz. of condemned pork, offensive in appearance and smell. Occa-

sionally, about twice a week, two table spoonfuls of rice, and in place of the pork the same amount (2 table spoonfuls) of molasses was given us about twice a month.* This ration was brought into camp at 4 o'clock, P. M., and thrown from the wagons to the ground, the men being arranged in divisions of 270 subdivided into squads of nineties and thirties. It was the custom to consume the whole ration at once, rather than save any for the next day. The distribution being often unequal, some would lose the rations altogether. We were allowed no dish or cooking utensil of any kind. On opening the camp in the winter, the first 2,000 prisoners were allowed skillets, one to 50 men, but these were soon taken away. To the best of my knowledge, information and belief, our ration was in quality a starving one, it being either too foul to be touched or too raw to be digested.

The cook-house went into operation about May 10th, prior to which we cooked our own rations. It did not prove at all adequate to the work, (30,000 is a large town,) so that a large proportion were still obliged to prepare their own food. In addition to the utter inability of many to do this, through debility and sickness, we never had a supply of wood. I have often seen men with a little bag of meal in hand, gathered from several rations, starving to death for want of wood, and in desperation would mix the raw material with water and try to eat it.

The clothing of the men was miserable in the extreme. Very few had shoes of any kind, not 2,000 had coats and pants, and those were the late comers. More than one-half were indecently exposed, and many were naked.

The usual punishment was to place the men in the stocks, outside, near the Captain's quarters. If a man was missing at roll-call, the squad of 90 to which he belonged was deprived of the ration. The "dead line" bullet, already referred to, spared no offender. One poor fellow, just from Sherman's Army, his name was Roberts, was trying to wash his face near the "dead line" railing, when he slipped on the clayey bottom, and fell with his head just outside the fatal border. We shouted to him, but it was too late—"another guard would have a furlough," the men said. It was a common belief among our men, arising from statements made by the guard, that Gen. Winder, in command, issued an order that any one of the guard who should shoot a Yankee outside of the "dead line" should have a month's furlough, but there probably was no truth in this. About two a day were thus shot, some being cases of suicide, brought on by mental depression or physical misery, the poor fellows throwing themselves, or madly rushing outside the "line."

The mental condition of a large portion of the men was melancholy, beginning in despondency and tending to a kind of stolid and idiotic indifference. Many spent much time in arousing and encouraging their fellows, but hundreds were lying about motionless, or stalking vacantly to and fro, quite beyond any help which could be given them within their prison walls. These cases were frequent among those who had been imprisoned but a short time. There were those who were captured at the first Bull Run, July, 1861, and had known Belle Isle from the first, yet had preserved their physical and mental health to a wonderful degree. Many were wise and resolute enough to keep themselves occupied—some in cutting bone and wood ornaments, making their knives out of iron hoops—others in manufacturing ink out of the rust from these same hoops, and with rude pens sketching or imitating bank notes or any sample that would involve long and patient execution.

Letters from home very seldom reached us, and few had any means of writing. In the early summer a large batch of letters, 5,000 we were told, arrived, having been accumulating somewhere for many months. These were brought into camp by an officer, under orders to collect 10 cents on each—of course most were returned, and we heard no more of them. One of my companions saw among them three from his parents, but he was unable to pay the charge. According to the rules of transmission of letters over the lines, these letters must have already paid 10 cents each to the Rebel Government.

As far as we saw Gen. Winder and Capt. Wirtz, the former was kind and considerate in his manners, the latter harsh, though not without kindly feeling.

It is a melancholy and mortifying fact, that some of our trials come from our own men. At Belle Isle and Andersonville there was among us a gang of desperate men, ready to prey on their fellows. Not only thefts and robberies, but even murders were committed. Affairs became so serious at Camp Sumter that an appeal was made to Gen. Winder, who authorized an arrest and trial by a criminal court. Eighty-six were arrested, and six were hung, beside others who were severely punished. These proceedings effected a marked change for the better.

Some few weeks before being released I

*Our regular Army Ration is:

¾ lb. Pork or 1¼ lb. Fresh Beef.
18 oz. Hard Bread, or 20 oz. Soft Bread or Flour.
1-10 lb. Coffee.
1-6 lb. Sugar.
1-10 lb. Rice, or
1-10 lb. Beans or Hominy.
Vegetables—Fresh or Dessicated. Molasses. Vinegar. } Irregularly.

was ordered to act as a clerk in the Hospital. This consists simply of a few scattered trees and fly tents, and is in charge of Dr. White, an excellent and considerate man, with very limited means, but doing all in his power for his patients. He has 25 assistants, besides those detailed to examine for admittance to the Hospital. This examination was made in a small stockade attached to the main one, to the inside door of which the sick came or were brought by their comrades, the number to be removed being limited. Lately, in consideration of the rapidly increasing sickness, it was extended to 150 daily. That this was too small an allowance is shown by the fact that the deaths within our stockade were from 30 to 40 a day. I have seen 150 bodies waiting passage to the "dead house," to be buried with those who died in hospital. The average of deaths through the earlier months was 30 a day; at the time I left the average was over 130, and one day the record showed 146.

The proportion of deaths from *starvation*, not including those consequent on the diseases originating in the character and limited quantity of food, such as diarrhea, dysentery, and scurvy, I cannot state, but to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, there were scores every month. We could at any time point out many for whom such a fate was inevitable, as they lay or feebly walked, mere skeletons, whose emaciation exceeded the examples given in Leslie's *Illustrated*, for June 18, 1864. For example, in some cases the inner edges of the two bones of the arm, between the elbow and wrist, with the intermediate blood vessels, were plainly visible when held toward the light. The ration in quantity was perhaps barely sufficient to sustain life, and the cases of starvation were generally those whose stomachs could not retain what had become entirely indigestible.

For a man to find on waking that his comrade by his side was dead, was an occurrence too common to be noted. I have seen death in almost all the forms of the hospital and battle-field, but the daily scenes in Camp Sumter exceeded in the extremity of misery all my previous experience.

The work of burial is performed by our own men, under guard and orders, twenty-five bodies being placed in a single pit, without head-boards, and the sad duty performed with indecent haste. Sometimes our men were rewarded for this work with a few sticks of fire-wood, and I have known them to quarrel over a dead body for the *job*.

Dr. White is able to give the patients a diet but little better than the prison ration —a little flour porridge, arrow-root, whisky and wild or hog tomatoes. In the way of medicine, I saw nothing but camphor, whisky, and a decoction of some kind of bark, white oak, I think. He often expressed his regret that he had not more medicines. The limitation of military orders under which the surgeon in charge was placed, is shown by the following occurrence: A supposed private, wounded in the thigh, was under treatment in the hospital, when it was discovered that he was a Major of a colored regiment. The Assistant Surgeon, under whose immediate charge he was, proceeded at once not only to remove him, but to kick him out, and he was returned to the stockade to shift for himself as well as he could. Dr. White could not or did not attempt to restore him.

After entering on my duties at the hospital I was occasionally favored with double rations and some wild tomatoes. A few of our men succeeded, in spite of the closest examination of our clothes, in secreting some greenbacks, and with these were able to buy useful articles at exorbitant prices, a tea cup of flour at $1.00; eggs $3 to $6 a dozen; salt $4 a pound; molasses $30 a gallon; nigger beans, a small inferior article, (diet of the slaves and pigs, but highly relished by us,) 50 cents a pint. These figures, multiplied by ten, will give very nearly the prices in Confederate currency. Though the country abounded in pine and oak, sticks were sold to us at various prices, according to size.

Our men, especially the mechanics, were tempted with the offer of liberty and large wages, to take the oath of allegiance to the Confederacy, but it was very rare that their patriotism, even under such a fiery trial, ever gave way. I carry this message from one of my companions to his mother: "My treatment here is killing me, Mother, but I die cheerfully for my country."

Some attempts were made to escape, but wholly in vain, for if the prison walls and guards were passed and the protecting woods reached, the blood hounds were sure to find us out.

Tunnelling was once attempted on a large scale, but on the afternoon preceding the night fixed on for escape, an officer rode in and announced to us that the plot was discovered, and from our huge pen we could see on the hill above us the regiments just arriving to strengthen the guard. We had been betrayed. It was our belief that spies were kept in the camp, which could very easily be done.

The number in camp when I left was nearly 35,000, and daily increasing. The number in Hospital was about 5,000. I was exchanged at Port Royal Ferry August 16th.

PRESCOTT TRACY,
82d Reg't N. Y. Vol.

City and County of New York, ss: H. C.

Higginson and S. Noirot being duly sworn, say: That the above statement of Prescott Tracy, their fellow prisoner, agrees with their own knowledge and experience.

H. C. Higginson,
Co. K, 19th Illinois Vol.

Silvester Noirot,
Co. B, 5th N. J. Vol.

HOMES AND LODGES.

CAIRO.

During the month of July, 1864, the number admitted was 6,923, from 23 different States; of meals furnished, 15,284; of lodgings, 4,374; aided in procuring transportation, 1,722.

NASHVILLE.

Mr. Brayton makes the following report of the business of the Soldier's Home from November 1, 1863, to July 31, 1864:

No. of Discharged Soldiers admitted	1,286
No. of Furloughed Soldiers and traveling under orders admitted	30,661
Total, from 29 States	31,947
No. of Meals furnished	102,942
" Lodgings furnished	34,461
" Deaths	10
" for whom Transportation has been procured	25,638
" for whom Back Pay has been drawn	789
Amount of Money drawn and paid over	$120,005 38

Of the number entertained 5,731 were sick, and 2,592 were wounded. There were many more going home on sick furlough, who needing no particular attention, were not numbered with the sick. Chronic diarrhea has been the prevailing complaint. As soon as practicable after the arrival of the sick, they are assigned to beds and carefully attended to. The wounded have their wounds dressed, and if they desire it, have beds furnished them. Such as are able eat at the public table; all others take their meals in their rooms.

All soldiers on arrival report to the clerk, who examines their authority for traveling, registers their names, and procures them transportation on their papers, ready for the next train, unless there is good reason for stopping longer. The sick and wounded are carried from the Home to the cars, in ambulances furnished by the Government. When a soldier is too sick, or his wound is in a condition that renders it unsafe for him to continue his journey, he is taken care of for a few days at the Home, or sent to the hospital, as the case may require.

The deaths that have occurred here, in nearly all cases, have been of men who were too weak to be removed after arrival.

We have only 13 rooms, containing 80 beds, for the accommodation of travelers, and we are sometimes required to entertain 300 men, two hundred and twenty of whom occupy the floors and piazzas, and sleep on blankets. Most soldiers prefer blankets to beds, and the soundness of their slumbers gives evidence of their comfort. Of course we cannot entertain regiments in our narrow limits; we therefore confine ourselves to furloughed and discharged men, and such as are traveling under orders in small squads.

The business of collecting back pay for discharged soldiers has increased of late. I am sorry to say that about one in four of the discharge papers that come from the front are incorrect. This adds greatly to our labor, and subjects the soldiers to the hardship of returning to their commands to have them corrected, often a distance of several hundred miles.

When the soldier is wounded, or too unwell to return, we send a messenger, if practicable. One has just returned with papers on which nothing could be collected when presented; but being corrected, we have drawn for him $181.21, and sent the sick man on his way to Louisville rejoicing, by the hospital train. Not long since we persuaded an old crippled soldier to go back to his regiment twice with his papers. The first time he reported that his Colonel abused him, and sent him back to Nashville without correcting his papers. The second time we wrote the Colonel a kind explanatory letter, and the papers were returned corrected, and back pay was drawn amounting to $220.00, which raised the soldier's spirits from a point near despair to the full fever heat of joy. On one occasion eighteen out of twenty papers were sent back in one day.

Very large numbers of furloughed wounded soldiers are passing daily from the Hospitals in front to their homes in the North, two-thirds of whom are destitute of the most essential articles of clothing. No provision is made to supply their wants, because they have not their descriptive lists. Many have neither hats, pants, coats, socks, or shoes. Cotton shirts and drawers furnished by the Sanitary Commission are all their covering. To such we have given during the last month, seven hundred and one shirts and drawers, sixty pairs of pants, and fifty pairs of shoes. We could have issued twice that number, but our stock has been reduced by the unusually heavy draft from the front.

If the Governors of the States could witness the condition of their furloughed wounded soldiers as they arrive at the Home, with their shirts and drawers saturated with sweat and dust, and rendered offensive with the discharge from their wounds, I am sure their influence would procure an order for a supply of clothing, at least necessary to cover them, and the young men of the North who are now being solicited to fill their places around Atlanta, would be spared the mortification of seeing their brothers and friends hobbling home on crutches, and being carried on litters indecently clothed. The brave fellows do not ask to have clothes given them. The Government owes them, and though they have lost their garments in battle, or had them cut from them by surgeons who dressed their wounds in the field, they are ready to pay for them.

Justice alone requires that a Quartermaster should be appointed for Nashville, who shall be required to keep open office from morning till night, and issue clothing to furloughed sick and wounded soldiers. No loss can accrue to Government by so doing, as the clothes could be charged on their furloughs, and their Captains

could be notified (as in case of having descriptive lists,) of the amount furnished. Nothing short of this will do justice to the suffering wounded, or the people who send and pay them.

LOUISVILLE.

During the month of July, 1864, 15,929 meals and 8,427 lodgings were furnished.

NEW ALBANY, (IND.)

During the month of July, 1864, the number entertained was 962; of meals furnished, 2,372; of lodgings, 762.

CAMP NELSON, (KY.)

During the month of July, 1864, the number of meals furnished was 37,179, and 13,470 lodgings.

MEMPHIS.

During the four weeks ending July 30th, 1864, the number admitted was 1,392, from 16 different States; of meals furnished, 4,176; of lodgings, 913; and furnished with transportation, 52.

DETROIT.

During the month of June, 1864, the number admitted was 682; of meals furnished, 7,414; of lodgings, 2,054.

HARRISBURG.

Extract from a letter of J. Jewitt Parks, dated Soldier's Rest, Harrisburg, Pa., Aug. 17, 1864:

* * * * *

We have our Soldier's Rest now fully under way. Opened it on last Saturday, and since that date, a space of four and a half days, we have lodged and otherwise given aid and comfort to thirty-one soldiers passing through this city. The most of our guests come on the 8 P. M. train from Baltimore, and leave on the 2.30 A. M. passing West, so that much of the night is taken up in attention to them. We try to dress their wounds as far as possible, give them something to eat, and send them on their way feeling more comfortable. We do not have a great many during the daytime, but there is always a press of business on hand. Some are without transportation; others come in to have wounds dressed, &c. The city doctors have volunteered their services, and are glad to come in. There are three ladies who are greatly interested in the welfare of the soldiers, and come down to do all they can for us.

* * * * *

Have visited all Hospitals in the vicinity, some of them several times, and they are now well supplied. There has been a convalescent camp opened across the Susquehanna, which I shall visit shortly.

* * * * *

WISCONSIN SOLDIER'S AID SOCIETY.

The half-yearly report of the Wisconsin Soldier's Aid Society, of July 1st, shows that it has been no languid auxiliary of the Commission. Its gifts to the Army through the Northwestern Branch of the Commission exceed $50,000 a year.

Dr. Wolcott, Surgeon-General of Wisconsin, writes to the Society the result of several month's observation of the working of the Commission at the front with Gen. Sherman's Army:

Believing that doubt still exists in the minds of some of our people, not only as to the utility and necessity of the Sanitary Commission, but especially as to whether the means so liberally contributed, reach their proper destination. Having witnessed the workings of the Commission through most of its ramifications, and on a scale sufficiently extensive to speak with confidence, I avail myself of this favorable opportunity to say, that in my opinion no department of the service is managed in a more thoroughly business-like manner, or more perfectly meets the designs and objects of its organization.

If in this I am correct, it needs no argument to prove both its utility and necessity. If it be desirable to aid and comfort men who have laid us under obligations so deep, that our utmost efforts can never cancel them, how, I would ask, can we better begin than by furnishing for their use, such articles as contribute to both comfort and recovery, when confined by wounds and sickness in Hospitals, far from friends and home. It is through this channel alone, that donations can be successfully conveyed to their proper destination.

I trust therefore, that all who have heretofore given, will feel under renewed obligations to continue to give, and those whose doubts on this question have caused them to withhold donations heretofore, will endeavor by greater zeal hereafter, to atone for past neglect of duty.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

CAMP BARRY, *Aug.* 20, 1864.

To the Sanitary Commission:

Having re-enlisted from Massachusetts, in Battery L, 3d U. S. Artillery, and appreciating as I do the benefits you have conferred upon the soldiers since this war commenced, allow me, a private soldier, in acknowledgment, to contribute my humble mite to your good work.

Truly yours,

REUBEN LIBBY.

2D DIVISION, 2D CORPS, *Aug.* 6*th*, 1864.

I take great pleasure in testifying my high appreciation of the services of the Sanitary Commission during the present summer.

The supplies furnished not only the sick and wounded as heretofore, but the well soldiers, also, were most opportune; and the liberal issues of vegetables, &c., made by the Sanitary Commission to the whole army, I have every reason to believe aided materially in preserving the health of the men.

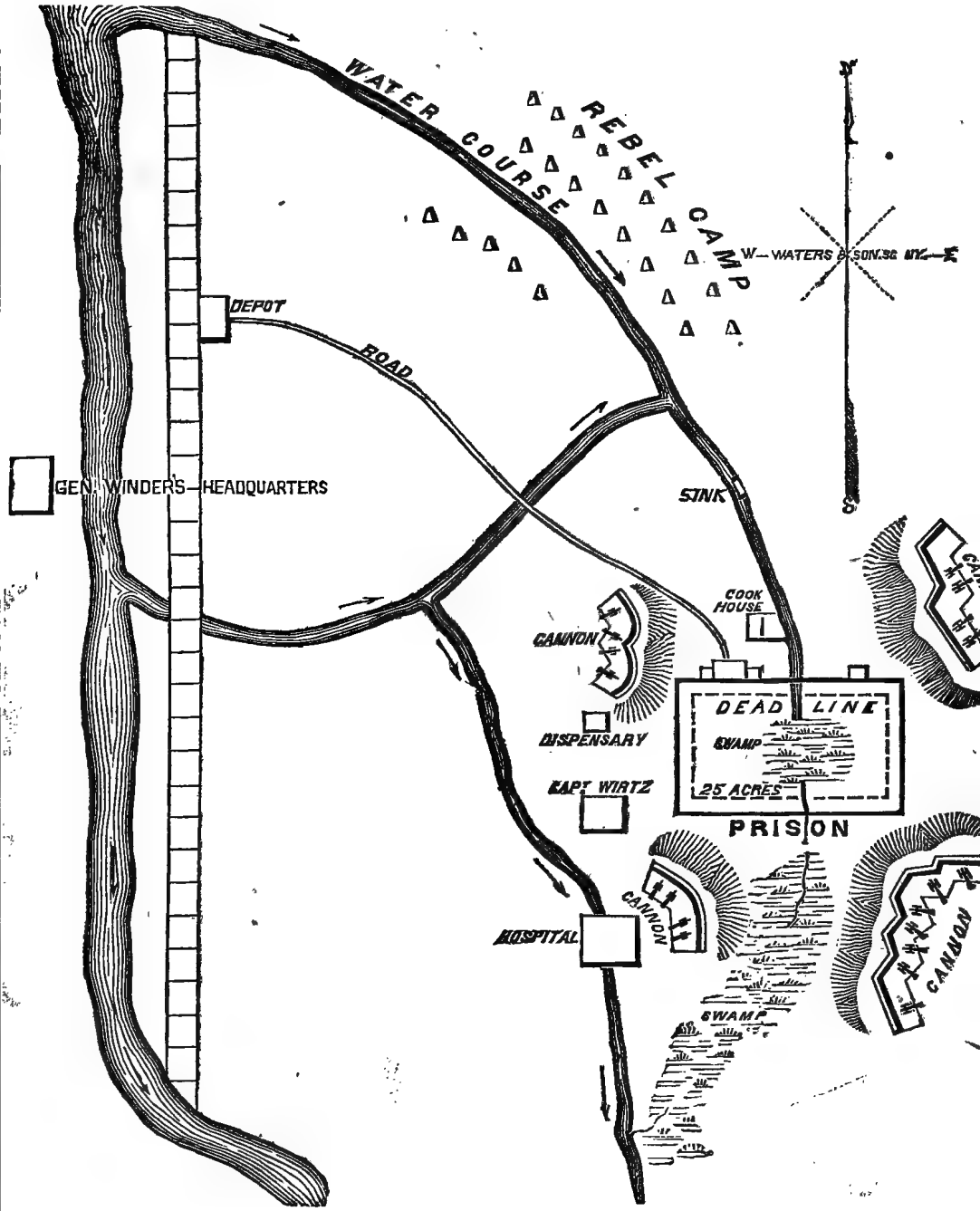
Wishing you continued success in your inestimable labors,

I am very truly yours,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major Gen'l Vols., comd'g Div.

To Mr. J. WARNER JOHNSON,
Sup't. San. Com., Phila.

PRISON AT ANDERSONVILLE, Ga.



(Sanitary Bulletin, Vol. I, No. 21.)

A TRIP UP THE MISSISSIPPI.

The manner in which enfeebled men, weak from wounds and diseases, received and contracted in the service, after being discharged or furloughed, have been furnished transportation from the Department of the Gulf to their homes in the North and Northwest, have often claimed the attention of the Commission.

Prior to this spring we have only been able to contemplate the evil, foreseeing no power to remedy it. Of course a discharged soldier has not the same claim on the Government for protection as when he was in the service; but if justice was meted out to him before his discharge in the true letter and spirit of the regulations, he could, with the money received for mileage and subsistence, be able to obtain a comfortable passage to his home. Even then it is not difficult to conceive that men may become so enfeebled by disease or disabled by wounds, as to be unable to care for themselves, and to require medicines and careful nursing. Here would be a legitimate field of labor for charitable and benevolent institutions, supplying an original vacancy, and by extending a protecting arm, render efficient service to our country's braves. Under existing circumstances we must work in unison with officers of the Government, and with all the means we have help to do justice to the soldier.

At this point I wish again to impress you with the magnitude of the good that has been accomplished through our agency in this Department, for the benefit of the soldier in this one particular.

The difference between receiving money for subsistence and mileage for the whole distance to a Northern home, and for only a portion of the distance, with an order on the quartermaster for transportation for the balance, is better appreciated by the soldier than by any one else; it is simply the difference between the value of subsistence and mileage for over two thousand miles and over two hundred miles.

The practice prevailed in this Department up to the past spring, of paying the soldier mileage and subsistence only from New York and Cairo to their homes, instead of from New Orleans or the place of their discharge, and in lieu of that an order was given on the quartermaster for transportation. That settled his account with the Government, and whether maimed, halt or blind, he must find the quartermaster, and if fortunate enough to find him in good humor, ascertain, if possible, when transportation can be afforded him. He may be obliged to wait a week, perhaps longer. In the meantime what is to become of him? he is not allowed in camp, and is shut out of the hospital. He is discharged, and has no claim on any official save the quartermaster for his transportation ticket. Subject to the temptations and vices incident to a large city, he may squander his money and contract habits to be followed by a lifetime of woe.

Our Soldiers' Home is the only institution that can afford him a refuge, and probably all would not avail themselves of its privileges.

The manner in which our sick and wounded, furloughed and discharged soldiers are shipped home, is too revolting to contemplate. A safe shipment of high-blooded stallions, cotton, sugar and other products of the tropics, seemed to receive more attention than any circumstances that could conduce to the comfort of, and do justice to the soldier.

The remedy to this evil was accomplished by bringing the facts to the notice of the Chief Paymaster, who issued an order that all Paymasters should pay to the soldier subsistence and mileage at current rates for the whole distance between New Orleans and the place of muster.

About the last of January, through the influence of Dr. Stipp, Medical Inspector of the Department, the Quartermaster assigned to the Medical Department the steamer Laurel Hill. Under the direction of the Commission she was fitted up completely for a hospital boat, and made one trip to Cairo successfully. Our Agent, Mr. Furness, and a colored cook accompanied this trip. In addition to that, I will say that two Surgeons were detailed by the Medical Director to have special charge of the sick, and general charge of the boat. They received their orders from the Medical Director. At the sametime orders were issued by the Quartermaster to the captain of the boat to turn his boat over to the

Quartermaster at Cairo, to be loaded by him, without any reference to the wishes of the Medical Department. Accordingly, between four and five hundred recruits were ordered aboard on her return trip. The tables that had been erected were destroyed, and some damage and loss accrued to our stores.

It was confidently expected by the Medical Departmentl that the Laurel Hill on her return to New Orleans would immediately make another trip, as about two hundred discharged and furloughed soldiers were awaiting transportation. But by the order of the Chief Quartermaster the bunks were removed as a military necessity, and the steamer detained for transportation of troops within the Department.

About the first of March, through the influence of Maj.-Gen. Reynolds, and Dr. Stipp, the Medical Department obtained from the Quartermaster's Department another steamer, the N. W. Thomas, to be fitted up and used as a hospital boat, and the assistance of the Commission was again solicited.

Our experience with the Laurel Hill was sufficient to convince me that a copartnership between the Quartermaster and Medical Departments was not desirable, and ought not to exist, except under the control of the latter.

There could be no objection to the transportation of freight and a limited number of passengers, but an indiscriminate use of the boat for anything and everything, anybody and everybody, was absurd, and I declined taking any part in the matter, unless some arrangement could be made more favorable to the Medical Department.

Being assured that the boat should be under my control, carpenters were at once employed, and under the direction of Mr. Furness, two rows of bunks were constructed in the centre of the cabin, three berths high, to accommodate one hundred and twenty men. With these, and the unoccupied staterooms, one hundred and fifty could be comfortably provided with beds. A temporary storeroom was built on the port-guard, and a kitchen, provided with a range, was constructed on the lower deck. Tables were arranged on the boiler-deck in front of the cabin, to accommodate eighty men. The more feeble were fed in the back cabin and in their berths, according to circumstances. Two Surgeons were detailed to have special charge of the sick; and I received an order, (which I append,) from Dr. Stipp, to take full charge of the steamer except as to its running.

The captain of the boat received orders from the Quartermaster to report to the Quartermasters at Vicksburg and Memphis for fuel, and at Cairo for fuel and freight, "not to interfere with the sanitary purposes of the boat."

Two thousand rations were drawn from the Commissary, including one thousand rations of fresh beef. The beds and bedding, everything that pertains to a hospital ward, kitchen and table furniture, assorted vegetables, delicacies and stimulants, were all provided from our storeroom—(a list of which I append,)—the gifts of loyal hearts, and work of loyal sinew in the Northeast and Northwest—another instance of the universatility of the Commission, recognizing no sectional differences, succoring alike the soldier from Maine and Iowa, and every intervening locality.

With our flag flying at the fore, at five o'clock, P.M., March 12th, we moved from our moorings, and steamed up the river. It was fitting that our flag, the symbol of this great charity of the American people, should wave over us. Supported and sustained by generous hearts and the earnest prayers of millions, it was a guaranty of safe transit in a long journey through a section infested by guerrillas.

The knapsacks and baggage belonging to the men were checked, and stored away for protection. I persuaded the men not to carry much money on their persons, offering to take it and give a receipt of safe-keeping. Between five and six thousand dollars was intrusted to my care, and delivered again to the owners on their arrival at Cairo. The sickest men were arranged in the staterooms, and especially provided for by careful nurses, who bestowed every attention. The services of Miss Trotter, of Bloomington, Illinois, were secured, who rendered efficient service towards the most feeble.

At Baton Rouge we landed the next day

and received aboard a few furloughed men. Here, the boiler of our boat was discovered to be leaking, and we were obliged to "tie up" for repairs, and wait for assistance to come to us from New Orleans. This delay was discouraging and disheartening to the men, and the occasion of some uneasiness. The furloughs of those who were looking forward to a respite at home, were expiring in a place and condition unenviable. The delay, too, served to depress the spirits of those more feeble, who only hoped to reach home to die in the midst of their families. At this place, two, who had clung to the elastic thread of a hope of once more meeting their friends at home, died, and were interred in the Soldiers' Burying Ground.

After four days' delay we again proceeded up stream, and landing next at Port Hudson, we received aboard all the discharged and furloughed soldiers at this post. On route to Vicksburg another soldier, from the interior of Indiana, died, and was buried there.

The personal effects of all those who died were intrusted to my care, and forwarded by me on arrival at Cairo, per Adams' Express, to their friends, as generally directed by them before death.

At Vicksburg and Memphis, I was able to obtain some stores from our own storeroom, but was obliged to purchase others to eke out the long journey still before us.

After leaving Memphis, nothing of interest or regret occurred to vary the monotony of a long trip up the river.

Among the men a spirit of contentment and thankfulness was exhibited that was refreshing to witness, and many benedictions were pronounced on the ever-provident U. S. Sanitary Commission.

My arrival at Cairo at this time was opportune, as I met Dr. Warriner in charge of steamer Dunleith, loaded with stores, en route for all the posts on the river, including New Orleans. Instructions having been given to the Quartermaster not to interfere with the sanitary purposes of the boat, I was enabled to take what stores were destined for New Orleans, aboard the Thomas, thus making the trip of the Dunleith below Vicksburg unnecessary, and less expensive to the Commission. I received from Dr. Warriner, at this time, about one thousand barrels of pickles and vegetables, thirteen barrels of ale, and other stores needed in the Department of the Gulf.—*Dr. Blake's Report.*

DIARY OF MRS. E. C. PORTER,

AGENT OF THE SANITARY COMMISSION IN THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

Mrs. Porter accompanies Mrs. Bickerdyke in her arduous labors at the front, among the wounded, where both have labored indefatigably these last two months. To give some idea of the kind of service they render our wounded men, their method of work, and how indispensable are sanitary stores in times of battle, we publish Mrs. Porter's diary, written during the month of May. Its interest will be sufficient excuse for the publication of so interesting a document.

NEAR THE BATTLE GROUND, SUGAR CREEK, GA.
GEN. LOGAN'S HEADQUARTERS, *May* 15, 1864.

I have just reached this place, where I hear the constant roar which tells of battle and of death. The battle has just commenced, and several wounded have been brought in who are to be sent north. Our batteries are engaged. The poor privates who are wounded cannot leave at once.

Mrs. Bickerdyke left on the 10th for Chattanooga. I followed on Wednesday, in company with Rev. Drs. Budington and Thompson, N. Y. agents of the Christian Commission, sent here on a tour of observation. We reached Chattanooga yesterday morning. I found Mrs. Bickerdyke had gone on to Ringgold, and so I took the noon train and came down to Ringgold, where I found Mrs. Bickerdyke in the Sanitary rooms, preparing supplies to take forward in teams that were going out in the morning. We slept in a soldier's tent that night and were in readiness to start in the morning. Mrs. Bickerdyke had sent forword the evening before such sanitary stores as could be taken in the teams.

I wish I could give you a description of our mule train—a long solemn train of mule teams! most of them looking as if dragging heavily, and many making a mighty effort to take their last load to the scene of strife. Can you imagine such a train? reaching all the way from Ringgold to Sugar Creek, a distance of twenty-five miles? Such a train has almost literally filled the way with sup-

plies to our army to-day. The supplies are to go by railroad soon, and the mules which are falling on the right hand and on the left, from over-work, poor fare and exhaustion, will be relieved.

We reached Sugar Creek about six o'clock, and were most kindly received at Gen. Logan's headquarters—where I am now writing—by Gen. Smith and others of his staff. They informed us that Gen. Logan had been on the battle-field since last evening. The enemy's guns are loud and rapid now, and although I do not think we can go to the battle-field to-night, it will be difficult to stay away from it while this roar of artillery continues, knowing that many poor fellows are needing our care and attention.

Col. Smith has assured Mrs. Bickerdyke that the ambulance or anything else which he can furnish, shall be supplied to aid her in her work. Mrs. Bickerdyke was very desirous of going to the hospital in the field immediately to night, but it was not best. It is five miles distant, and she needs rest.

MONDAY, *May* 17.

Never have I passed such a Sabbath as yesterday, and I wish I could believe there never would be such another. We rose very early, after hearing the artillery all night as the fight went on, terrible in its echo, and terrible not only to our enemies, but to many of our noble brothers, who have suddenly fallen, or are left mutilated to languish in an extempore hospital at the front.

Gen. Logan's headquarters, where we passed the night, are about four miles from the battle-field. The wounded were brought into hospitals, quickly and roughly prepared in the forest, as near the field as safety would permit. Upon arriving at the place for the First Division Hospital, we were met by the familiar face of Dr. Woodworth, of Chicago, whom we knew would do all in his power to relieve the suffering. What a scene was presented! Precious sons of northern mothers, beloved husbands of northern wives were already here to undergo amputation, to have wounds probed and dressed, or broken limbs set and bandaged. Some were writhing under the surgeon's knife, but bore their suffering bravely and uncomplainingly. There were many whose wounds were considered slight, such as a shot through the hand, arm, or leg, which but for the contrast with severer cases, would seem dreadful. Never was the presence of women more joyfully welcomed. It was touching to see those precious boys looking up into our faces with such hope and gladness. It brought to their minds mother and home, as each testified while his wounds were being dressed; "This seems a little like having mother about," was the reiterated expression of the wounded, as one after another was washed and had his wounds dressed. Mrs. Bickerdyke and myself assisted in the operation. Poor boys! how my heart ached that I could do so little.

After doing what we could in Hospital No. 1, to render the condition of the poor fellows tolerable, we proceeded to No. 2, and did what we could there, distributing our sanitary comforts in the most economical manner, so as to make them go as far as possible. We found that what we brought in the ambulance was giving untold comfort to our poor exhausted wounded men, whose rough hospital couches were made by pine boughs with the stems cut out, spread upon the ground, over which their blankets were thrown. This forms the bed, and the poor fellows' blouses, saturated with their own blood, is their only pillow, their knapsacks being left behind when they went into battle. More sanitary goods are on the way, and will be brought to relieve the men as soon as possible.

Now all the supplies of this immense army are brought from Ringgold by teams, and food for the army must be forwarded first. I have seen no bread for several days but army hard tack. The dear boys think it good, and so it is to the hungry men, and when cooked in soups and panada.

We found in the Third and Fourth Hospitals much the same condition of things; all doing what they could to perfect the hospital arrangements, and extemporizing kitchen tents and beds by the hundred, all made as I have described.

The young surgeons are most of them doing themselves great credit by their attention to the suffering. I have seen as

yet but few except young men in the hospitals. There are some venerable workers, who should have the grateful thanks of the nation for their devotion to the suffering.

This evening we were cheered by the arrival of the sanitary goods, which were loaded at Ringgold, under Mrs. Bickerdyke's direction. They are the only sanitary goods here, except the delicacies brought by us in the ambulance, which were sent us direct from Chicago. From them every wounded man had not only a cooling draught of lemonade, but many other comforts which seemed to be just what was needed, and which have called forth repeated blessings upon the Sanitary Commision.

Last night there was sharp fighting again, if the constant roar of heavy artillery tells truly. Our tent was spread near the wounded and the dying, and was filled with barrels of lemons, pickles and various other articles of comfort. Our bed was composed of dry leaves, spread with a rubber and soldier's blanket—our own blankets, with pillows and all, having been given out to sufferers long before night. Our tent is located about two miles from the seat of action, and every discharge is distinctly heard. This morning report says the enemy are going toward Atlanta.

Several wounded men have died during the night. Mrs. Bickerdyke and myself are going out to look after another division of wounded men. Mr Tone, of the Sanitary Commission, has just arrived, to make some arrangements for getting forward the supplies which are now so much needed, and will be demanded yet more in a day or two.

May 19th.

I wrote the above two days since, and have had no more time to write until now. But since then I have passed through thrilling scenes, and have witnessed many deaths, which have left fond wives in widowhood and made many children fatherless, who had looked forward to July with fond hopes. "Then father's time in the army will be out, and we will be so glad!"

Yesterday there was a Sanitary agent here, Mr. Tone, and we received from him a few articles, such as crackers, canned milk, bandages, and a few bottles of raspberry vinegar, all so very acceptable to our suffering patients, four of whom have passed beyond our care, and already lie in the newly opened burying place. Yesterday, Mr. Smith, of the Christian Commission at Nashville, was here, and Mr. Lawrence, from Chattanooga. With his usual carefulness for the comfort of others, he left with us his rubber and woolen blankets, which, as we had put our last piece of bedding under the wounded men, were gratefully received. He has gone for more supplies. When he returns, we hope the wants of our boys will be met.

You cannot imagine the condition of our wounded men who have had no change of clothing. Think of a wounded man lying in his shirt saturated with blood, and wearing it until it becomes dry and hard, his blanket in the same condition, and he lying on the ground without pillow, except his knapsack. We brought several pillows, and when I put one of them under the head of a great sufferer, he said, "Oh, that is so soft!" As I passed along, yesterday, one of the boys looked up imploringly, and said, "Oh, my bed is hard!" I had just taken a pillow fom the bed of a man just dead, and laid it out to dry. I asked, "shall I bring that?" "Yes," he said, and when I brought it, stained with his comrade's blood, and laid his weary aching head upon it, he replied, "Oh, that is such a relief!" We know there are sanitary stores in abundance, and that they are on the way, and we also realize the difficulty of getting anything to us, in our remote locality, so far from the railroad, where every thing must be brought by teams. We are hourly expecting sanitary goods, which will furnish the boys with comforts that mothers, wives and sisters have prepared.

Mrs. Bickerdyke has succeeded in bringing about a little more order to-day in feeding these three hundred men. The painful work has commenced of removing these men to Resaca, about three miles from the place where they were first received. This arrangement is deemed best, as it brings them at once upon the railroad, where they can be sent North at some time, and I am told that most are to be sent North as soon as practicable. No one who has not seen the immediate effects of a battle can have

any idea of its horrors. I am daily grateful to God for having raised up and strengthened for the work of comforting the wounded "Mother Bickerdyke," as the soldiers truly call her. She has followed them with a mother's self-sacrificing devotion, and the high patriotism and benevolence which exist in her nature. She never fails in the time of the soldier's necessity, no matter what that necessity may be. Like a true mother she is ready for it. She is ready to *contend* for his rights, as many in authority have been made to feel, and she is sustained in labors which seem supernatural. I hope mothers, wives and sisters will appreciate her services, and give to *her* dear fatherless boys aid when needed, as she has rendered it to theirs.

To day every kettle which could be raised has been used in making coffee. Mrs. Bickerdyke has made barrel after barrel, and it is a comfort to know that multitudes are reached, and cheered, and saved. Two hundred and sixty slightly wounded men just came to this point, on the cars on their way North, all hungry and weary, saying, "We are so thirsty," "Do give us something to eat." Mrs. Bickerdyke was engaged in giving out supper to the three hundred in wards here, and told them she could not feed them then. They turned away in sorrow and were leaving, when learning who they were—wounded men of the 20th Army Corps—and their necessity, she told them to wait a few moments, she would attend to them. She gave them coffee, kraut, and potato pickles, which are never eaten but by famished men, and for once they were a luxury. I stood in the room where our supplies were deposited, giving to some crackers, to some pickles, and to each hungry man something.

One of the green cards that come on all the stores of the Northwestern Commission Mrs. Bickerdyke had tacked upon the wall, and this told the inquirers from what branch of the Commission the supplies were obtained. The men were mostly from New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and most grateful recipients were they of the generosity of the Northwest.

You can imagine the effort made to supply two barrels of coffee, with only three camp kettles, two iron boilers, holding two pailfuls, one small iron teakettle, and one saucepan to make it in. These, all placed over a dry rail fire, were boiled in double quick time, and were filled and refilled till all had a portion. Chicago canned milk never gave more comfort than on this occasion, I assure you. Our cooking conveniences are much the same as at Missionary Ridge, but there is to be a change soon. The Medical Director informs me that this is to be a recovering hospital, and cooking apparatus will soon be provided.

FIELD HOSPITAL, RESACA, GA., *May 20th.*

All convalescents are this morning ordered from this hospital. Mrs. B. and myself feel that we must leave these, now comparatively provided for, and hasten to the front, to those who are in the condition in which we found these. Many of the wounded are doing well. All who will recover are improving. Yesterday we received from government tents, cots and other comforts for the relief of our wounded, who have been lying on the ground, though bunks have been prepared for many.

Mrs. Bickerdyke is moving among the wounded, and is doing good as she has opportunity. Last night as I slept in my tent, surrounded by the wounded, I was awakened by dreadful cries and groans, as if of one in distress. It continued, seeming like the death agonies of a strong man. My first impulse was to go to him, but that I could not do. At length the groans ceased, and when I inquired of our surgeon, from whose tent they proceeded, he said it was a wounded rebel prisoner, who died in the night. The rebel wounded bear their sufferings less bravely than our men.

KINGSTON, GEORGIA, *May 23d.*

Yesterday morning we arrived at Kingston, sleeping in cars, and accompanied by officers, and a minister sent by the Christian Commission. The cars were filled with sacks of corn upon which we rested. We reached here and took breakfast with agents of the Sanitary and Christian Commissions. There is great hurrying to and fro, for an order has been issued for a forward move to-morrow, and all are making preparations. Rations for twenty days are ordered. Mrs. Bickerdyke took an ambulance and rode out to Gen. McPherson's

head-quarters, to learn from him what we should plan to do. The General encouraged our going forward, by assuring us that transportation should be furnished for our sanitary goods. On the matter of transportation, Col. Smith, or rather the Quarter-Master of the corps, informed us that the best ambulance and driver should be at our command, if we would go forward, and that our services were appreciated so highly, that everything should be done to facilitate and aid us in our work. From other officers we received the same assurance. We took out a few comforts to the batteries, and found them in remarkable health and spirits, considering the struggle through which they had passed.

May 23d.

Sanitary agents have issued several tons of vegetables and other sanitary goods, today, to the different divisions of this great army. Mrs. Bickerdyke has received this morning a large supply for our use among the wounded, which are to be sent forward to be in readiness for the next contest, which is no doubt near at hand. The Indiana agent sent us supplies at Resaca which we have reserved for the coming want. Mrs. Bickerdyke was greeted on the street by a soldier on horseback: "Mother," said he, "is that you? Don't you remember me? I was in the Hospital, my arm amputated, and I was saved by your kindness. I am so glad to see you," giving her a beautiful bouquet of roses, the only token of grateful remembrance he could command. Mrs. B. daily receives such greetings from men, who say they have been saved from death by her efforts. The blessing of many ready to perish is no small reward, and it is hers in overflowing measure.

May 24th.

Last evening two or three hundred exhausted men were sent here faint and weary. Mrs. B. and myself tried with what means we had, to meet their necessities. Mrs. B. made them coffee, and we gave them pickles and other food, which refreshed them greatly. They felt that if they could rest and have enough to eat, such as they needed, they would soon be able to do duty. This morning the surgeon of a hospital called to ask that we would go and help him in his work, which we promised to do.

About an hour ago a great excitement prevailed, as it was said the rebels were coming upon us with a dash. Such a stampede among the stragglers, and so many pale faces I have not before seen. We were having our boxes shipped for Resaca. Hastened by the fright most of them were shipped, but four or five valuable packages remain, and we design to get them off as soon as possible, as it is thought guerrillas will make another attempt here.

FIELD HOSPITAL UNDER CARE OF DR. WRIGHT,
May 25th.

Yesterday, as the trains were passing about four miles from here, they were attacked by our enemies. Four soldiers who had dismounted were killed, first slightly wounded, then evidently knocked on the head with a gun or club. That was the surgeon's testimony, and the most inexperienced observer would come to the same conclusion, who looked upon their bruised, broken faces. What exhibitions do we daily receive of the chivalry of our high-minded southern foes? Could Satan himself give stronger proofs of his love of evil than these devoted servants of their master?

Last evening, having seen most of our sanitary goods on the cars, I left the town, which it was thought might be filled with rebels to-day, and came to this field hospital. Mrs. Bickerdyke had taken a few articles and gone up in the morning, with men and women to clean and put things in order to feed and comfort the sad, exhausted and wounded soldiers. I found the house filled with such already. The beautiful, but filthy premises, under her direction had been made comfortably clean, and now the floors were covered with soldiers, resting their weary heads on knapsacks or blouses, many of them without blankets even. On the march they have thrown everything away, because they are so burdened. They often start with very heavy burdens, unwilling to give up any of the little comforts they have gathered about them, but as the heat increases and the soldiers become weary, one thing after another is thrown away, until only their knapsacks which contain their rations, and their cups remain.

The failing and faint-hearted are constantly coming in. They report themselves sick, and a few days of rest and nourishing food will restore most of them, but some have made their last march, and will soon be laid in a soldier's grave! Mrs. B. has sent gruel and other food, which I have been distributing according to the wants of the prostrate multitude, all on the *floor*. Some are very sick men! It is a pleasure to do something for them. They are all dear to some circle, and are a noble company. Two hundred are gathered here. Sanitary goods are our dependence in taking care of them. We have received liberally from the Western Commission, and some very valuable articles from the Christian Commission, and have made them tell upon the comfort of those ready to perish. How often do I hear the remark, "What should we have done but for the Sanitary Commission?" We suffer the greatest inconvenience from the want of cooking utensils. It is very hard work to provide food for so many hundreds, without any other convenience than an out-door fire, under the heat of a summer sun. A tent does not exclude this heat. Soup kettles and large ranges would diminish the labor, and add greatly to our ability to be useful. Mrs. Bickerdyke applied to Louisville for such aid, knowing by experience the hard service which must be required, but they have not come, probably on account of difficulty in the way of transportation, and she will toil on without them until her strong constitution is undermined, I fear.

Wednesday.

Heavy firing was heard in front yesterday. To-day three hundred and twelve men have been fed and comforted here. This morning Mrs. Bickerdyke made mush for two hundred, having gathered up in various places kettles, so that by great effort out of doors she can cook something. Potatoes, received from Iowa, and dried fruit and canned, have been distributed among the men. Many of them are from Iowa. "What could we do without these stores?" is the constant inquiry.

May 26.

I have visited the deserted hospitals near us, erected after Chattanooga was shelled by our troops, as I was informed by a lady who lives near. They are of sufficient size to accommodate 1,000 sick and wounded men, are built according to the directions of their Medical Board, and are altogether the best arrangements for a temporary hospital which I have seen, nothing wanting for convenience or comfort, and the location one of the best that could have been chosen. The rebels know how to take care of themselves. They were hurried out of the hospital last week, and as they evacuated took their sick with them. The place we occupy is by no means as convenient, this being a private residence merely. But the plan is to send our men North, if they cannot go forward. Hundreds have already gone, and multitudes are on the way. A company of poor white women came to see us this morning, who said, "Georgia never went out of the Union of her own free will, but she could not help herself." They say, "'our children are to be bound out to the planters, and we put into the hospitals to do the work, and thus be separated from our children; we know they'll do it if they can. The ladies say that they will have our children for servants if they can't get the niggers, and they will."

May 27th.

Andrew Somerville, a faithful soldier, who went down to Reseca with our sanitary goods, after having put them into Mr. Jones (the agent's) hands, was overpowered by a band of drunken soldiers, who were on a wild robbing expedition. They took some things after having knocked him down. A guard was called and military power exerted to arrest them. A telegram from Rome asking for sanitary goods. I shall go to Resaca for them as the wounded are suffering.

May 28th.

There is heavy firing in the direction of Rome. I concluded to telegraph to Resaca and wait until to-day. Everything indicates the necessity of comforts for the wounded. There is a sharp contest going on to protect a gap in the mountains.

May 29th.

Last evening, in view of the wants of the wounded, who were reported coming in to be sent forward, I went to Resaca to get supplies, and returned this morning.

To-day we hear of dreadful slaughter and suffering, and we are told that a train of ambulances is on its way to this point with the wounded. The Colonel of the 83d Ohio Regiment ran into our room to ask for supplies to go out to his regiment; Dr. Everett of the 10th Iowa also. We shall give them all we can spare. But, if our supplies were increased four-fold, we could easily use them.

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In another letter, dated Kingston, Geo., June 1st, Mrs. Porter says: "We have received, fed, and comforted at this hospital, during the past week, between 4,000 and 5,000 wounded men, and still they come. Our sanitary stores are just what we need, and to-day we have received a quantity from Resaca, and a telegram from Mr. Read, United States Sanitary Agent at Chattanooga, requesting us to draw upon that depot for anything we need, which we shall be glad to do. All the food and clothing have passed under our supervision, and, indeed, almost every garment has been given out by our hands. Almost every article of special diet has been cooked by Mrs. Bickerdyke personally, and all has been superintended by her. I speak of this particularly, as it is a wonderful fulfillment of the promise, 'As thy day is, so shall thy strength be.'"

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Again, writing from Alatoona, Ga., June 14th: "I have just visited a tent filled with 'amputated cases.' They are noble young men, the pride and hope of loving families at the North, but most of them are so low that they will never again return to them. Each had a special request for 'something that he could relish.' I made my way quickly down from the heights, where the hospital tents are pitched, and sought for the food they craved. I found it among the goods of the Sanitary Commission—and now the dried currants, cherries, and other fruit are stewing; we have unsoldered cans containing condensed milk and preserved fruit—and the poor fellows will not be disappointed in their expectations."

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We refrain from saying much that we know about Mrs. Porter's labors in the Western Department, where she has been most of the time since the war began, her modesty even in the foregoing report leading her to speak of others rather than herself, but as children often illustrate the parents, we insert an incident of the late severe battle before Atlanta, as we find it described by a correspondent of the *New York Tribune:*

"Speaking of artillery and heroism, I should notice the gallant conduct of private James B. Porter, of Battery A., 1st Illinois Light Artillery, on the 22d. This young man, who has served his country over three years, having re-enlisted as a veteran, has won the love and respect of both officers and privates by the modest bravery he has from time to time exhibited. On the 22d instant his section was posted near our skirmish line in front of Gen. Morgan L. Smith, 2d Division, 15th Corps, when the 111th Illinois and 53d Ohio, Col. Jones, were driven in by a superior force of the enemy, who made a dash at the two guns and captured them. Young Porter remained faithfully at his post till the rebels fairly swarmed over the battery, when he determined not to surrender, and fell as though mortally wounded at the side of a dead comrade, and for half an hour he feigned to be dead, during which time he was kicked twice, and was nearly crushed to death by the crowd of rebels flocking to examine the guns.

The tide of victory, it will be remembered, suddenly turned, and our troops were pursuing the retreating foe. As soon as Porter discovered that the "Johnnies" were falling back pretty rapidly, he seized a musket belonging to a dead infantryman who lay close beside him in a pool of blood, and gathering up a handful of cartridges, he was not long in loading the musket and sending its leaden messengers after the deceived "chivalry." Yesterday young Porter was Acting Orderly Sergeant, and had charge of two pieces of artillery which were held in reserve in rear of our main line. Private James B. Porter is a son of the Rev. Jeremiah Porter, now serving as Chaplain of the same battery to which his son is attached. Mrs. Jeremiah Porter has devoted her services for the past six months to the care of sick and wounded soldiers in this army, enduring untold hardships. The three members of this family are all with this army at the present time. Young Porter is an educated Christian gentleman, and a fine specimen of the true American volunteer soldier, having graduated with high honors at Beloit College."

WHAT THE AUXILIARY RELIEF CORPS HAS DONE.

We conclude in the present number the extracts from the interesting letters from the Auxiliary Relief Corps, publication of which was commenced in the BULLETIN of August 15.

MR. S. F. JAYNE.

A COLORED HOSPITAL.

About the 20th of June last a special field hospital for colored troops was established at this place. A squad of Sanitary Relief Corps, under direction of Miss Helen L. Gilson, has been here for three weeks, giving attention in various ways to the sick and wounded—in the same manner as to white soldiers. It has in this time administered to some three hundred sick and wounded men. It has furnished all of the light diet for the hospital.

A large majority of those admitted to this hospital have been the sick; therefore, the demand for light diet has been greater than for the same number of wounded men. In many respects the work here is peculiar. While the men are patient in their sufferings, they are generally otherwise childish, with little judgment in taking care of themselves. It is often difficult to ascertain their diseases; and they give vague and unsatisfactory answers when questioned in regard to them.

Nearly all complain of "misery in the breast," and very many have diseases of the lungs added to other troubles. It is evident that many have been allowed to enter the service who are physically incapable of performing the duties of the soldier.

The hospital, until lately, has been quite deficient in the means necessary for making the men comfortable. Many were for a long time without beds. The wards were not supplied with cups and spoons, and other conveniences for feeding the men. Many of these things we have furnished for them. Among other things, some two hundred tin cups, one hundred spoons, thirty wash-basins, one hundred and twenty-five beds, two hundred shirts and drawers, a large number of blankets, socks, towels, handkerchiefs, head-rests, fans, oranges, lemons, etc.

Few of the nurses are fit for their duties, being entirely without experience in taking care of the sick. Many of them were nearly sick when assigned to duty. Few of them can read or write, and it was deemed unsafe to intrust them with the administration of medicine.

The hospital has suffered from want of sufficient help to do the police and other work necessary to keep things orderly and clean.

Besides the daily amount of light diet, we have several times furnished crackers in bulk to the steward, upon his requisition to supply deficiencies in his bread rations. We furnish stimulants twice a day to all of the low cases that need it. Besides a liberal distribution of indispensable articles, many little comforts have been furnished to the men. Letters have been written for them, for which they appear especially grateful. The Bible has been read to them, and some religious instruction given to them, which they always listen to with interest and delight. Many of those who cannot read express a strong desire to learn, and in order to encourage this feeling, some two hundred spelling books have been ordered for them.

It is hoped that opportunity may be found to afford them systematically some instruction, religious and otherwise, for which their simple-hearted and childish natures are ever eager. It is also hoped that our efforts for these men may become constantly more effective.

Besides the sick and wounded, there are in camp here about fifty fugitive slaves, women and children. They are very destitute, and we have supplied them to some extent with needed articles. They now receive rations from the Government, and some of the women are employed in washing and cooking for the hospital.

—

REV. W. J. POTTER,

AT VARIOUS "BASES."

I entered the service of the Sanitary Commission at Fredericksburg, about the 20th of May. The Commission had done its greatest work there before my arrival, but still its agents were very busy. The wounded men being removed to Washington, and one element of the Commission's work to which I was first introduced, was the caring for the sufferers while they were being transported from the hospitals to the boats and cars. The trains particularly were very irregular in their times of running, and in their capacity for carrying. Several times wounded men were taken over the river for a particular train, who had to wait several hours, or the whole night without any provision for rations or shelter, until the train should leave. Once a train was loaded, and for some reason the men were again taken out and placed on the ground for the night. A certain number of the Commission were called upon for several nights in succession to go over and feed and care for the men the best way they could.

It was a hard service; the nights were dark, once or twice rainy, and the ground was very muddy; there was nothing to make the service pleasant, save the consciousness that many a poor sufferer was

relieved of some of his wretchedness, and many a one who must otherwise have perished, was saved to life. The Government had done little or nothing for these detained men. It was left for the Sanitary and other charitable Commissions to provide for their wants.

I worked also at Fredericksburg, in the 6th Corps' Hospital, during the last few days that Fredericksburg was held by our army. The Sanitary Commission furnished largely to this hospital, both in the way of articles of food and clothing, and its agents were indefatigable as nurses.

At Port Royal, the next base, no hospitals were established, and our work was to care for the wounded from the general feeding station, as they came in, and during the day or two that they might remain in the village before being sent North. We met the wagon trains with their suffering freight, half or three-quarters of a mile from our station, with buckets of soup and tea, and milk and punch, and crackers.

Oftener than not, the trains arrived by night, so that our work was quite as much by night as by day. Some of our party carried merely water for wetting wounds—a service that was welcome as any—others were dressers, and dressed the wounds of the men in the wagons or by the way-side.

The houses and stores, too, were filled with wounded, and these also were looked up and cared for, until they were removed.

At White House the same work was renewed—only the hospitals took more permanent shape, and more system could be introduced. I was here assigned to service under Mr. Marshall, in the 9th Corps, with which I have since been connected.

On coming to City Point, the withdrawal of Mr. Marshall left me in charge of the Sanitary work for the 9th Corps' Hospital. We established our tent on Sunday, June 19th; only a few hospital tents had then been erected, and there were only sixty patients present. These were but slightly wounded, and were able to walk. The next day a train of three hundred more severely wounded arrived, and in a few days our number went up to twelve hundred, but the hospital is now reduced by removals to three hundred and thirty-eight, according to this morning's report. I estimate that there have been something over two thousand different patients in the hospital during the three weeks. During the first two weeks we issued very largely of all kinds of sanitary stores, particularly of clothing. Most of the men, on account of the long campaign, and the heat and dust, came in very needy. We gave all the worst cases clean clothing. It has not been possible to keep an accurate account of all the stores delivered, but I judge we have given out at least one thousand shirts and one thousand pairs of drawers. The great demand is now over, and the Government is also better provided with supplies of all kinds than at first. The tents are now all furnished with bedsteads, and most of them with mattresses.

The grounds are are well policed, and the hospital is being put into the condition of a permanent general hospital as rapidly as possible. On an average we have had here a force of eight or nine Sanitary agents. These are assigned to sections of five or six wards each, and attend to the distribution of sanitary articles through their respective sections, and somewhat to cases of special diet and to the wants of the patients generally, so far as they can be supplied from our stores or by personal care.

One of our number has busied himself for two days past in making foot-tubs for his wards out of tamarind kegs. They prove an excellent thing, and I would suggest whether it would not be well for the Commission to furnish foot-tubs to every hospital, so that each ward may have one, or something that will answer for one.

* * * * *

—

Rev. A. B. Hyde.

in the second corps.

I arrived at City Point June 24th. Being presented to Mr. Fay, and finding my old college friend, Orange Judd, present, already initiated and full of labors, I was able at once to commence some efforts to be useful.

That evening we made our way through "a hundred circling camps," reaching the hospital of the 2d, 5th, 6th, and 9th Corps. For two hours we distributed little comforts, newspapers, tobacco, etc. The next day I was early sent to the ground, and had a full view of the work.

To bring at least 6,000 (we counted 5,924 without counting the negro cavalry) suffering men to anything like home comfort, seemed an impossible task.

But I found in the 2d Corps, to which I was assigned, faithful and experienced men, from whom I learned what to do and how to do it. To feed and bathe, to get a fan, a hat and handkerchief, to furnish paper and pencil, perhaps to write for a helpless man, to pity and pray for the sick and dying, those things filled up the day very full.

Pain in all its forms was before us, and as we tried to mitigate it, constant blessings were showered on the Commission and its labors. As rapidly as the nature of their maladies allowed, the patients were removed to General Hospitals. But there was yet enough to be done. My work grew dearer as I comprehended it better. It was with pain that I found my own health rapidly failing, and obtaining no relief, I felt

it my duty to return home. I had learned to feel the highest respect for my fellow-workers, and had seen with my own eyes the excellent humanities of the Sanitary Commission.

—

Mr. A. W. Sperry.

AT CITY POINT.

I have to report that the members of the Relief Corps attached to the 6th Corps' Hospital at the base arrived at this place on the 18th ult., and on the 20th took up its place in the hospital then erecting.

No sick or wounded arrived for several days, giving us time for preparation to receive them. Several wards of tents were erected, bedsteads of poles with bed-sacks filled with hay were furnished, and the kitchen put in order. When, at length, wounded and sick did come in, they were placed in comfortable quarters and cared for immediately. We have thus far been able to keep in advance of the demand upon us. Several hundred beds are, and have been in constant readiness. The largest number of patients at any one time has been about eight hundred.

The sanitary condition of this hospital is excellent. The camp has been thoroughly policed, the sinks kept free from odor, and the wards have been carefully cleansed of impurities. No cases of camp disease of any kind have occurred. Men come in stripped of everything, without as much as a tin cup, and with clothing dirty beyond description. In several instances they have arrived when there were no Government stores to draw upon. Then our men have gone about among them, and with their own hands furnished nice clean shirts, drawers, and socks, in exchange for those covered with blood, dust and vermin; and cups and spoons with which to take their food.

To the "light diet" kitchen, we have furnished delicacies and vegetables, and two kettles for cooking them. Personal inspection has proved that the food furnished has been well cooked, as a rule, and that it has reached the men.

In many ways the men feel the influence of the Commission besides in diet and clothing. In our daily visits to the wards, we carry soap, towels, handkerchiefs, tobacco, pipes, sponges, letter-paper and envelopes, oranges, lemons, sugar, &c., &c.

A full supply of checker-boards and puzzles kept the convalescents busy for days, while last, but not least, a half hundred Jews-harps made the camp musical to the point of genuine fun.

At Fredericksburg, as a private arrangement, we employed colored women to wash clothing that would not otherwise have been washed. At White House the enterprise was undertaken by the Commission, but the change of base prevented anything being done before coming here; the work was again taken up. After the first few days a washing-machine was furnished, two caldrons were set up, and three colored women employed at an expense of eight dollars per month, the Government giving them rations. Although unable to get sufficient water, from fifty to one hundred pieces have been washed daily; and now, with additional women, furnished by Government, fifty blankets and a hundred pieces of clothing can be washed each day.

No enterpise has *paid* as well for the money invested. Although a proportion of the clothing washed thus far would have been thrown away had it not been for the conveniences furnished by the Commission,

In conclusion, experience has thus far shown, that except in extreme cases, when there is a large and sudden influx of patients, the work of dressing and nursing can be well performed by the regular hospital attendants, while personal attention is given to the diet kitchen and the distribution of miscellaneous articles by the members of the Commission. In this way we can be certain that the right things reach the right men at the right time.

WESTERN DEPARTMENT.

The following list gives the principal shipments from the Depot at Louisville to Gen. Sherman's army, from the 2d of June to the 25th of July:

113 blankets.	3,511 galls. pickles.
498 bed ticks.	4,119 bush. potatoes.
2,107 pillows.	1,874 galls. ale and cider.
2,990 pillow cases.	3,110 lbs. pearl barley.
1,600 sheets.	1,885 lbs. corn starch.
8,953 shirts.	4,623 lbs. farina.
5,534 pairs drawers.	920 mosquito bars.
285 dressing gowns.	231 arm slings.
1,249 pairs slippers.	275 finger stalls.
9,165 towels and handk'chs.	3,466 fans.
253 pairs socks.	152 bots. lime juice.
15,321 lbs. bandages & rags.	960 cans oysters.
1,047 cushions and pads.	80 tons ice.
241 pin cushions.	3,690 lbs. concen'd beef.
50,447 lbs. crackers.	25,920 lbs. " milk.
45,985 lbs. dried fruit.	317 lbs. dried beef.
12,306 lbs. cod fish.	77 boxes oranges & lemons.
7,520 lbs butter.	2,370 doz. eggs.
12,047 bots. wine & spirits.	2,279 cans fruit.
74 galls. apple butter.	

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

United States Sanitary Commission,
Department of the Gulf,
New Orleans, *July 28th*, 1864.

T. W. Sherman, *Brig.-Gen.*,
Commanding Defenses of New Orleans:

General—I have to-day the honor of submitting, in accordance with your request, the enclosed schedule of issues from the depot of the U. S. Sanitary Commission in this city to the troops within this Department, for the quarter ending July 1, 1864.

It represents very fairly the character of our supplies, as well as the average rate of their disbursement.

The market value of these issues would, probably, somewhat exceed seventy-five thousand dollars.

About 30 per cent. of our issues have been used in the general hospitals of the Department, or have been employed in furnishing and equipping the boats engaged in the hospital transport service.

Most of our stores, however, are sent directly into the field, and in the hands of responsible agents, are distributed, mainly through the Medical Department—wherever and whenever there may be an occasion for the use of extraordinary supplies.

It has never been the purpose of the Sanitary Commission at any time to compete with the Government in the very liberal provision it has made for the comfort and health of our armies. The distribution of supplies constitutes but one of the agencies of the Commission. In many ways it has endeavored to aid the soldier, and promote and encourage the efficiency of the service. Still I am happy in being able to assure you that it is a matter of no little satisfaction that the more material results of our efforts should have been included among the "resources" of the military authorities in this Department.

Yours very respectfully,

EDWARD A. GRANE,
Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission.

Issues from the Depot of the U. S. Sanitary Commission at New Orleans, Department of the Gulf, for the Quarter ending June 30, 1864.

HOSPITAL FURNITURE, &C.

445 blankets.	2,214 towels.
852 bed ticks.	399 tin cups.
11 bed pans.	53 tin basins.
862 cushions.	24 urinals.
2 head rests.	60 flannel bandages.
19 lanterns.	15 eye shades.
72 medicine cups.	51 prs. crutches.
599 mosquito bars.	16 lbs. chloroform.
623 pillows.	25 bots. chloride of soda.
2,318 pillow cases.	1,442 fans.
143 pillow ticks.	15 bbls. old linen & cotton pieces.
426 quilts.	10½ bbls. roll bandages.
2,527 sheets.	21 arm slings.
98 sponges.	20 lbs. candles.
20 yds. oil silk.	13 catheters.
4 yds. rubber sheeting.	
137 lbs. soap.	

CLOTHING.

4,871 prs. cotton drawers.	1,639 combs.
999 prs. woolen "	172 prs. shoes.
740 prs. canton flannel do.	1,726 prs. slippers.
3,446 handkerchiefs.	2,414 prs. socks.
343 prs. pants.	934 wrappers.
6,503 cotton shirts.	181 coats.
1,563 woolen "	19 vests.
682 canton fl. "	139 hair brushes.

HOSPITAL FOOD AND DELICACIES.

860 lbs. beef stock.	¼ bbl. cracked wheat.
1,453 lbs. chocolate.	21 papers black pepper.
3,942 lbs. condensed milk.	29 papers ginger.
1,857 lbs. corn starch.	10 bottles "pain killer."
1,748 lbs. farina.	57 bottles horse radish.
310 cans canned fruit.	57 bottles lemon syrup.
621 cans canned tomatoes.	24 bottles cologne.
1 bbl. pop corn.	3,650 lbs. cod fish.
30 cases lemons.	120 lbs. tea.
500 cases bread.	213 lbs. tobacco.
3 kegs butter.	1 bbl. vinegar.
55 bottles bermo plant.	12 bbls. ale.
39 lbs. arrow root.	650 doz. eggs.
65 lbs. cocoa.	95 bottles bay rum.
202 bbls. crackers.	1 bbl. syrup.
2 bbls. corn meal.	1 bbl. ginger snaps.
102 bbls. dried fruit.	2 bbls. lager beer.
171 jars jellies.	4 boxes catsup.
714 lbs. pearl barley.	12 kegs jellies.
22 hams.	1 keg blackberry cordial.
386 boxes prep'd lemonade.	196 botts. " "
84 bottles mustard.	3,088 bottles claret.
44 bottles cayenne pepper.	60 bottles port wine.
1,723 bbls. vegetables, mostly potatoes.	347 bottles whisky.
89 bbls. cabbage in currie.	108 bottles sherry.
26 bbls. saur kraut.	300 bottles brandy.
395 bbls. or kegs pickles.	140 bottles bitters.
12¼ bbls. white sugar.	908 bottles assorted wines.
7 cans extract of coffee.	71 bots. ext. Jamaica ginger
2 bbls. oat meal.	272 bots. raspberry vinegar.
1 bbl. tongues.	1,500 lbs. ice.
	15 lbs. sago.

MISCELLANEOUS.

3 gross pens.	5 boxes old magazines and papers.
60 reams writing paper.	2 gross pipes.
20,000 envelopes.	
3½ bbls. lint.	

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3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
A. E. Shiras, U. S. A.
R. C. Wood, Assistant Surg.-Gen'l U. S. A.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., New York.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
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J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clarke, Providence, R. I.
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J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
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The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 4th Street, Pittsburg, Penn.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, Ohio.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

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Soldiers' Home, Third Street, east of Broadway, Cincinnati, Ohio—Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill.—C. N. Shipman, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky.—James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.
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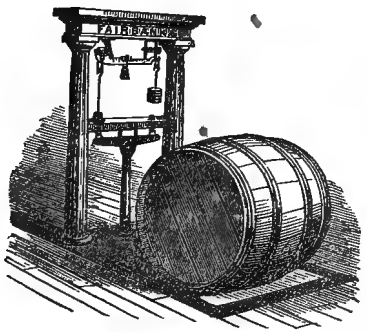
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Excess of Earned Premiums over Losses, &c.	1,137,063 33
Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies	441,206 49
Guaranteed Cash Dividend to Dealers, (holding certificates of same) on Paid Premiums Earned during the Year, whether Loss has Accrued or not	269,614 80
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Dividend for the Year to Stockholders	26 per cent.

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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall Street, or No.* 823 *Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

A WORD TO THE AID SOCIETIES.

The appeal made to the public, some weeks ago, for blackberries and blackberry cordial, has been answered in a way that leaves nothing to be desired. Rivers of blackberry juice have flowed in upon the Commission from all parts of the country, and a more grateful or appropriate or useful flood, it would be hard to think of. Our friends, we trust, however, will bear with us patiently, when we say that we are still not satisfied; that though we have had blackberries enough, we are now craving for other fruit, or in other words that we now want peaches. The season of blackberries is past, and the season of peaches is at its height, and we therefore beg our contributors to turn their attention to the latter. They have never been cheaper or more plentiful, and there has never been a year when they could be turned to better account. The army is still in as much want of fruit as ever. It is leading the same life, eating the same food, and incurring the same risks. But we shall save our friends some trouble, and, at present prices of sugar, a great deal of expense, by saying that we do not want *canned* peaches, and we cannot do better than give the reason why, in the words of Dr. Woodward, our Sanitary Inspector at Nashville:

You inquire what is my opinion as to the value of canned fruits for hospital purposes. I beg leave to state, so far as my own experience goes, they are, as a class, *the most* useless supplies that can be distributed, and, in many cases, absolutely injurious. As a rule, the peaches, plums, cherries, &c., put up for the market, undergo a process of decomposition, which, though not absolutely fermentative, renders them productive of derangements of the stomach and bowels, inducing diarrhea and chol-

eraic forms of disease. Extensive inquiries among surgeons of great experience in hospitals show that they have no confidence in them as a recuperative diet, and that their use depraves the appetite, and destroys the relish for more simple fare.

It may seem "a hard saying," but I am convinced that the demand for them is kept up by the patriotic and well meaning ladies, who, in the fullness of their benevolence, wish to give to the sick in hospitals all the comforts of home, but who lack that knowledge of physiological and pathological principles, which would make them safe judges of what is beneficial or injurious.

Fresh fruits, in their season, I regard as highly salutary, as are also well dried fruits, which have been cured without any decomposition taking place. Well made jellies are valuable, not as food, but drink, to mix with water for the sick. Tomatoes, well canned, are very valuable in winter to ward off scorbutic disease, and to keep up the healthy functions of the liver, but I believe it would be far better if canned fruits were entirely prohibited.

Testimony of the same kind will be found in the letter of Lieut. Colonel Summers, on page 682.

What we want is dried peaches. Those who have quantities of the fruit which they are willing to contribute, can, no doubt, readily find willing hands to "store and dry" all they can spare.

The fruit need not be preserved with sugar; in fact, no money need be expended in its preparation. Let each individual peach be carefully divided, and the "stone" or "pit" taken out. Then the two halves should be laid on clean boards, (the top of a shed, or lean-to, sloping to the South is a capital place,) and permitted to dry thoroughly in the sun, if possible. Or, in wet weather, they may be dried in slightly heated ovens, or by the side of the fireplace, or stove. In whatever manner the drying is accomplished, it should be thoroughly done—the juices should be completely dried, as a very slight degree of moisture engenders mould, and attracts insects.

Too many dried peaches cannot be sent to the army. They are most valuable in the hospitals and for convalescents, as a curative agent, and are a great treat for well men, when there is a surplus sufficient to allow them a share.

Send on the dried peaches. The children will be active and useful agents in preparing them, and the older folks, whose stronger hands are needed in the harvest-field, need give but little of their time to the task. Now is the time to do a great and good work. The peach crop has seldom been so abundant, the surplus seldom so great. Now, as a work of humanity, charity and patriotism, let this surplus be so prepared and sent as that the soldiers in the field shall have their full share.

Send parcels and packages to the nearest branch of the Sanitary Commission, or its Central Office, No. 823 Broadway, New York.

THE INTERNATIONAL SANITARY CONGRESS AT GENEVA.

A correspondent of the *New York Evening Post* transmits the following very interesting account of the labors of the International Sanitary Conference, which met at Geneva, (Switzerland,) on the 8th of August. Our readers are already familiar with the movement which led to this Conference:

—

The organization and complete success of the United States Sanitary Commission have awakened throughout Europe a warm and intelligent sympathy, which is likely to result in immense benefit to humanity at large. Stimulated by the example thus thrown out in benevolent challenge to the world, Mr. Henry Dunant, of Geneva, whose admirable *brochure* on the Italian war, "*Un Souvenir de Solferino*," has made his name famous in the annals of philanthropy, started as early as 1862 a movement looking to the development of similar sanitary agencies in Europe. Under his lead an association was formed under the title of "Society of Public Usefulness of Geneva."

PRELIMINARY MEETING.

A circular was issued on the first of September, 1863, by this society, addressed to the several Governments of Europe and to leading philanthropists, inviting their co-operation at an International Conference or Convention, and particularly requesting the representation of the different Governments by delegates, to convene at Geneva, on the 26th of October, of the same year. This preliminary convention was well attended, nearly all the principal European

countries being ably represented. The two points which then came specially under discussion were, first: the expediency of organizing a system of volunteer sanitary service, analogous with that in operation in the United States; and, second: the propriety of securing, by mutual treaty between the several Governments, the declaring as neutrals, and the consequent military protection in time of war, of all persons and things employed for the succor of the wounded.

After a most interesting session, in which the discussions were marked by great good feeling and harmony, the suggestions of the Committee of the Geneva Society were cordially adopted. On the fourth day of the session a series of resolutions were unanimously adopted, embodying distinctly the idea of the immediate formation of Sanitary Relief Associations, and detailing the proposed plan of their organization and co-operation under the direction of the Central Committee at Geneva. The Convention decided to append further to these resolutions a series of "recommendations," especially intended to awaken a concordant action on the part of the Government of all nations.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

These resolutions were couched in the following terms:

1. Let Governments grant their highest protection to the Committees of Relief which shall be formed, and facilitate as much as possible the fulfilment of their mission.
2. Let neutrality be proclaimed in time of war, by belligerent nations, for the ambulances and the hospitals, and let it be equally admitted in the most complete manner for the *personnel* of the sanitary staff, for the volunteer aids, for the country people who go to assist the wounded, and for the wounded themselves.
3. Let a uniform distinctive badge be recognized for the Sanitary Corps of all armies; or at least for all the persons of the same army who are attached to such service. Let a uniform flag be also adopted for ambulances and hospitals in all countries.

The action of the Conference excited a profound interest throughout Europe. The high character and eminent services of many who took part in its proceedings were a sufficient guaranty of the complete practicability of the plans and recommendations suggested. A warm response to the appeal thus made was given by many Governments.

The Emperor of France wrote a letter to Mr. Dunant, expressing his "hearty approval of the resolutions and recommendations adopted by the Conference."

The Emperor of Russia was no less prompt in testifying his approval, giving immediate authorization to the Grand Duke Constantine to assume the direction of an Auxiliary Relief Association, under the special patronage of the Emperor and Empress.

From Prussia, Saxony, Wurtemburg, Denmark, Spain, and several other Governments, similar evidences of interest were communicated to the Committee at Geneva, and in a very brief period after the final adjournment of the Conference, Societies and Committees for Sanitary Relief were put in practical operation.

The Swiss Federal Council, wishing to give a tangible realization to the important recommendations adcpted by the Conference, issued an official invitation to the several Governments of the civilized world, inviting them to send delegates to a diplomatic International Congress, to convene at Geneva on the 8th of August, 1864, to consider a project of convention or draft of a treaty substantially embodying the points recommended by the preliminary conference of last October. In the preparation of the "Articles" of this rough draft, the special point of volunteer sanitary service was omitted, on the ground that this was a matter falling more particularly within the domain of the domestic attributes of each country, and could not, therefore, be imposed upon Governments in advance by any outside dictation.

THE CONGRESS.

The International Congress held its first session on the day appointed, in the Hotel de Ville of Geneva, and during the past ten days has been engaged in an animated discussion of the various points of the proposed draft. To this Congress none but delegates holding official credentials from the several Governments are admitted. In most instances the delegations present are composed of one diplomatic delegate, and of one delegate experienced in military, medical, or sanitary matters. Some of the

Governments have accredited their representatives with plenary powers to sign a diplomatic treaty.

The following is a list of delegates:

BADEN—Dr. Steiner, Surgeon-Major, and Dr. Volz, Medical Counsellor and Chief of the Medical Bureau.

BELGIUM—Mr. Aug. Visschers, member of the Belgian Superior Council of Hygiene and Counsellor of the Board of Mines.

DENMARK—Dr. Fenger, Councillor of State.

SPAIN—Mr. De Quevedo, Spanish Minister at Berne.

UNITED STATES—Hon. George G. Fogg, Minister Resident at Berne, and Charles J. P. Bowles, Esq., European Agent of the United States Sanitary Commission.

FRANCE—Mr. Jägerschmidt, Sub-Director in the Department of Foreign Affairs; Mr. de Preval, Military Intendant, and Dr. Boudier, Surgeon-in-Chief of the French Army.

GREAT BRITAIN—Mr. Lougmore, Deputy Inspector-General and Professor of Surgery; Dr. Rutherford, Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals.

HESSE—Major Brodrück, Chief of Battalion on Major-General's Staff.

ITALY—The Chevalier Baroffio, Medical Chief of Division of the Italian Army.

HOLLAND—Mr. Westenburg, Secretary of the Dutch Legation at Frankfort.

PORTUGAL—Dr. Marques, Chief of the Sanitary Department of the Portuguese Army.

PRUSSIA—M. de Kamptz, Prussian Minister at Berne; Dr. Loeffler, Surgeon-in-Chief of the Fourth Army Corps of the Prussian Army; Mr. Ritler, Select Counsellor to the Prussian War Department.

SAXONY—Dr. Gunther, Surgeon-General of the Saxon Army.

SWEDEN—Major Staaf, Attaché of the Swedish Legation at Paris.

SWITZERLAND—Gen. Dufour, Commander-in-Chief of the Swiss Army; Mr. Moynier, President of the Genevan "Society of Public Usefulness;" Dr. Lehmann, Surgeon-General of the Swiss Army.

WURTEMBERG—Dr. Hahn.

Cotemporaneously with the Congress there has been also in session an adjourned meeting of the Conference of last year. This body is composed of all persons interested in sanitary matters who have been invited by the Central Sanitary Committee of Geneva. Its sessions have been held in the Atheneum, and here has been done the main labor of preparing suggestions for the action of the International Congress. Mr. Bowles, who represents in Europe the United States Sanitary Commission, has done much good by setting forth in the Conference the extent and scope of the work accomplished in America, and also by the distribution of various important pamphlets, medals and photographs, illustrative of the American Commission.

THE TREATY.

The Congress, after a mutual comparison of views among the members, and a discussion during six days upon the various points suggested for deliberation, concluded upon a protocol of an international treaty, which was signed upon the 22d of August. This "Convention," as finally adopted, differs very much from the first rough draft, prepared by the Swiss delegation as a preliminary basis of deliberation, and which has been published already in the English journals. The following is a translation of the document, which received the signatures of the plenipotentiaries from Italy, Baden, Belgium, Denmark, Holland, Spain, Portugal, France, Prussia, Saxony, Wurtemburg and Switzerland:

CONVENTION FOR THE AMELIORATION OF THE CONDITION OF WOUNDED SOLDIERS OF ARMIES IN THE FIELD.

ARTICLE I.—The ambulances and military hospitals shall be recognized as neutral, and as such, so long as they shall be occupied by wounded or invalid soldiers, shall be protected and respected by the belligerents. The neutrality to cease in case the ambulances or hospitals are guarded by a military force.

ART. II.—The *personnel* of the hospitals and ambulances, including the staff, the sanitary, administrative and transport service of the wounded, and also chaplains, shall participate in the benefits of the neutrality so long as it shall be exercised, or so long as there shall remain any wounded to be collected and succored.

ART. III.—The persons designated in the article preceding shall be at liberty, even after the enemy's occupation, to continue the exercise of their functions at the hospital or ambulance to which they are attached, or to withdraw in order to rejoin the corps to which they belong. In such circumstances, when these persons shall have ceased to exercise their functions, they shall be transferred, under the direction of the occupying army, to its outposts.

ART. IV.—The *materiel* of the military hospitals being subject to the laws of war, the persons attached to said hospitals shall not be permitted, on withdrawing, to carry with them any articles, except such as form part of their personal property.

On the contrary, under the same circumstances, an ambulance shall preserve its *materiel* undisturbed. *(Conserve son materiel.)*

ART. V.—The country people who shall bring succor to the wounded shall be respected, and shall remain free from molestation. The generals of belligerent powers shall make it their mission to inform the inhabitants of the appeal made to their generosity, and of the neutrality secured to them in consequence.

Every wounded soldier transported to and cared for in any dwelling shall serve as a protection to such dwelling. Any inhabitant who shall have received wounded soldiers into his house, shall be released from the obligation to lodge troops, and shall also be exempted from paying a portion of the contributions of war that shall be levied.

ART. VI.—The wounded or invalid soldiers shall be collected and cared for, irrespective of their nationality.

Commanders-in-chief shall be at liberty to transfer soldiers wounded in an engagement to the enemy's outposts, when the circumstances will permit, and with the consent of both parties.

Those of the wounded who, after treatment, shall be deemed incapable of further military service, shall be returned to the country to which they belong. The others may be likewise returned on giving parole to not take up arms again during the continuance of the war.

The military evacuation of hospitals, with the *personnel* in charge, shall be covered by an absolute neutrality.

ART. VII.—A distinctive uniform flag is hereby adopted for ambulances, for the hospitals, and for their evacuation. It must, however, be accompanied in all cases by the national flag.

A badge for the arm shall be worn by the *personnel* declared neutral, the delivery of said badge to be left to the military authority.

The flag and the badge shall bear a red cross on a field of white.

ART. VIII. The executive details of the present convention shall be regulated by the commanders-in-chief of the belligerent forces, in accordance with the instructions of their respective governments, and in conformity with the general principles set forth in the present convention.

ART. IX. The high contracting powers hereby undertake to communicate the present convention to the other governments who have not sent plenipotentiaries to the International Congress of Geneva, with the invitation that they accede to the same; and for this end the protocol is left open.

ART. 10. The present convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Berne in three months from this date, or earlier if possible.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

As an evidence of their cordial sympathy with the objects proposed to be accomplished, the people of Switzerland, and of Geneva particularly, have surpassed themselves in the generous civilities which they have extended to the members of the Congress. The Swiss Federal Council tendered the compliment of a grand banquet at the "Hotel de la Metropole," and the "Conseil d'Etat" (the official representative body of the canton of Geneva,) have imitated the example. Mr. Gustave Moynier, President of the Geneva International Sanitary Committee, (the first sanitary organization formed in Europe,) invited the members to a "tea party" at his villa on Monday evening.

The following evening Colonel Edward Favre, aide-de-camp to the Commander-in-Chief of the Swiss army, gave a magnificent *fête champêtre* at his famous country seat "De la Grange," on the Italian side of the Lake of Geneva. It is one of the loveliest of the many lovely villas near Geneva, and not far from the Villa Diodati, so associated with the name of Byron. The house, which is a model of elegant taste, is enriched with a series of capacious rooms, the suite on the ground floor being devoted to reception-rooms, drawing-rooms, dining-rooms, reading-rooms, and library. All of these are well stored with fine paintings by Calame, original statuary by Canova, exquisite bronzes and *objets d'art*, and books of rarest value in every department of knowledge. Through these rooms, most brilliantly lighted, poured a stream of gratified guests all the evening.

On Thursday evening, Monsieur Theodore Vernes, one of the millionaires of Geneva, gave a similar fête at his villa, "Fleur d'Eau," on the French side of the lake. A large steamer with a fine military band was placed at the disposition of the invited guests to escort them to the place, and to reconvey them to Geneva. As part of the decorations at various points of the grounds were seen floating the flag proposed by the International Congress for the sanitary service-corps of armies, namely, a red Greek cross in the centre of a white ground. The whole entertainment waa a complete success.

The series of private entertainments culminated on Friday evening, in a grand *fête champêtre* at the villa of Monsieur Francis Barthalony, the celebrated banker of Paris, and one of the chief members of the Paris Central Sanitary Committee. Descended from an old Waldense family, M. Barthalony went originally to Paris a poor lad, having to rely on the benevolence of some friends to furnish him means to reach there. By dint of industry, business tact and zeal, he has achieved a very high social and financial position, and, with an abundant fortune, the result of an honorable career, he has devoted himself to the promotion of every movement of public and private philanthropy. His country seat at Séchéron, near Geneva, by the edge of the lake, is perhaps only surpassed by that of the Princess Borghese at Rome, or that of the Pallavicini family at Pegle.

On the day of the fête in question nothing seemed to have been omitted that could add to the happiness of those present. Just at sunset a regatta of the crack yachts of Geneva competed for a series of prizes offered by the Amphytrion of the occasion. As the fairy-like vessels started off and spread their canvas to the breeze, the lake was a perfect picture, the charm of which was much heightened by the fine view of Mont Blanc, which was tinted over with that rare roseate hue, the *Alpenglühen*, which Calame has caught so finely in his great picture of Mont Rosa. As the boats came back their arrival was greeted with cheers. As the twilight ended, the large and beautiful trees which form an amphitheatre of a large velvet lawn, closed in on either side and open toward the lake, were lighted with thousands of variegated spherical Chinese lanterns. The rows of orange trees lining the walks close to the house were decorated with what seemed like illuminated oranges. The rustic urns on the broad portico were filled with gigantic artificial lilies and tulips, all lighted by lamps inside; whilst moving to and fro on the lake before the grounds were two large steamers, covered from stem to stern with festoons of brilliant-colored lanterns, and, as they rose and fell with the undulating swell of the waves, made the whole scene fairy-like.

Certainly the members of *this* International Congress have reason for congratulation that they held th ir deliberations in so hospitable an atmosphere; and perhaps their success in endeavoring to mitigate the horrors of war, may be traced more or less to this hospitality and universal sympathy in their important mission.

THE AUXILIARY RELIEF CORPS.

Acting Superintendent Sperry reports, August 4:

The quiet that has prevailed during the most of this time—the suspension of active operations by the army—has given opportunity for that advancement in the organization of the Corps, which was impossible when every energy was strained in the work of instant relief to the suffering.

This work of organizing is now so far complete, that we are able to define with exactness the work of the whole Corps, and the place and duty of each man in it.

To this work and to these duties I would call your attention: first, premising that any changes that have been made are rather the growth of experience than the result of mere theory.

Accompanying the report will be found a plan of the hospitals at this point.

This plan shows the divisions and subdivisions of each hospital. It, at the same time, shows the plan of our own operations, since these are dependent upon the general plan of the whole.

It will be seen that the whole hospital is divided into "Corps Hospitals," organized with reference to Army Corps, as is the usual custom in this Department at depot hospitals. Also, we have the usual sub-divisions into divisions and wards, or sections.

In each Corps Hospital we have a relief tent, and a complement of men sufficient to put one in each ward or section. These wards are usually capable of accommodating one hundred and fifty patients, but are rarely full. In this elaboration of our work we bring our agents into direct contact with every man in the hospital. Very soon each agent becomes acquainted with every man in his ward, knows his condition, his wants, finds out the salient points

of his character, and often something of his history.

Where the right man is found for the work, he soon gains the confidence and esteem of those under his charge; and as time passes the feeling deepens into friendship. This is not theory merely, though resulting naturally from the laws of human intercourse, but is the concurrent testimony of our most reliable and trustworthy men. In this connection I beg leave to call attention to the report of one of the agents of the Corps made to the Superintendent, July 30, containing many valuable hints bearing upon the number, character, and work of our Relief Agents. Its author is a man of refinement and culture, and of holiest aspirations to do the utmost good. Three months of constant, self-denying toil in his quiet corner, entitle him to be heard. I call attention to his statement, that "our personal intercourse with the men, and possession of their confidence, secure that they ask for nothing but what they need, and so indirectly contribute largely to the treasury of the Commission."

So fully do I believe this statement, that I have no hesitancy in asserting, that were all our men like him, each one would be a source of pecuniary profit to the Commission, saving from waste, through the carelessness of men and improper requisitions by Surgeons, very much more than his salary and other expenses would cost. But "confidence" must be gained by qualities fitted to command it. A large warm-heartedness, with generous culture and good common sense, are among the essential qualities of a Relief Agent. So much depends upon the personal character of our agents that our success or failure will be determined by that alone. Are such men difficult to obtain? Then let fewer be used, but let the rule be, *good men or none.*

* * * * *

While the organization of the Corps is uniform in theory, in practice it adopts itself to circumstances. Since a hospital takes its tone from the temper of the Surgeon in charge, so naturally does—must—our work. Where the Surgeon is self-reliant, methodical, punctilious—"capable of running his own hospital!" we agree with him, and with a well-stocked tent and few men, quietly help him to do it, content to see a good hospital, even if the Sanitary Commission be informed that it could be dispensed with, but is allowed to stay, through a kindly feeling toward the people at home! Better thus to see a poor hospital feebly managed, than hear murmurs that the Sanitary Commission acts as if its stores were its own and not the people's! while we pour out lavishly with a feeling that we are aiding some unworthy Surgeon or steward in his neglect of duty. I am glad to say that this latter is rarely the case; sometimes it is. Surgeons, as a rule, are faithful in the discharge of their duties. Many are among the noble men of the profession. We studiously discourage faultfinding, as also that other evil fallen into by our enthusiastic friends, a belief that we do all the work—the Government nothing. Our work is supplementary—it can be nothing more. Such exaggerated statements falsify facts, and excite the distrust of Surgeons.

As the campaign drags on into the sickly season, we begin to feel heavily the loss of our tried and faithful men. So many have gone home sick, that but few who came out in May now remain. The remainder will soon go by reason of the expiration of their term of service. Soon the Corps must be filled up with new men. Would it not be wise to take this opportunity of securing men for a longer term—for the campaign or for the war.

The attention called to the necessity for good men should not be construed that we have not had good men in our service. As a rule they have been earnest, active and successful. To this there have been and are exceptions. The living members of the Corps must be content to labor on quietly, with no reward but the consciousness of having done their duty. To the dead let us pay a tribute justly deserved.

Professor H. H. Hadley, of Union Theological Seminary, came into the service on the 30th of June, intending to stay until the 15th of September.

As we came to know him we forgot the scholar in our regard for the man. Laying aside for the time his life-work as student and teacher, he consecrated head, heart, and hand to the work of alleviating the

suffering with which he saw himself surrounded. While other men rested he worked, while others slept he watched, until at last, after two nights of care over desperate cases of fever, holding his last watch amid a cold, driving storm, he laid down himself to struggle with the same disease. Always cheerful, always hopeful, he did not wish to go home. At last, when he grew worse und it was plain he could not recover here, he was placed on board the hospital transport Connecticut, to be sent home. He died soon after the boat reached the wharf in Washington.

No truer spirit has ever laid its clay tenement on the altar of our country. To those who knew him, his memory will be sacred forever. Nor will his death be in vain, unless lofty self-sacrifice has lost its power over human hearts. *Requiescat in pace* scarce need be written on his grave, for he laid his body down in the spirit of Him who said: "He that loses his life for my sake the same shall save it."

I call attention to the accompanying reports. They are selected from the many in this office, simply because each presents some points worthy of your attention. The remainder contain only such details as are of minor importance.

THE COLORED HOSPITAL.

Three weeks later, August 27, Mr. Sperry writes:

The Colored Hospital was removed August 13th to the ground and tents formerly used for the hospital of the 6th Corps. At this time I was assigned to the charge of the Sanitary Station connected with it.

In the confusion incident to the removal, many of the patients passed, for some days, from under the notice of our agents, and were only found after a new acquaintance with the whole hospital had been formed. Little or no suffering, however, resulted from the change, while there was a positive gain in the superior accommodations acquired. The number in hospital was then quite large—about eleven hundred—but was soon after reduced nearly to its present dimensions, three hundred and seventy men.

Previous to this removal we had no regular station in the hospital. Stores were issued to the light diet kitchen, and two agents were at work in the wards, and this was deemed sufficient for the existing condition of the hospital. But the bloody disaster of the 30th July, and the growing importance of the colored branch of the service, made it desirable that we should have the same representation here as in other hospitals. This is now the case. We have stores, tents, and mess arrangements capable to meet any exigencies that may arise.

The relations existing in this hospital between the agents of the Commission and the surgeons are very satisfactory. The Surgeon in charge is a man of character, and does not attempt to use his authority for the advancement of his own interests at the expense of the Commission. *All* articles of diet are issued directly to the light diet kitchen, and thence to the patients; and such are our relations with the noble-hearted woman in charge of the kitchen, that nothing remains to be desired, perfect sympathy and co-operation being the established rule.

All issues of liquors are made by our own agents. The Surgeons' orders for stimulants are sent to us each day, and the patients are supplied by our own hands or under our personal supervision. The fact is, that too few, rather than too many, are upon these surgeons' lists. At this station, at least, the charge that "the doctors drink all the liquor," must be false, for they get none of it to drink! In making milk punch, the milk and whisky are drawn from the Dispensary, but it is my conviction that we had better furnish our own liquor, using Government milk. My recent experience with Government whisky has caused this reversal of judgment. Perhaps it is not always of its present "*blue ruin*" quality. The whole question of the liquor, supply is at present one of quality rather than quantity. Shall we substitute a good article for a poor? Whisky and brandy, (usually *very bad*,) are to be had at the Medical Purveyor's in sufficient quantity. We should, I think, be able always to supply an article of undoubted quality to all severe cases, leaving others to be cared for by the surgeons.

The total amount of our issues is small, compared with the earlier part of the cam-

paign. The terrible exigencies of that time are past. No such destitution is found among the soldiers, and the Government supply is ample. Doubtless some issues are still made unnecessarily, yet most such are to be referred to the difficulty inherent in any system of charitable supply, and can only be reduced to a minimum by care and experience in giving.

Good men in the wards are always needed; especially is that the case here. Most nurses, among soldiers, are deficient in the higher qualities of tact, patience, and warm-hearted sympathy—with, of course, noble exceptions. Colored nurses add to these deficiencies the greater one of a lack of soldierly fellow-feeling for their sick and wounded comrades. It seems a general fact that colored people are cruel toward each other. A white soldier sees in a suffering soldier a "partner" in distress. The word "partner" is not in a negro soldier's vocabulary! In these the barbarism of heathenism has been replaced by a barbarism of civilization, but little more refined and scarcely less cruel. The one positive, and seeking victims; the other negative, and neglecting its victims. As our denial of a common humanity to slaves has taught them inhumanity to each other, so we need to teach them by long years of example, perhaps, that as free men they can claim a common human nature only by being humane. In our work as "Sanitary men," we need a full comprehension of this part of their nature, that while we may detest their vices, we may remember that they are very much what we have made them be. The same spirit that is allowed full play in a charge that gives no quarter, must needs sometimes appear when no such terrible necessity calls it forth.

From the agent's reports referred to by Mr. Sperry, we select the following:

MR. ORRIS.

July 30.

The nature and extent of my work are as when I last reported. Chiefly sick, not wounded, are those on whom I wait. The length of time they have been here has furnished me an opportunity of becoming quite intimately acquainted with them all. The interest which frequent intercourse and personal acquaintance with each has awakened on their behalf, lends wings to our efforts and fervor to our prayers for their restoration. As I stated a few weeks ago, our personal intercourse with the men and possession of their confidence, secure that they ask for nothing but what they need, and so indirectly contribute largely to the treasury of the Commission. Where there are thousands of sufferers who remain but a short time, this saving of our funds, this indirect contribution to our treasury, could be secured by multiplying the number of our Sanitary Agents. For the agents being more in number, and being each assigned to fewer wards, could visit the sufferers more frequently in a less space of time, form their personal acquaintance, gain their confidence, learn their actual wants, guard against the tricks and selfishness of the nurses, and so secure to the Commission all the benefits that a fewer number of agents among an ordinary number of more permanent patients would secure.

This multiplication of agents for hospitals burdened and groaning with transient sufferers, would also result in a multiplication of ministrations and benefits to both the bodies and minds of the sufferers themselves. And yet the utility of such a multiplication of agents, would justly be brought into question. For if there be agents enough to do all the service that may be done when the ground is blotted out with sick and wounded men, there will, if arithmetic is true, be *supernumaries* when on a sudden a large proportion of sick and wounded are taken away. So that what a multiplicity of agents would save the Commission, through personal acquaintance, etc., with the patients and nurses, and what additional benefits they would confer on the patients and nurses themselves, might in the end be counterbalanced by the additional cost of these multiplied agents, the consequent diminution of the treasury, and therefore of the supplies for future sick and wounded.

* * * * *

As ever, I am persuaded of the broad and mighty work the Commission are accomplishing. Like every work for immortality, it is largely silent and unknown. In that land where the wars of time shall have yielded to eternal peace, and where the inhabitant never says, I am sick, the extent of our work will be known.

* * * * *

August 6.

I have nothing to say in regard to my work, except that recently it has been too great for my powers of endurance.

It is known that all we have, except articles of food, we distribute to the soldiers personally in the wards. I have found it discreet to distribute but one thing at a time in order through the wards in which I wait. I have also found it profitable to state to the soldiers in the wards and flies, the modes of our operations, the delicate

nature of our duties, the grounds on which we have to exercise discriminating judgments; the grounds on which we have to say yes to one man, and no to another. With such an explanation, kindly and pleasantly made, a no imparts as great satisfaction, as a yes without it. It also convinces the convalescents of the impropriety and inutility of their flocking to our tent and troubling our storekeeper there.

* * * * *

MR. J. Y. PEEK.

July 16.

As an Agent of the Commission and working under your supervision, it is not necessary that I should render a detailed report of the manner in which its stores are distributed, nor need I refer to their great abundance and adaptability to the necessities and comfort of the patients. Permit me, however, to say, that during an experience of two years in the field and general hospitals, I never saw either sick or wounded soldiers as favorably situated as they are here. Sometimes I find some who are anxious to get to Washington, but knowing the unsanitary condition of said city, and the worth of pure air, I have in all such cases endeavored to persuade them to be content to remain here, and I have succeeded in almost all instances in convincing them that they are better off here than they would be there.

The work of personal relief, as day after day has passed, has been well done, and if the present facilities but continue, there need be no fears for the future. How much good the liberal, palpable sympathy of the loyal North has accomplished here! Through it we have been enabled to distributute *material* aid, together with cheering words.

Sir, we "working men," find that we are quite contented, and even happy at our work. The sudden flush of gratitude, the quick, grateful glances of eyes that *will* speak, though the tongue may be silent. We treasure them up. They are not to be found in the *civilized* conventional world.

You have given us home comforts as our aim. We are nearer to that aim than may be imagined. With the exception of the familiar faces and associations, it is generally already attained.

I have seen no State Agent at work, but have met delegates of the Christian Commission when they were holding religious services in the tents.

KANSAS.

Several letters from Mr. Brown, at Leavenworth, tell of great suffering and destitution in his district. Crowds of refugees flock into the neighborhood, and almost all of them are helpless, inefficient, and utterly dependent upon charity. These, in addition to the patients in hospitals, overwhelm him with demands for assistance. Supplies have reached him from Cleveland, Chicago, and St. Louis, and others are on the way. These, Mr. Brown says, "are sent out to the hospitals as soon as transportation can be procured. The want of transportation is the great obstacle in the way of rendering speedy relief to the sick in distant hospitals. I would keep a team moving constantly, but there is now no safety in sending goods without an escort. I improve every opportunity that is safe to forward supplies to the outposts, but I am not able to fill all requisitions. I have another good invoice from Chicago, with a very kind letter—goods not yet arrived. I have one Refugee and Soldiers' Home started—have two very good buildings leased. Freedmen's Department filling up fast."

TESTIMONY OF LIEUT. COL. SUMMERS, MEDICAL INSPECTOR U. S. A.

MEMPHIS, TENN., *August* 24, 1864.

DR. L. LEWIS COXE, *U. S. Sanitary Inspector for the Valley of the Miss.:*

DEAR SIR—In reply to your request, asking what my observations had been in my tours of inspection regarding the distribution and use made of the "people's" gifts through the Sanitary Commission, I take pleasure in stating that I have almost always found more or less, and generally a liberal supply of them in the General Hospitals of this city, and in those at Vicksburg and Natchez, as well as the Regimental Hospitals (in the camps) at the two latter places.

With the occasional exception, which occurs in camps, they invariably reach their *proper* destination, and are consumed by those for whom they are intended. I take pleasure in making this statement, for the reason that the impression has been made to a very considerable extent, that the medical officers on duty in General Hospitals get and consume the lion's share of them. *I know* that this is not the case where I have inspected, for the officers board out in the cities, and the exception is only where the Hospital is isolated and at a distance from such accommodations.

Pardon me for the introduction in this note of an opinion I entertain regarding canned fruits generally. I do not think that they are so healthful or well adapted for *the sick* as those that have been dried.

The preparation of the latter for table use is very simple, and can almost always be done without difficulty. There is a very great loss in the canned, and not unfrequently the contents are damaged to some extent, which is not discovered by *our army cooks*, and it has a very bad effect on those who eat of it.

The anti-scorbutics have been a special boon. The amount of fresh vegetables, more particularly potatoes, have been the means, together with those furnished by the Commissary Department of the Army, of saving the lives of vast numbers, and keeping up a good sanitary condition of the troops. The ratio of sickness and per centage of mortality has been materially diminished, falling far short of that which took place last year during the corresponding months of March, April, May, June, and July. This is to be ascribed, in some degree, to the officers and men having learned the better how to take care of themselves. * * *

I am Doctor, yours very respectfully,

JNO. E. SUMMERS,
Med. Inspec. U. S. A.

REALLY OLD LINEN.

The New Haven Auxiliary Society writes:

"We have a contribution of some antediluvian linen, with the following history. I send it thinking it may be made an item.

"The linen sheet made into two, marked I*E, belonged to Jehosaphat and Elizabeth Starr. He was established in business in Guilford, 1732; they were married in 1734. She was daughter of Ruggles, one of the early clergymen of this old town, and the sheet must be 130 years old. Two of these old family treasures descended to Mr. Henry B. Starr. One he gave me a year ago, and a few days since brought me the pair of linen pillow-cases and this old sheet."

WESTERN DEPARTMENT.

AT NASHVILLE.

Mr. Root reports, July 30:

At the commencement of the present campaign of the Army of the Cumberland, we had in store at this place, about three thousand barrels of vegetables, consisting of potatoes, kraut, and pickles; also, a large stock of condensed milk, whisky, condensed beef and fruits, besides shirts, drawers, sheets, pillows, and pillow-slips, rags and bandages.

These stores had been accumulated by request of Gen. Sherman, for the use of the army when the campaign should open. Every facility necessary for the rapid transportation of the goods to the front has been furnished by the Government.

In addition to this stock, then on hand, large supplies have since been continually coming forward from Louisville, at the rate of one hundred tons per week, and have been shipped to Chattanooga as fast as received. There has been no complaint on the subject of transportation, since the army commenced its march. The Government has fully anticipated and provided for the wants of the campaign; three thousand cars are now daily running between Nashville and the front, and army stores of all descriptions and sanitary stores find an easy transit to the scene of conflict and suffering.

In order that the sanitary stores might be distributed where they were most needed, and where they would best answer the ends for which the Commission was instituted, I conferred at the opening of the campaign with the Medical Director, and the Medical Purveyor and the Post Commissary at this place, as to the course best to be pursued. The sick and wounded that had been previously patients in the hospitals at Chattanooga and other points beyond this, were in May transferred to this place, and to hospitals farther North; creating while *in transitu* an increased demand for sanitary supplies here; and this demand was largely increased, as soon as the wounded from the battles of the campaign began to arrive.

A large Corps of Sanitary Agents had gone to the front, in May, and were keeping pace with the progress of the army.

These agents were sending back daily the most urgent requests to hurry forward supplies to them. Under these circumstances, how could all the wants of the sick and wounded soldiers in General Hospital, here and at the front, be met? To this inquiry I gave the most careful attention. The Medical Director, the Medical Purveyor and Post Commissary, advised me that sanitary stores were needed more at the front than at any other place; that all the general hospitals were supplied by Government with everything actually ne-

cessary; that at the front, where the storm of battle was actually raging, exigencies were continually arising, beyond the organized means of the Government to provide for; and that *there*, at or near the field of battle, was the appropriate sphere for the Sanitary Commission to discharge its humane duties of love and mercy.

Dr. Clendenin, the Medical Director, clearly defined to me the duties of Surgeons in charge of hospitals, and pointed out the manner in which they could and should provide with whatever is necessary for their patients *from the Government;* and in connection with the subject, he furnished me with the following written orders, which I deemed of sufficient importance to have printed for the information of our own agents:

OFFICE ASST. MED. DIR., D. C.,
NASHVILLE, June 15, 1864.

CIRCULAR.

The attention of Medical Officers is respectfully directed to circular No. 5, Surgeon-General's Office, April 13, 1863, viz.:

The Senior Medical Officer of hospitals, regiments, posts, or detached commands, will make their requisitions for medical and hospital supplies upon the Medical Director whom they may be serving.

* * * * *

It is not the design of the Sanitary Commission to perform the duties which belong to the officers of the Medical Department, nor to furnish those medical stores which ordinarily are supplied by this Department, when properly asked for, or when needed.

* * * * *

The supplies of the Sanitary Commission, then, will not be drawn upon by Medical Officers to meet the current expenditures of their hospitals; and Medical Officers who, previous to the issue of this circular, have been in the habit of asking, without the necessity, for these gratuitous issues, are believed to have done so through ignorance of the proper means of obtaining their hospital stores, or prompted by the desire to clear themselves from a responsibility to which they would be held by this Bureau, for culpable negligence in the use and waste of supplies received from the regular purveying officers of the Medical Department.

* * * * *

(Signed,) W. A. HAMMOND,
Surgeon-General.

W. CLENDENIN,
Surgeon U. S. V., Asst. Med. Dir.,
Department of the Cumberland.

OFFICE ASST. MED. DIR.,
NASHVILLE, June 15, 1864.

CIRCULAR.

The following instructions are again furnished for the information of "Surgeons in charge," who are charged with the faithful execution of the same:

All issues of clothing made to patients in hospital, should be noted on the descriptive rolls of the man receiving the clothing.

In cases where no descriptive roll has been furnished by the company commanders, the clothing needed should be issued *at once*, and such issues noted on a partial descriptive roll. This partial roll should be made out by the Surgeon in charge, giving the name, rank, reputed company, regiment, age, height, complexion, color of eyes, hair, and such other facts as may be obtainable at the time, and which would assist in a legal identification of the name.

If a full descriptive roll should be received from the company commander before the man leaves the hospital, all issues made to him should be noted on this roll, and the partial descriptive roll should be destroyed at once.

It has been officially reported to this office, that a number of sick and wounded men have been transferred from hospitals in Nashville to Louisville, Ky., without any other clothing than drawers and shirts. It is hoped, that under no circumstances will "Surgeons in charge" again permit any man to be sent out in such condition. The Government has made liberal provision for issuing clothing to troops, especially to men in hospitals; consequently, there can be no excuse whatever for soldiers of the United States Army being sent out of hospital without clothing, in a half nude state.

(Signed,) W. CLENDENIN,
Surgeon U. S. V., Asst. Med. Dir.,
Department of the Cumberland.

As the work of the Commission is supplemental to that of the Government, we have been governed by these orders, (in the distribution of our stores,) wherever general hospitals have been established, and the Government has had sufficient time to supply them with their full complement of hospital stores.

This has been our general rule, subject to such exceptions as the necessities of the case often required. When Government supplies can be had, and sufficient time afforded to reach them through author-

ized channels, the distribution of sanitary stores is unnecessary. In the transfer of patients from one hospital to another, sufficient time is not always given to supply patients with necessary clothing, through the established army regulations. In such cases the Sanitary Commission comes to the relief of the needy. Individual applications for relief have been always disposed of according to the wants of the applicant, where those other wants cannot properly be relieved.

Confining our distributions in general hospitals to the above order of the Medical Director, we have been enabled to send to the front, a much larger amount of supplies, than otherwise have been done; at the same time, the aid rendered by the Commission here to hospitals, to individual soldiers, to parts of regiments on detached duty, and to regiments guarding the railroad and river, between Nashville and Chattanooga, has been constant and of very considerable magnitude. We have always endeavored to regulate our distributions by the comparative wants and necessities of the different parts of the field to be supplied. I do not know that the work could have been better done than it has been.

For a more particular statement of the relation that the Sanitary Commission bears to general hospitals, I refer you to the communication of Dr. Woodward, drawn up by my request, to accompany this report.

About the time that wounded soldiers began to arrive in considerable numbers from the front, application was made to me by Surgeons and other Government officers, to have special relief, in the form of refreshment, provided for them at Chattanooga Depot, in Nashville, and at Decherd Station, about half-way between Nashville and Chattanooga. I thought it highly proper for the Commission to comply with this request. An agent, with your approbation, was sent to Decherd, with the necessary supplies to establish a "Soldiers' Rest" there; and for several weeks past, all sick and wounded soldiers passing from the front to Nashville, have been supplied at Decherd with coffee, tea, beef soup, lemonade, milk punch, crackers and bread, and have received such other attention as was necessary.

At first, a large number of the wounded came from the front in box-cars, and when they arrived in Nashville, they frequently had to wait, in an exhausted condition, from one to three hours, before they could be transferred to hospitals. I visited them as they came in, and saw them lying on the bottom of the cars, weary, hungry, thirsty, and suffering from their wounds.

I made arrangements immediately for supplying them with milk punch, cooled with ice, and with soft crackers.

This was refreshing to them, and those that looked on and heard their expressions of satisfaction and gratitude, were often affected to tears. This was a good work; but for the last month hospital cars, furnished with every comfort necessary for wounded men, have been provided for transferring wounded soldiers from the front to Nashville, and the necessity for our supplying them at Chattanooga Depot no longer exists. The "Soldiers' Rest" at Decherd is still in operation, under the care of Dr. Hillman, and from five hundred to a thousand soldiers a week, are there kindly cared for.

I think proper in this communication to call your attention to the great amount of work for soldiers, done at the "Soldiers' Home" in Nashville, under the efficient management of Capt. Brayton.

Hospital visiting has been faithfully attended to by Rev. Mr. Ingraham, and in addition to his other duties, he has officiated as Chaplain on Sunday, in the "Soldiers' Home." I have also myself visited the hospitals as often as a proper attention to my other duties would permit. I have endeavored to keep myself acquainted with their wants, necessities and general condition, and to supply them to the extent of our means and obligation.

The number of patients in them, since the opening of the campaign, has greatly increased. They are much in want of vegetables, which the market here cannot supply, and of rags for the dressing of wounds, which the Government heretofore has not attempted to supply. Rags are not on the supply-table of the Medical Purveyor.

That you may be made acquainted fully

with the statistics and general condition of the hospitals in Nashville, at the present date, I have requested Dr. Woodward to visit them and furnish me with such statistics, and the results of his observation in the same.

This he has done. His great experience as an Army Surgeon, gives additional value to his statements and suggestions. I herewith inclose his communication to me on this subject, as a part of this report.

For further particulars, I refer you to the reports of Mr. Robinson, Mr. Ingraham and Captain Brayton, in their several departments.

DECHERD, TENNESSEE.

Dr. Hillman writes, August 15:

There is probably in no other institution a more gratifying situation than the office I occupy at present, in taking care of the sick and wounded. Having had, for a long time, nothing but "hard tack," the poor, exhausted patient's face smiles over the rich beef soup which is offered to him. The wounded, sun-burnt hero, asking for water to fill his empty canteen, and being told to wait a minute, is astonished at getting milk punch, something to eat, and a fresh dressing for his wounds, in addition to the canteen of water; he will look at you in dumb wonder, but the moistened eye is eloquent where the tongue falters and fails. It need Holmes's pen or Darley's pencil to do justice to the scenes that are common under my eye. Tell that pale man, who has been lingering for a long time with a disease contracted in the service of his country—tell him the best medicine you can administer is found in the word "Home," with all that it suggests of affection, comfort, and repose, and the wan countenance brightens at once, the jolting of the car is no longer felt, the heat of the long day is forgotten, and the hard box-car is pillowed with the sweetest imaginations. There is too much noise and too much bustle at the departure of the train, for many words of farewell from my patients, newly found and as quickly changing, but I cannot forget their faces radiant with a voiceless gratitude.

A few days ago, a train, with but one wounded man on board, stopped at the station the usual twenty-five minutes, and I was thus allowed to give him undivided attention. He had been badly wounded at the ankle joint by a bomb-shell. I dressed his wound, gave him a pillow to rest his foot on, fed and refreshed him; he was trying to thank me, but the words were choked with tears. After he left, I was surprised to hear that he was a Confederate soldier. Will this man *remain* a rebel? Will he have a chance of visiting Belle Isle?

Once in a while very amusing incidents happen. There is but one step from the *tragic*, as well as the sublime, to the ridiculous. I am often obliged to use disinfectants for severe and offensive wounds, and have a solution in a wine bottle, still wearing the attractive, gilded label, "Bordeaux, St. Julien, Medoc." While I was busily engaged the other day with my work, the bottle close at hand, it had proved too strong a temptation to a soldier lying near, and, when my back was turned, he hurriedly gulped down a generous swallow. You can imagine the sneezing, coughing, retching, and thorough disgust which betrayed, at the same time, the sly theft and his fearful disappointment, much to the amusement of all present.

The ice-house is completed. No ice has been received in quantity, but, through the kindess of Dr. Hazen, I get small supplies from his hospital train.

In regard to telegrams I am happy to say that they have been regularly received, save only when interrupted by the thunderstorms along the line through the mountains. But as nurses take turns in watching at night, I have been prepared in all cases of night arrivals.

The number of patients fed and attended to at this station, from August 3d to the 15th, is eleven hundred and eighty-nine. I select from my memorandum the details descriptive of a single day:

August 15.—Train No. 8, in two sections, arrived 2.30 A. M. First section had one hundred and forty-seven patients; fed them, and dressed wounds for eleven privates and two officers. Second section had seventy-five patients; found one Frenchman and thirty-nine Germans. They were glad to be addressed each in his native tongue.

Train No. 5, arrived before time, at 2¼ P. M., with twelve patients; fed them, and gave morphine to one man in great pain.

Train No. 6, arrived at 9¼ P. M.; had twenty-five patients; gave them coffee and milk punch; administered soporifics. Total, two hundred and fifty-nine patients on August 15th.

To Mr. Root I have written for supplies needed here, and expect to receive them soon.

HOSPITAL VISITING.

Mr. Ingraham writes from Nashville, August 6:

The last week has been filled with its continuous round of daily duties, some great, some small. Not a little time has been occupied in answering letters from friends of sick or wounded soldiers. Every mail brings some—each eloquent in the entreaty that the Hospital Visitor will look up the beloved husband or son or brother—see their condition, attend to their wants—see if they can get a sick furlough, or be transferred to some hospital nearer home, and where their friends can meet them. All of these letters require an answer, sometimes two or three letters in reply, besides a great deal of time and labor spent in searching out the case. Let me give an instance:

A few days ago a letter was received requesting information of Hiram McFreeman, who was known to have been brought to Nashville very sick—but a long time had elapsed, no letters to him were answered, and whether he was alive or dead his friends could not learn. They wrote to the Hospital Visitor. He took the letter and went to the office of the Medical Director, where the record of all hospital patients is kept, and began his search over the long pages, scanning every one of the hundreds of names. But no such name appeared. He then went backwards over the list, but page after page was examined until his back and fingers ached, but certainly no such name was there. He looked at the letter again, and there was strong evidence that such a person had been in hospital in Nashville.

What next was to be done but to visit the hospitals themselves, and look at their books, for sometimes mistakes are made, even at the Medical Director's. So the nearest Hospital was visited, and an hour exhausted, but no such name was there. Then a long, hot walk, and the books of another examined, but with as little success. Then another long walk, and a third hospital record investigated, but with like result. Tired out and heated, the thing was given up for that day. Upon the next (two more letters with similar inquiries having come in the interval,) he starts upon a two mile walk, for no ambulance could be had, to the largest hospital.

Here, also, pages of names, reaching weeks and months back, are carefully pored over, but without success. He is about to give it up, when a thought suddenly strikes him. He then begins a search for Hiram M. Foreman, and finds the name, and on inquiry learns that he is the very man he wants, but that his name has been misspelt, and then he learns that the young man has entirely recovered, and that he left the hospital the *day before to join his regiment!*

This may be considered a rare case, but yet not altogether as uncommon as we could wish. At best, it requires much time to find the parties, investigate their condition, talk with them, see their Surgeons about them, write to their friends, and keep up the interest and communication until they recover or are removed.

With one exception the hospitals are all in good condition. We trust that kindly influences brought to bear upon that will soon make it no longer an exception.

I have heretofore omitted to report what, perhaps, I should have done, viz.: my voluntary services as Chaplain in hospitals. I do not mean the occasional bed-side services which are continually occurring, but those of a more regular character. There are faithful Chaplains here, and some who go beyond their strength. But there are, nevertheless, hospitals which, from some cause, *seem* to be quite destitute of the regular and constant services of a Chaplain.

All of the hospitals are frequently visited by clerical tract and book distributors, and who occasionally hold religious ser-

vices. But these gentlemen are generally on short vacations from their own parishes in the North; they naturally desire to go over as much ground as possible in the given time, and therefore, any good impression that one or two visits to a hospital may make, is generally lost for want of repetition and following up. Or else the kindly impression of perhaps one excellent and experienced Visitor is driven away by the succession of new faces and voices.

What is needed, in I think the most of our hospitals, is a sufficient number of faithful *resident* Chaplains; gentlemen selected for their experience, wisdom and devotion to the cause. The Chaplain should know personally almost every man in the hospital, or if the hospital be too large, then he should have one or more assistants. He should visit once or twice each day every case inviting peculiar sympathy, for counsel, consolation, and prayer. He should know how to approach men with judgment and discretion, so as not to repel but to draw them; not to shut up their hearts but to open them; not to kill but in every sense to cure.

A good Surgeon knows well the value of such a spiritual assistant. He should also know what kind of religious reading each man should have, and he should have the authority and control over the distribution of it. He should not permit that indiscriminate tract and book distribution, which gives a tract on dancing to a man who has lost his leg, or a book on "*The Wrath to Come,*" to some poor, broken, and contrite heart, that needs binding up with the gentlest hand. In a word, his hospital should be his parish. It would take but a little time for such a man to gain the confidence of his patients, and to have access to their heart of hearts.

Some of such men have visited our hospitals, and have, in barely one conversation, gained the confidence of many who longed for their return. But alas, they were of the *peripatetic* order; they had made a good impression, but were suddenly gone to return no more, and the poor disappointed, discouraged sick man, after listening long in vain for the returning footsteps of that friendly voice, turns his face to the wall, refuses to listen to the succession of new voices and faces that flit past, or stop a moment before him, and shuts up his heart in despair.

I will not enter upon the statistics of Chaplaincy, nor the mode of appointment, neither the method of remedy; but having touched upon a *sanitary* desideratum here —"sanitary" in its fullest sense—will go on to report, that in one of these hospitals, where there are five hundred patients, there having been no kind of religious service, I was told, for two months—no one to bury the dead, or administer at the bedside of the dying—at the earnest solicitation of the patients, I volunteered to give them as much of my time as I could spare. This at once involved Sunday services, and as the patients were mostly confined to their beds, a service was required in each ward, there being six in all. This, in addition to a service in the Refugee Barracks, has been kept up for about three months, in addition to occasional week-day visiting. This has, at last, however, proved too much for my strength. And as of late, I have, by request, undertaken regular Sunday services at the Soldiers' Home, the hospital services have been reluctantly given up. On yesterday, however, it being the national fast day, I held services, by special request of the Surgeons in charge, both at the main building and in its branch, having a large and most attentive congregation.

At the Soldiers' Home, I have good and attentive congregations once on each Sunday. There are from forty upwards at each service. On these occasions I use the little "Soldiers' Prayer Book," which affords great satisfaction, each man having a book. At the close of the services the men are presented with the book which they have been using. Several hundred have been given them in this way. For quite a number of these and other books, I am indebted to the kindness of the Rev. Montgomery Schuyler, D.D., of St. Louis.

For several months past, I have also held a regular Sunday service in the Refugee Barracks of this city, where, also, a Sunday-School has been established and kept up. There, also, I have had frequent burial services, and many an opportunity of a kind and blessed word.

HOSPITALS.

Dr. Woodward reports:

I have the honor to report, that in obedience to your request, I have made an inspection of some of the hospitals in this city, and though time has not allowed an examination of all, enough has been done to show that there is a necessity for aid from the Sanitary Commission.

By an examination of the reports herewith inclosed, you will perceive that vegetables are much needed, and though most of the hospitals have a large hospital fund, it cannot avail to meet this want, for the reason that a sufficient number of vegetables cannot be purchased in this market. Butter, eggs, rags and bromine, are loudly called for.

As you are aware that frequent complaints are made in Northern newspapers, of the misappropriation of the supplies of the Sanitary Commission, my attention has been directed particularly to this matter, and I am convinced that the complaints are groundless. I could find no instance where medical officers live or board at the hospitals, or make use of any sanitary supplies. The officers either board in private families, or have a mess of their own—and the kitchens of the hospitals are for the most part under charge of ladies from the Christian or Sanitary Commissions, and the Surgeons have given me every facility for making the closest inquiries, and feel that the more fully the investigation is made, the more confidence will the people have in their honesty.

The men in the hospital are well cared for, and with the exception of the "professional grumblers," are contented and cheerful.

* * * * *

Blackberry wine and cordial, are highly valued at the hospitals, and a supply would do much good.

Rags and bandages in unlimited quantities are called for—the great numbers of wounded arriving demanding supplies.

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Rev. A. L. Payson reports:

My labors have been so varied and disconnected the past month, that it is somewhat difficult for me to send you a regular report of my immediate labors. Since the colored troops came, until their organization, we have had our hands full. Our labors have been unremitting and arduous. Since their organization they have been put in camp. Means were at once instituted to give them regular instruction, which has been continued, though necessarily with more or less interruption. It is truly astonishing to witness the rapid progress they have made. In some instances, they have learned the alphabet in fifty-five minutes, and in forty-eight hours they have remained in the camp, under the influence instituted, there was every indication that they would have made great improvement.

For their encouragement, special hours were selected for writing letters for them. The efforts expended in their behalf have resulted in great good, and fully establish the fact of the aptness of the colored man to learn to read and write. In carefully visiting the two infantry regiments organized, I found in the 114th (now ordered to Burnside Point,) there were one hundred and eighty-five able to read in the Testament—in the 116th, now in camp here, one hundred and thirty-two. Being deeply interested in the welfare of these men, I have devoted a portion of each day (in connexion with Rev. J. G. Fee, a most devoted man,) to the interests of the colored troops, in laying the foundation for their future advancement in knowledge.

My labors among the refugees have increased the past month. These circumstances have been such as to demand the attention of some one to meet their varied and multiplied wants.

The condition of the camp at the present time is as follows: At the Camp of Distribution there were one hundred and ninety men. An order has been issued calling for all able for field duty. One hundred and sixty have left.

In the convalescent Camp Hospital there are four hundred and twenty-three—fifty-four of these on low diet. The prevailing disease is said to be diarrhea. Of the ferent States represented in our hospitals-Michigan is said to have the ascendancy.

In the General Hospital I give you the number on the different diets in all its branches:

Number on low diet in Gen. Hospital	153
" half " "	81
" full diet in "	177
" low " Measles Ward	50
" half " "	7
" full " "	23
" in Small-pox branch	13
Total	504
Number of Nurses and Attendants	60
Total	564

There are about two hundred and thirty colored troops included in the above, about equal proportions of them on the different diets.

In the Prison Hospital there are twenty patients—about one half on *low* diet. In the Employees' Hospital seventeen patients—eight on low diet—five on half diet—diarrhea prevails.

The above are entirely dependent for Sanitary Supplies on the Home, except perhaps the General Hospital, which is in part supplied by the Cincinnati Branch. You will see the necessity that a suitable and full supply of stores be kept at this point. For some time past our calls have been very urgent, and for articles absolutely necessary for the comfort of the sick. I regret to say that we have not been able to answer these calls. Our supplies at present are entirely inadequate to meet the demands that will be made. We shall have large bodies of colored troops, and immediately on the appointment of medical officers a Regimental Hospital will be established. They will require more or less Sanitary supplies. The 114th Regiment U. S. Colored Troops that have been ordered to Burnside Point, will need looking after, having left without physician or medicine. The 49th Kentucky will leave, and of course all Medical and Sanitary Stores appertaining to the Regiment will be removed.

Of the last stores received nearly all have been given out to the different hospitals here. Should further calls be made by the hospitals or regiments here, we shall not be prepared to meet them.

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The Cumberland Hospital is located about a mile and a half from Nashville, and is on elevated ground. It was originally a field hospital, composed altogether of tents. The intention now is to remove the tents as fast as possible, and supply their places with more permanent structures. To give some definite idea of this little city of invalids, Mr. Woodruff, the Hospital Steward, furnishes the following statistics of this hospital. The hospital is generally regarded as very faithfully and efficiently managed:

The daily average of patients last month was 2,891; attendants, 190. Total patients and attendants, 3,081. Exclusive of the above attendants are fourteen colored men employed in policing the grounds, and seventy-three colored women employed as cooks, washers, and seamstresses. There are also nine white men and twenty white women employed in the laundry, included in the 190 attendants, employed as clerks, cooks, and helpers, ironers and seamstresses. There are washed and ironed daily, Sundays excepted, 2,500 pieces. We have one of David Parker's patent washers, with wringers attached, which is worked by steam, and will wash 160 pieces every fifteen minutes. This will be ready for use in a short time. We have a fine 18-horse power engine, which saws our wood, works the washers, and supplies the Laundry and "Special Diet Rooms" with hot and cold water.

The following provisions were drawn from the Post Commissary, and consumed in this hospital last month:

6,400 lbs. pork.	2,840 lbs. soap.
4,200 lbs. ham.	3,487 lbs. salt.
50,000 lbs. fresh beef.	75 lbs. black pepper.
2,500 lbs. mutton.	1,224 lbs. butter.
126,500 lbs. flour.	50 lbs. lard.
4,500 lbs. corn meal.	2,596 lbs. dried apples.
1,200 lbs. hominy.	904 lbs. dried peaches.
4,600 lbs. beans.	3,000 lbs white fish.
2,100 lbs. peas.	3,750 lbs. mackerel.
2,600 lbs. rice.	408 cans tomatoes.
4,160 lbs. coffee.	200 lbs. cheese.
402 lbs. tea.	100 bbls. raisins.
7,800 lbs. brown sugar.	456 lbs. white sugar.
125 gals. vinegar.	703 lbs. butter crackers.
264 gals. molasses.	811 doz. eggs.
10,621 lbs. candles.	

The total cost of the above provisions, at Government prices, was $20,996 55. In addition to the above there was purchased of private dealers, 6,806¼ gallons of fresh milk, at 30 cents per gallon; 267½ lbs. butter, 44 chickens, 4 bbls. vinegar, 1¾ bushels potatoes, 2 bushels of onions. Total cost of purchases for the month, $2,230.85.

The Medical Purveyor has furnished the hospital, during the month, with 23,250 lbs. of the best quality of ice. The Special Diet Rooms are admirably managed by ladies sent out by the U. S. Christian Commission. We now issue 250 gallons of fresh milk daily.

* * * * * *

A garden of fourteen acres, attached to the hospital, has furnished, up to July 31, the following vegetables: 150 bbls. lettuce; 4 bbls. mustard for greens; 180 bbls. beets

for greens, and 20 bbls. beets for pickles; 3 bbls. potatoes; 1,781 dozen radishes; 1,200 heads cabbages; 318 dozen cucumbers; 53 bushels string beans; 41 bushels green peas; 12 bushels tomatoes; 120 bushels onions. The garden promises further supplies of potatoes, beets, tomatoes, cabbages, carrots, turnips, parsnips, and radishes. The value of the vegetables furnished, at the market price, would be something over $2,000.

I beg further to state, that since February 1, 1864, there has been manufactured in the hospital 1,800 lbs. tallow candles, and 5,000 gallons soap from the tallow and grease saved from the pork and beef used here; there has also been sold for cash, and turned over to the contingent fund from grease and swill, the amount of $500.

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There have been gathered from the hospital garden of Chattanooga, for the use of the troops, up to the 20th of August, 8,934 bushels of onions, tomatoes, beets, &c., and 7,408 dozen of cucumbers, summer squash, corn, early cabbage, &c.

—

August 13.

The days of this past week have been filled with their regular round of duties—only not quite so *regular* to order as one might wish, for sometimes the duties seem to come in crowds.

Somebody has written that "two duties cannot conflict," that of two or more seeming duties, claiming the same time, but one is really such, the others not being duties till their turn comes. I think the writer above alluded to would be sometimes puzzled, if he were engaged in this good work, to determine which of many calls is really the duty. One cannot help ofttimes expressing the wish that, in view of all that needs to be done, he could multiply himself into half-a-dozen. And yet a week's work has but little to show. No one can track it—no one describe it. It is nothing but a few cups of cold water given here and there, every day. And even the name of the donor is not known one time in ten.

Here is a conversation with a sick man, the listening to all his complaints and ailments, and sympathizing with and encouraging him. There are a few words of kind, earnest, spiritual comfort and consolation given with a fervent prayer for the man's recovery. In this corner the visitor listens patiently to a boy just beginning to convalesce, who has not had, in a long time, *the luxury of a good listener*, as he tells how, at "Buzzard's Roost," he was watching his chances, slowly creeping from rock to rock, firing upward as he went, until suddenly he finds himself behind a rock too small to cover him entirely, and he knows that the sharp-shooter before him has discovered it, too, and is watching for the first movement of his head. But he keeps his head down and his legs together until he can't stand it any longer. So he raises his cap above his head the least bit—"*crack*" goes the other fellow's rifle—up he jumps, takes aim, "plugs" the other chap, and is safe behind another rock in a jiffy. So he fights his battles over, until the visitor, having scarcely spoken a word, rises to go, when the poor fellow expresses himself as much obliged for the visit—"it has done a heap of good—I love to hear you talk"—hopes you will come again soon, and with a smile of real pleasure on his face bids you adieu, while you feel that by that little act of, perhaps, some self-denial to yourself, you have administered a tonic to him better than the purest wine.

Then here again is a sick man, very low, with his wife beside him, God bless her! I have few fears for a man whose wife is beside him in hospital. It is, as the husband said to me, "diet, sleep, and sunshine." A curious combination, but I understood it. His food was sweeter, for she handed it to him; his sleep was *rest* now, for she watched over him, and her presence was sunshine all the time. The poor fellow did not know that he was talking "poetry and moonshine,"—but of this I wish there was a good deal more in our hospitals.

By the way, some of our good friends at the North have sent down occasionally checker boards, puzzles, and games. They are of great service to the convalescing patients, who need something cheery. I wish that they could be constantly supplied with some good, light reading, such as Harper's Magazine.

This is the season of fruits and berries. They are of great service to the men *where they can get them.*

I hope that this year again our good friends at Cleveland will not forget their grapes. They did so much good last year.

But I believe that these ladies do not need to be reminded.

—

ON THE RED RIVER.

Mr. Carpenter writes to Dr. Newberry, from Salem, Mass., August 20:

As I was not able to report from Red River, I will endeavor now to write the main items of my movements. As I notified you in my previous letter, I suceeded in getting my supplies of sanitary stores on board the Sallie List, and was ready to start up Red River on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 10th, but owing to a storm and very high wind we did not get away until Wednesday morning.

Arrived at the mouth of Red River on Sunday, May 15th, and immediately reported to Major-General Canby, who had arrived the day previous, and was on board the gunboat Black Hawk; was informed by him that it was impossible to get to Alexandria, and that all I could do was to await the turn of events; then went aboard hospital steamer Red Rover, found her full of sick and wounded, and entirely destitute of supplies; furnished them with what I had, and some articles that I did not have, I promised to send at the first opportunity.

Dr. J. H. Bixby, Chief Medical Officer on board, very kindly accompanied me through the boat, and explained the various purposes and arrangements with which it is fitted, and I never was more gratified at the perfect order and neatness with which every thing seems to have been provided and arranged for the comfort and well-being of the sick and suffering on board. The Surgeons and officers in charge are very gentlemanly, and appeared to be kind, humane and talented men.

I supplied the sick on gunboats lying there with their most essentially needed articles, and then went to the transports. I went on board each one as they came out of Red River, administering special relief in all cases where it was practical, and administering to all in need as far as possible.

I reported to Col. Voltura, (Medical Inspector,) the amount of stores that I had brought, and that they would be inadequate to the demand, requesting leave to send to New Orleans for an additional quantity, as I had learned that they had passed down the river, destined for that place. He informed me that he was to send immediately a telegraphic despatch for medical supplies, and would notify the Sanitary Commission also.

I reported to the Adjutant General every day, but could get no permission to pass up the river, as the troops were moving down and he feared we should pass them, and consequently not get our stores to them as soon as to wait where we were. I was very anxious and uneasy, as we were within sound of the guns of the battle all day.

On Thursday I received an invitation to dinner by the officers of the Black Hawk, flagship, and while there, an express came down from Lewisport, requesting sanitary stores to be sent at once. The captain, supposing me to be on board, cast off and proceeded up the river, so that to my great chagrin and annoyance, upon coming out from dinner, I found her out of sight. I went immediately on board the Dunleith, and followed her, arriving at Lewisport but a short time after. Found the agents from New Orleans there, and as they were, of course, better acquainted with the requirements of the different corps, having been on the ground with them, I turned all of the stores over to them. We arrived very opportunely, as their supply was entirely exhausted. Every one was rejoiced to see the stores come in; said "it seemed a perfect god-send almost, they came in just the 'nick of time'—did not see before what they were going to do, or how they were going to get along."

Assisted in the distribution, until they were all given out, and then reported to Gen. A. J. Smith for any volunteer duty that he might have occasion for—was requested by him to remain at the headquarters of the 16th Army Corps, and make myself useful whenever I saw opportunity. Went aboard the Sioux City, and worked all day, assisting the Surgeons, and in caring for the wounded, returning to headquarters at night, when moved down the river to Red River Landing. In the morning ascertained that the wounded coming up the Mississippi were to be transferred to the transport Choteau. I accordingly reported to Dr. Robbins, Surgeon in charge, who re-

quested me to come up with them, and assist them as far as might be.

In the evening the steamer Laurel Hill arrived from New Orleans, bringing a good supply of the most needed articles, and some hospital furniture. They came most acceptably, as I found the Choteau to be only a transport, and entirely unprovided with hospital furniture or appliances, the hospital steamer having been lost, with very nearly all her medical stores, furniture and medicines, consequently all we had to rely on until we reached Natchez, were the stores so fortunately supplied by the Commission.

As the acting steward was sick, Dr. Robbins requested me to assist him in his duties, and in caring for the comfort and well-being of the men as far as possible under the circumstances. The boat was crowded, through her cabins, on deck and on the guards, with wounded men as thickly as they could be laid, leaving hardly stepping room. The first thing to be done was to have them fed, which we succeeded in doing pretty satisfactorily, with the concentrated beef, fish, potatoes, crackers, farina, butter, milk, sugar, tea, coffee, etc., supplied by the Commission, and these were all we could get until we reached Natchez, as all the commissary stores we had were hams and flour, and which there was no opportunity of cooking, as there was but one stove on board, which was fully occupied in cooking for the crew, and what was indispensable for the wounded. The next, to get their bloody, dirty, ragged, and vermin infested clothing off—get them washed, and good clean Sanitary clothing put on, and it would have given any one with a heart in him, the most sincere gratification to witness the change produced in their looks and appearance, their greatly increased cheer and hopefulness—and to have heard their hearty expressions of thankfulness and gratitude.

As there were no cots or mattresses, we supplied their place as well as might be with the bed sacks, blankets, sheets and comforts, and pillows from the Commission; gave them combs, so they were enabled to hunt and capture a certain game which is altogether too abundant in camp life to be agreeable, and could be dispensed with without detriment anywhere; gave them handkerchiefs to wipe off their sweat; a good supply of fans; some reading matter, and occasionally a pipe full of tobacco for a quiet smoke, so that in a few hours the aspect of cheerless, dirty misery on the boat, was very much ameliorated.

I then assisted the surgeons as far as possible, in operating, examining, and dressing wounds, and in giving lemonade, ice-water or stimulants, as needed. The Surgeons, Drs. Robbins and Wood, were very kind, humane men, and laboring incessantly and without many of the most needed appliances, became completely exhausted and worn out, and the nurses being taken from the different regiments in the emergency, were mostly unacquainted with the duties required, making the service very irksome and wearing.

Upon reaching Vicksburg, Dr. Roberts was transferred and Dr. Sanborn placed in charge, who proceeded at once to make requisitions for the medical and hospital stores needed, and as the steamer was to take on wood during the night, I remained on shore and went up to the Sanitary rooms to procure some additional articles of which we were deficient, and a night's sleep and rest, a luxury which I had been deprived of for some time, and through the kind and hospitable attention of Mr. Way and others there, I found myself very much improved and ready for work again.

In the morning, before the supplies were got on board, the hospital steamer N. W. Thomas, in charge of Dr. Harris, fortunately arrived, and it was decided to transfer as many of the worst cases as could be accommodated, to that boat, leaving the rest in hospital at Vicksburg, Drs. Sanborn and Wood accompanying them still, on that boat. Finding Mr. Edgerly (an agent of the U. S. Sanitary Commission from New Orleans) on board, I turned over the sanitary stores to his charge, and at Dr. Harris's urgent request, continued in the same duties I had been filling. The next day Mr. Edgerly was taken sick, and upon our arrival at Memphis, we were obliged to leave him there. I was very sorry, as we were much in need of efficient help, the boat being loaded to her utmost capacity with very badly wounded men.

They required constant attention, and being but illy supplied with nurses, made it very laborious and exhausting, for it was impossible to rest with men in such condition.

It was very pleasant and gratifying to see their countenances brighten and the look of languor and hopelessness disappear for a time as one carried them great pailsful of delicious ice cold lemonade or milk punches, or hot coffee, as they required, and to hear their expressions of thankfulness and gratitude. Great strong men, or those who were so, previous to their sufferings, would cry like children at some unwonted attention or kindness. Such expressions as "God bless the Sanitary;" "this is a bully good thing, isn't it?" "ain't this great, boys?" "what should we have done if it hadn't been for the Sanitary?" "thank God for the help which always hits us in the right time?" ."Hurrah for the Sanitary Commission," &c., &c., were constantly heard on all sides.

One poor fellow from Iowa, suffering from an amputated leg and broken thigh, said "he lived away back, and had never heard much about the Sanitary Commission; did not know much about what it meant, (but, with tears in his eyes,) I've seen and felt what it means now." Another, an officer, from Illinois, said: "I've said and always thought the Sanitary Commission was a *humbug*, but if I ever say or think that again, it will be when I am out of my senses." Another, wounded by a shot through the lungs, said: "I always told the folks at home the Sanitary Commission did'nt amount to anything, and did not do us any good, for we never got anything from it, but now I know the reason, it is because I was not in a situation to receive it, and did not need it; but if it had not been for the Sanitary Commission I would not now be alive to tell it." Another with an arm amputated at the shoulder, said: "It is almost worth being wounded to know how much they think of and are trying to do for us at home." Another one, who was shot through the body, after being washed, fed, getting on clean clothes, and a pipe full of tobacco to smoke, said: "I'm all right now, and when I get this *hole* growed up I'll pitch in and give them fits again."

I might multiply instances indefinitely, but these are enough to show the feeling manifested. How much good a few cheering, hopeful words would do, could be seen in their brightened eyes and happy countenances at any time, and to sit down and talk awhile with them about home, friends, and the hopes of the future, relieved very much the dragging, weary hours of suffering. Reading matter was also in great request and very useful.

I remained on duty, although quite sick myself, until I saw the last one comfortably on his cot in the hospital at Jefferson Barracks, and then was obliged to succumb. Of my being left in hospital at St. Louis, and subsequent movements, I have advised you in previous letters.

I do not intend this as a report, which should have been forwarded immediately upon my return, but I was unable to do so, but merely to give you a brief summary of my doings from my last report.

Enclosed please find list of names of those who died on the passage. The effects of Thomas Harbison, private Co. H, 24th Indiana, which were turned over to me, I left with Mr. Way, at Memphis, to be forwarded to his friends. The facts in each case for the use of Hospital Directory, are stated as far as practicable, or as they could be ascertained.

I am still at Salem, Mass., and I think am deriving great benefit from a change of scene, the invigorating salt breeze, sea bathing, rest, &c., and the medical treatment I am taking, I hope, will soon fit me for duty again as usual.

VALUE OF THE HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

Annexed is an extract from a letter of H. H. Beebe, Chief Clerk of the Hospital Directory, which illustrates its value as the agency where information is gathered, which is not elsewhere secured:

The foreign letter which you handed me last evening was an inquiry for information, from John Phillips, of South Wales, Great Britain, regarding Lieut. William B. Phillips, Adjutant of the 2d Pennsylvania Prov. Artillery. A great deal of anxiety was expressed, as he had not been heard from since the 21st of June. It gives me pleasure to state that I was enabled to reply to this letter at once, deriving my information from a very unusual channel, taking

all the coincidences into consideration; and the circumstances being so peculiar, the information so reliable, and the usefulness of the Hospital Directory so well proven, I desire to relate the matter to you, that you may enjoy the pleasure also of seeing "the good we do."

I was enabled to write Mr. Phillips that in the assault on Petersburg, Va., July 30th, Adjutant William B. Phillips, of 2d Pennsylvania Prov. Artillery, was taken prisoner, in company with Captains Norris and Millard, and Lieut. Kellow, of the same regiment.

Mrs. Norris had inquired at this office on three or four different occasions for information of her husband, but we could give her none. She came here only three or four days since and stated that she had received a letter from her husband, who was a prisoner of war at Petersburg, Va., and well. The letter came by flag-of-truce. It mentioned the other officers alluded to, and Mrs. N. had brought the letter here to ask me to record this information on our books, they having been reported as *killed*. The record was taken, and this inquiry received last night was answered from that record. I should also add that the same Adjutant Phillips was inquired for in a letter received from an intelligent lady at Hyde Park, Pa., only yesterday, and immediately answered.

A RAINY DAY IN CAMP.

[The following lines are from the pen of the late Mrs. Robert S. Howland, and have been already widely circulated through other channels, but as we have already published most of her other poems, we think the appearance of this also will be welcome to most readers of the Bulletin.]

It's a cheerless, lonesome evening,
When the soaking, sodden ground
Will not echo to the footfall
Of the sentinel's dull round.

God's blue star-spangled banner
To-night is not unfurled;
Surely *He* has not deserted
This weary, warring world.

I peer into the darkness,
And the crowding fancies come;
The night wind, blowing northward,
Carries all my heart toward home.

For I listed in this army
Not exactly to my mind;
But my country called for helpers,
And I couldn't stay behind.

So, I've had a sight of drilling,
And have roughed it many ways,
And Death has nearly had me;
Yet I think the service pays.

It's a blessed sort of feeling—
Whether you live or die—
You helped your country in her need,
And fought right loyally.

But I can't help thinking sometimes,
When a wet day's leisure comes,
And I hear the old home voices
Talking louder than the drums—

And the far familiar faces
Peep in at my tent door,
And the little children's footsteps
Go pit-pat on the floor—

I can't help thinking, somehow,
Of all the parson reads
About that other soldier life
Which every true man leads.

And wife, soft-hearted creature,
Seems a-saying in my ear,
"I'd rather have you in *those* ranks
Than to see you brigadier."

I call myself a brave one,
But in my heart I lie!
For my country, and her honor,
I am fiercely free to die;

But when the Lord, who bought me,
Asks for my service here,
To "fight the good fight" faithfully,
I'm skulking in the rear.

And yet I know this Captain
All love and care to be:
He would never get impatient
With a raw recruit like me.

And I know he'd not forget me;
When the day of peace appears,
I should share with him the victory
Of all his volunteers.

And it's kind of cheerful, thinking,
Beside the dull tent-fire,
About that big promotion,
When he says, "Come up higher."

And though it's dismal—rainy—
Even now, with thoughts of him,
Camp life looks extra cheery,
And death a deal less grim.

For I seem to see him waiting,
Where a gathered heaven greets
A great, victorious army,
Marching up the golden streets.

And I hear him read the roll-call,
And my heart is all a-flame,
When the dear, recording angel
Writes down my happy name!

But my fire is dead white ashes,
And the tent is chilling cold,
And I'm playing *win the battle*,
When I've never been enrolled!

WORDS OF CHEER.

We take the following extract from a letter recently received by the Woman's Central Association of Relief, dated Conway, Mass., August 2, 1864:

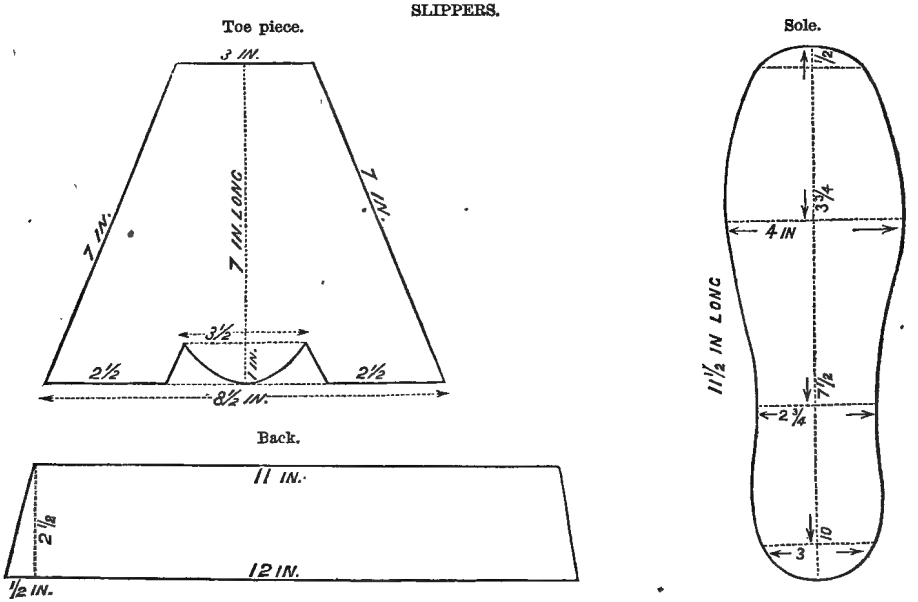
"In a former barrel some of our ladies wrote notes and put them into the socks, etc. Many have received answers. This has contributed much to the interest here in our armies. Some letters were from the hospitals, some from the navy, some from the field, near Petersburg, and in nearly all, a 'God bless the Sanitary Commission.' One letter, in which our people were greatly interested, was from an Assistant Surgeon of the 25th New York Cavalry.

"In this barrel is a pair of socks knit by a lady who is ninety-seven years old on the 24th of this month. She is ready and anxious to do all she can.

"We have just had a number of pieces of wool given us, which our Society will color, spin and knit for the soldiers. They make much better socks than yarn we purchase."

PATTERNS FOR HOSPITAL CLOTHING.—No. 3.

SLIPPERS.



REQUIRED FOR A PAIR OF SLIPPERS.

5½ yards common woolen carpet binding.
2½ knots strong linen thread.

DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING SLIPPERS.

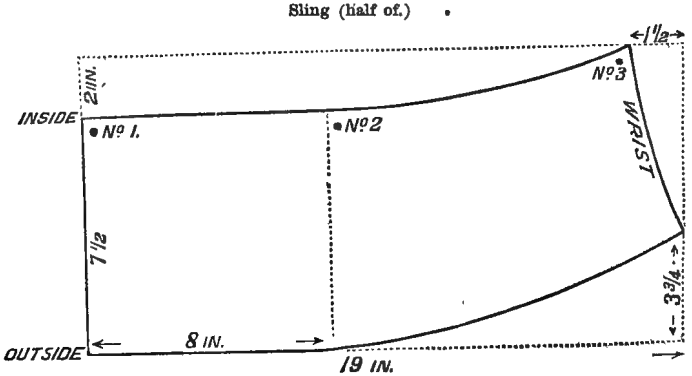
Slippers should be made of carpeting or stout woolen cloth and lined with cotton or cotton flannel.

Each part should be bound and the three parts sewed together by the binding.

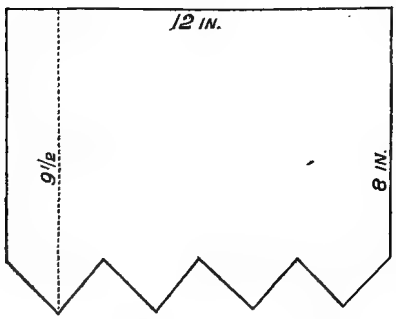
A stiff sole of pasteboard or sole leather should be inserted between the lining and outside.

ARM SLING.

Sling (half of.)



RATION BAG.



DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING SLINGS.

Slings may be made of calico or any other strong material.

The two halves should be sewed together only on the outer side and the edges hemmed.

Strings should be placed on both halves, as per dots in diagram. (Six strings.)

Those at No. 1 are of unequal length, one being 27 inches long, the other 11 inches. The four other strings are 27 inches long.

DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING RATION BAGS.

Ration Bags should be made of enamelled cloth. The four points should be sewed together so as to form a flat bottom and the side sewed up to make it into a bag. The top should be bound with cotton and tape strings run in.

THE SANITARY MOVEMENT IN ITALY.

THE NEUTRALITY OF THE WOUNDED IN TIME OF WAR.

The following paper on this important subject, was read at the meeting of the Pontanian Academy on the 27th of December, 1863, by Dr. Palasciano, Resident Member:

GENTLEMEN—Too memorable for us all was the assembly of the 20th of January, 1861, at which the Academy resolved to celebrate the events which gained for us our political regeneration, for me to suppose that the proposition I had the honor of making can be effaced from your heart. I mean that we should undertake to promote the amelioration of the fate of the wounded in battle, and to favor and diffuse the tendency of saving them from mutilation and hastening their recovery, certain that we could not offer a more acceptable homage to the King and Gen. Garibaldi, our liberator.

You did not disdain accepting my offer of a prize for a competition on the treatment of gunshot wounds, and vied with each other in exertions to gain this aim as soon as possible.

But the want of a work which could deserve the prize, the willingness with which the medical profession answered our appeal, the number and importance of the memoirs which reached us within the very limited time conceded to us, and the interviews which the professors of natural sciences were obliged to grant to each individually, showed that this theme had revealed one of the most urgent requisites of our era, a prevision very lately and unfortunately verified in the person of our wounded liberator himself.

It was then, at the meeting of the 28th April, 1861, that on proposing a new competition on the same subject, accompanied by explanations and facilitations, I arrived at this conclusion—that the means proper for preventing mutilation, and saving the limbs broken by fire-arms, are not so entirely in the power of the surgeon as they are in that of his science; and by the history of surgery, and the statistics of gunshot wounds, I proved clearly, that when very few fire-arms were employed, and with no precision, that when a great quantity of baggage was required, and the marches were slow, the necessity of amputation was less required in the armies.

Afterwards the perfection of arms, the additional number of troops, generated impetuosity, rashness, and carelessness, and increased beyond measure the cases of amputations and deaths; whilst where there is method and discipline amputations may not only be nearly abolished, but the Surgeon-General Bilguer, in a remarkable work published by him at Berlin in 1761, reckoned 6,618 wounded in various ways, who were treated without amputation, and from that number 653 died, 213 invalided, 193 veterans, and 5,557 were cured. Since the invention of ambulanze volanti, (flying ambulances,) in the early part of the present century, the greatest number of amputated who died has been 51 per cent. In the naval engagements of Aboukir, Brest, New Orleans, and Navarino, the deaths after amputation never exceeded 24 per cent.; whereas, in the wars of late years, in the Crimea and in Italy, the number of deaths among the amputated reached as far as 77 per cent.

On examining all the causes of the enormous disparity of the results obtained by the surgeons of the above epochs, I found the two following singularly prevalent: the much longer and more rapid mode of conveyance to which the wounded were subjected during the comparatively short recent wars, and the crowded state in the ambulances and hospitals, on account of the more powerful engines of destruction which are now used. From this I thought, that if it should be desirable to put a limit to the great proportion of deaths succeeding amputations, it will be necessary to operate and dress the wounds of the sufferers in the greatest proximity to the battle-field itself, in villages, country houses, barracks, hovels, and other like places of shelter, and be able to leave them there till the beginning of the period of cicatrization. If this is not done, I said, it is to be feared that the progress of the exterminating power of war will increase so far, that for the sick and wounded soldier no other remedy will be found than that which inflexible logic was forced to demand for the plague-stricken at Giaffa. It appeared impossible and exaggerated, yet we have heard this year that in unfortunate Poland the wounded are buried alive in one common grave with

the dead! Horrid atrocity, to which I have no reason to give faith.

Therefore, the necessity of perfect quietude, pure air, and more prompt assistance to the wounded for the amelioration of their state being acknowledged, I entreated every government to come to the aid of medical science, which alone cannot prevent the transfer of the wounded, nor provide the means required for their being assisted near the battle-field. It would be necessary, I stated, that the contending powers in their declaration of war should reciprocally acknowledge the principle of "neutrality of the soldiers severely wounded or sick, during the whole time of their cure," and that they should respectively adopt the "unlimited increase of the medical staff during the whole time of the war."

This, my first discourse "On the neutrality of the wounded in time of war," was sent to Paris by the French chargé d'affaires at Naples, on the same day of its reading, and no doubt our Government received it at the same time as the academical report to the Minister of Public Instruction. But whilst Governments meditate, or at least one must think so, public opinion does not remain inactive. On the 10th of June, 1861, Arrault published in Paris, a "Notizia industriale sul perfezionamento della Ambulanze Volanti,"* by which he claimed the inviolability of military doctors, assistants, and "ambulanze." To these demands the eloquent Borie gave his support, by an article in the *Siècle* of the 1st of August, 1861.

For this reason, in my second discourse, of December the 29th, 1861, on the same subject, in which I informed you of other people's opinion, and discussed the measures that appeared to me erroneous or imperfect, I gave you ampler explanations of my idea on the neutrality of the wounded, and particularly sought the means of effectuating it.

At that period an international congress seemed imminent, on account of the Anglo-American version of the affair of the St. Jacinto, which was precisely to have had for its object the determination of the rights and obligations of neutrals during the war, and I thought that if the principle of neutrality of the wounded in battle should be adopted, either by means of a stipulation in a congress, or by a mutual private agreement between the contending powers in the act of the intimation of war, its effectuation would be most easily achieved.

For this, it would be sufficient that the contending armies should bind themselves—1st. To make a reciprocal restitution of all the wounded prisoners immediately after each battle. 2. That the wounds should be dressed on the battle-field itself, by the personal medical staff of each party, when the patient could not well undergo an immediate removal with impunity. 3. That the medical staff in proportion to the number of wounded men left for treatment on the enemy's territory, should be allowed to pass with a safe conduct and escort, remain as long as necessary, and afterwards should be given up during an armistice to the outposts or frontiers of the enemy. 4. That all the food, lodging, and medicaments required on the territory of the enemy should be provided by the commissariat of the place, against a receipt from the acting surgeon, to be repaid after the war. 5. That from besieged places, besides the same reciprocal surrender of the wounded, the besieged ought to be allowed to send forth their own wounded, provided a neutral State should consent to receive them, or should the besiegers generously offer them an asylum.

Now that the potentates are to assemble "sans système préconçu, sans ambition exclusive, animés par la seule pensée d'établir un ordre de choses fondé désormais sur l'intérêt bien compris des souverains et des peuples," as the Emperor Napoleon said on the 5th of November, what greater interest can a citizen feel than in the act of mercy which causes him to sacrifice himself for the welfare of his fellowmen? However, together with the "Manual of Military Surgery," published and diffused by you after the above-mentioned concourse, in January, 1862, appeared the two discourses on the neutrality of the wounded, which were reproduced about the same period in the "Imparziale of Florence," and whilst medical science received such an impulse that in less than two years we now possess, besides the above manual, "Cenni sulla cura delle ferite d'armi da fuoco del Baroffio." (Torino, 1862,) the work of de Sanctis, which has been justly confuted and disproved in your report, "La Guida Teorica Pratica del Medico Militare in Campagna, del Cortese," (Torino, 1862,) and "Le Traité de Chirurgie d'Armée," de Legouest, (Paris, 1863,) the idea respecting the neutrality of the wounded, and of an unlimited addition to the medical staff in time of war having become known in Geneva, as also the portion of the prize offered to Appia, it gained immense favor in that city. Its stanchest upholder and propagator, Mr. Henry Dunant, an eye-witness of the sanguinary episodes of the battle of Solferino, during which he volunteered his services as assistant on the wounded, has availed himself of the narration of this battle to interest public opinion, the press, and the Society of Public Utility in Switzerland in favor of the amelioration of the state of the wounded, and especially of founding relieving committees for sending volunteer assistants on the field of battle, such as those who followed the army of our liberator in 1860, Although he had not the right of priority which is attributed to him by Sauvestre, in the *Opinione Nazionale* of the 10th of November, 1863, because his work, "Un Souvenir de Solferino," was printed at Geneva in 1862; and a note, (page 61,) contains the declaration that these records were collected more than three years after having taken place.*

Nevertheless, it is undeniable that the progress made by our humanitarian ideas is in part due to his exertions. A commission appointed by the Genevese Society of Public Utility, and composed of General Dufour, M. Moynier, Drs. Maunoir and Appia, with Dunant, as Secretary, was charged with presenting to the International Congress of Statistics, assembled at Berlin, in September last, a report on the formation of permanent committees of relief for the

* Industrial notes on the perfection of ambulances.

* Comme ce n'est qu'apres plus de trois ans que je me suis décidé à rassembler des souvenirs pénibles que je n'avais pas eu l'intention de livrer a l'impression, &c.

wounded soldiers in time of war. This proposition was also supported by the Vaudois Society of Public Utility, by the Neufchatel Society for the Progress of Social Sciences, and the Congress of Berlin decreed that an international conference should take place at Geneva, on the 26th of October, in order to inquire into the means of supplying the deficiency of the sanitary service of marching armies. This conference was presided over by Gen Dufour, and represented by many nations, who sent their delegates, viz :—Austria, Dr. Unger, Chief Medical Officer of the Army; Baden, Dr. Steiner, Chief Medical Officer; Bavaria, Dr. Dampierre, Chief Medical Officer of the Royal Artillery; Spain, Major Landa, Staff Surgeon, Dr. Préval, of the Imperial Guard, and Dr. Boudier, Chief Medical Man; England, Dr. Rutherford, Inspector-General of the Hospitals, and Mackenzie, Consul at Geneva; Hanover, Oelker; Hesse, Brodbrick, Staff Surgeon; Italy, G. Campello, Consul at Geneva; the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Prince Henry of Reuss, Delegate of Prince Charles of Prussia, himself Grand Master of the Order; the Low Countries, Busting, Staff Surgeon of the Grenadiers and Chasseur of the Guards, and Captain Van de Velde, ex-Officer of Marine; Prussia, Dr. Hoxscalle, M.D., Councillor of Medical Staff, and Dr. Loeffler, Court Physician; Russia, Captain Kireiew, Field Adjutant of the Grand Duke Constantine, and Iosakoff, Librarian to the Grand Duchess Eleanor Paolana; Saxony, Gunther, Head Physician of the Army; Sweden, Dr. Henry Skoeldberg, Inspector of the Medical Staff, and Dr. Edling; Wurtemburg, Drs. Hahn and Wagner; Switzerland, Dr. Lehman, Head of the Medical Staff of the Federal Army, and Dr. Brierè, of the Medical Staff of Division.

The conference assembled during four consecutive days, and issued the following resolutions: 1. That in every country a committee should be formed for the purpose of contributing by all possible means, to the medical service of the troops in time of war. The committee shall form itself in whatever way it shall think most useful and convenient. 2. Each committee must put itself in relation with the government it belongs to, so that any offer of service may be acceptable when necessary. 3. Unlimited sections can form themselves to aid the committee to which belongs the general direction. 4. In time of peace the committees and sections shall occupy themselves in seeking the means of becoming really useful in time of war, and especially in preparing material support of every species, and endeavoring to form and qualify volunteer assistants. 5. In case of war the committees of the hostile nations shall, to the extent of their means, provide succors for their respective army, and especially qualify and practice the volunteer assistants, and with the concurrence of the military authorities, settle the locality to receive the wounded. They may solicit the concourse of the committees belonging to neutral nations. 6. At the request or acquiescence of military authority, the committees can send the volunteer assistants under the direction of the military chiefs, to the seat of war. 7. The volunteer assistants destined to follow armies must be furnished with every provision required for their maintenance by their respective committees. 8. They are to wear in every country, as a distinctive sign of uniform, a white leather cuff, with a red cross. 9. The committees and sections of different countries may meet in international congresses, to communicate to each other their experience, and concert on the resolutions to be taken for the interest of the cause. 10. The exchange of communications between the committees of different nations is to be accomplished provisionally by the medium of the committee of Geneva.

Independently of the above resolutions, the conference issued the following votes:—A. That the government should grant their chief protection to the relieving committees which are being formed, and facilitate as far as possible the accomplishment of their intentions. B. That the neutralization be proclaimed in time of war by the hostile nations respecting "le ambulanze" and hospitals, and that it be also granted in the most distinct manner to the staff of medical officers, to the volunteer assistants, to the inhabitants of the country who may go to succor the wounded, as well as to the wounded themselves. C. That a distinctive device be allowed to the medical staff of every army, or at least to those of the army they belong to, and that a particular identical flag should be adopted in every country for the ambulances and hospitals.

This is neither the time nor place wherein to discuss the propriety of the determination taken by the committee of Geneva, and far less its application to permanent armies. It is sufficient for us that the international conference meeting at Geneva should have adopted our principle of neutrality in favor of the wounded in battle, and the unlimited increase of the medical staff in time of war.

That the neutrality should be proclaimed by the hostile parties in time of war, rather than by a congress such as that of Paris, was unimportant to us; that during war there should be a penury of medical men, rather than of volunteer assistants, is a subject not worth investigating, provided no condition or limit is put to the increase of the medical staff.

I do not know, if the convocated congress of Paris will take place, if in what concerns the welfare of the people will be comprised the neutrality of the wounded in battle, nor if Italy, who has the priority of the idea, will have ministers who aspire at the honor of being initiated in so humanitarian a principle. But whatever may result from the above suppositions, we shall never cease to require the greatest perseverance in the attainment of our aim, and to co-operate, as far as we possibly can, and with our utmost exertions, to secure the amelioration of the position of the wounded in battle.

Most of the therapeutic principles which predominate in the "Manuale di Chirurgia Militare" published by you, and which tend to spare the mutilation and life of the wounded, have been adopted by two eminent writers, Legouest and Cortese, whose works appeared since the publication of your "Manual."

Nevertheless, Legouest acknowledges that in the Crimea gunshot fractures of the thigh, treated with the preservation of that limb, were five times more successfully cured than those whose thigh was amputated on account of severe wounds ("lesione traumatica") in the lower

limb or leg, and when he treats of the therapeutic principle, he concludes by saying—"dans de bonnes conditions, c'est à dire, dans les cas de fractures simples, sans perte de substance ossense étendue, lorsque le blessé ne doit pas être transporté, et qu'il est placé dans un lieu salubre et pourvu de toutes les ressources matérielles et chirurgicales, l'amputation peut être écartée; dans les conditions opposées, l'amputation doit être pratiquée." French medical men know now that for want of material and surgical resources, and from the necessity of removing the wounded, they are forced, with their own hands, to sacrifice one quarter at least of their amputated of the thigh. Some day they may refuse to lend themselves to so cruel a necessity, and claim or enforce conditions to avoid it.

Dr. Cortese, who professes therapeutic principles of military surgery far more conservative than Legouest's, issues the following sentence: "For the lower limbs, besides the length of time required for the operation of resection, (risegamento,) a quiet position is so necessary that it is incompatible with a forcible removal. If the improvements that are to be introduced in the science of surgery can be obtained so far as to free it from the obstacles which are an impediment to the surgical operations in the ambulance, it is evident that resections will soon have the preference over amputations. The preservation of the limb by the hoped for method has not had hitherto the happy results which in my opinion will be obtained more amply hereafter. Many other impediments have hitherto prevented its beneficial influence besides those which concern conservative operations. Of these may be enumerated the following:—1. The excessive accumulation of wounded in the hospital wards, by which the air becomes tainted and generates putrefaction. Among the many human infirmities, none require more imperiously that the air should be pure, and often renovated, than those in rooms where a great number of wounds of that kind require long time for suppuration. After a sanguinary war, and still more, during a long contested battle, it is difficult to find sufficient space to supply these deficiences. 2. The want of well-prepared apparatuses to insure the perfect steadiness of the limb, even when undergoing a daily dressing. 3. The deficiency of intelligent and constant surgical assistants, who, among the numerous duties required of them, could devote to each peculiar case the diligent and constant medications it may require."

The learned Signor Cortese is inspector of health in the Italian army, and his fearful revelations will certainly not have been published without his having often appealed in vain to obtain from our government the necessary requisites.

It is now the duty of the Italian people to take note of these revelations, and should war break out some further sacrifices must be made, and not allow their defenders to be mutilated for want of a few livres, the cost of a set of well-prepared apparatuses, and persons able to the use of them. As to medical men, if in the heart of many there still remains any doubt or uncertainty which the aphorisms of our manual are intended to remove respecting the treatment of gunshot wounds, it will be easier to come to an understanding on the subject by a serious and peaceful discussion when we are better prepared for the day of trial.

STATEMENT DELIVERED AT THE MEETING OF THE 6TH MARCH, 1864.

In addition to my discourse on the 13th of December "Il Congresso e l'Italia," respecting the neutrality of the wounded in time of war, I have the honor of submitting to you the following remarks, which will show you the rapid progress obtained by the humanitarian principle of the neutrality of the wounded soldiers, which you so warmly approved of in this hall the first day it was proclaimed, 28th of April, 1861. The Society of Public Utility in Geneva, after the international congress of which I informed you, sent to all the European states an official circular containing the following inquiries:

1. Is government disposed to grant its high protection to the committee of relief for the wounded which is being formed in its own country, in consequence of the resolutions of the conference of Geneva, and to promote as far as possible the fulfilment of its mission? 2. Would government adhere to an international convention, having for its aims (A) the neutrality in time of war of the "ambulanze" and military hospitals of the medical staff, of the volunteer assistants presented by the committee of relief of the inhabitants of the place who might be going to succor the wounded, and of the military wounded themselves? (B) The adoption of an uniform or a distinctive sign common to the staff belonging to the sanitary service, and of a particular flag for the "ambulanze" and hospitals? Should this last proposition be accepted, would there be any objection to the adopting for all the leather cuff and the white flag with a red cross? Many governments have already answered officially. At the entreaties of Dr. Lehmann, the Swiss Federal Council authorized the military department to meet the wishes above mentioned, on condition that the states on the confines of Switzerland would adhere likewise to the international convention.

Then followed the adhesions of Wurtemburg, of Russia, France, and Denmark. In Stockholm, under the superintendence of Dr. Hahn, an important society has been instituted, with an auxiliary diramation of ladies belonging to the high nobility of Wurtemberg, proclamations and appeals have been issued all over the country.

In Prussia, a large central committee has been formed by the Prince Henry XIII., of Reuss, and by the private counsellor Housselle, both deputies of Prussia to the Congress of Geneva. In this committee, next to Prince Radziwill, Count Arnim, Count Stolberg-Vernigerode, Chancellor of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, stand the librarian Wagner, the Israelite banker Mendelssohn, the protestant and catholic clergymen. . . . . In Prussia only they have not been very diligent in constituting such a committee, because the minister of Roon, on account of the insufficiency of Prussian deaconesses, has been obliged to have recourse to the superior in chief of the sisterhood of St. Carlo, at Nancy (Meurthe,) and request

her to send to Schleswig sisters disposed to attend on the Prussian catholic sick and wounded, and directly eighteen sisters started from Treves for the seat of war. King William, of Prussia, has expressed many times his strong sympathy for this pious undertaking, to which he has granted his most powerful protection. He professes the principle of neutrality for the wounded, and has no doubt it will be generally admitted.

In France, the army warmly approves the principle of neutrality, and the Emperor Napoleon wrote to Dunant to assure him of his wish to contribute to this mission by promoting the formation of the French committee. He declares publicly his approval of the object of the conference, and of the efforts made to insure its success; allows his sympathies to be made known, and orders the Minister of War to authorize some of the chief officers to take part in the committee instituted in Paris by Dunant.

By a despatch from Copenhagen, dated the 28th January, 1864, the Minister of War of Denmark has informed the committee of Geneva of the official adhesion of his country to the votes of the conference. In Spain, the Prince D. Sebastian has undertaken to sustain with vigor the neutrality and the improvement of the condition of the wounded. In Italy (says the *Journal of Geneva* of the 20th February, 1864,) a patriotic appeal in favor of the international society has been largely diffused, by the care of Signor Guido Corsini, secretary of the Dantescan commission; a committee has been instituted in Florence, and the eldest son of the king, Prince Umberto, has declared that he would promote and protect all societies formed in this country towards this pious work.

You know that in Italy more than this has been done, and the press of Geneva is not ignorant of it, for in its journal of the 26th December, 1863, it claims for Naples the priority of the idea of the neutrality of the wounded, which it says it enunciated in 1861, "dans une brochure connue à Génève, puis qu'elle avait donné lieu à un concours, où des Genevois avaient concouru."

Justice and logic, after this, ought to have claimed, as a symbol of the neutrality, a white cross on a red ground, instead of a red cross on a white ground. But this must be decided by our governing powers, and we have no right to judge them before the work is begun. It is undeniable, however, that the activity of Dunant, and of the committee of Geneva, in their efforts to spread the adopted principle, deserve great praise, and we think that the periodical press, particularly the *Giornale di Ginevra*, deserves some likewise; which, to convince the unbelievers of the possibility of effectuating the principle of the neutrality of the wounded, recalls the following historical facts:

In 1743, in the war of the succession of Austria, Marshal de Noailles, commanding the French army, concluded a treaty on this subject, in Aschaffenbourg, with Count Stair, commander of the English army, and these generals engaged reciprocally to respect and protect the hospitals, which was scrupulously done during the war. On the 6th of February, 1759, at Ecluse, in Flanders, a similar treaty, containing the same identical details, was entered into by the Marquis du Barrail for the King of France, and Sir Henry Seymour Conway for the King of England.

The treaty of the 7th of September, 1769, between Frederick the Great, King of Prussia, and France, which was punctually adhered to on both sides, entailed the duty of taking great care of the sick and wounded, and not to take prisoners either clergymen, doctors, surgeons, apothecaries, nurses, assistants, or any other party attached to hospital service.

In 1800, General Moreau, commander of the French army, proposed a similar treaty to the Austrian general, Kray, who refused to accept it, and thus during sixty-four years, through the interference of the upholders of divine right, justice and humanity has been silenced, while we think ourselves on the road of progress and civilization.

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☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

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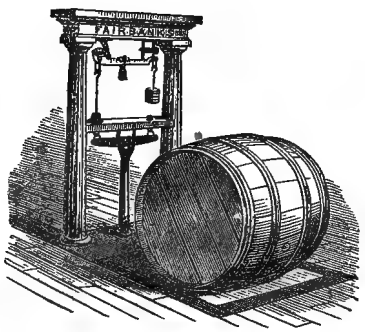
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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall Street, or No.* 823 *Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

THE SANITARY COMMISSION IN THE SHENANDOAH.

The Sanitary Commission has long made Harper's Ferry a centre of operations. Though the late important battle of the Opequan was unannounced, Col. Muhlech, in charge of the Commission's work at that point and vicinity, including Cumberland, Martinsburg, and Winchester, Va., was promptly on the field of battle with his corps of assistants and stores, which were most welcome to the men and the Medical Department. The store-house at Harper's Ferry was quickly emptied, but the second day after the battle a fresh supply of articles most needed arrived from Baltimore, where they had been stored in anticipation of such a call. The distance from the Ferry to Winchester, where the wounded were gathered, is thirty-six miles, without rail communication, and the country infested with guerrillas. Supplies were immediately pushed forward in wagons under the protection of a cavalry escort. Thirteen four-horse army wagons are used in this work, with the occasional addition of wagons and ambulances, generously provided by the military authorities. These wagon-trains are run day and night, and thus far without loss. For aid and protection in this difficult part of the work the Commission is greatly indebted to General Stevenson, in command at Harper's Ferry, and Col. Edwards, Thirty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, commanding post at Winchester.

On the day of the battle Dr. J. F. Jenkins, the General Secretary, with Mr. F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary, and Mr. John S. Blatchford, of Boston, started for the field, and with Col. Muhlech they rap-

idly effected a thorough organization of the work, commensurate with an emergency so great. It may be truly said that the Commission has never used its resources with more efficiency and beneficent result than at this time, and the good work daily goes on—thanks to a generous public whose gifts it dispenses.

Agents have been rapidly sent forward from this city and from Philadelphia, and there is now on the ground a working force of about forty men.

Winchester is well nigh one vast hospital, forty (40) buildings being used for their purpose. Outside the town the new camp hospital, called the Sheridan, is fast organizing, to which the wounded will soon be transferred. In connection with this a Diet Kitchen has been established, by the Commission, and placed under the charge of Miss Harris. The town hospitals have been divided into seven districts, and a portion of the Commission's work in these has been assigned to seven most estimable Union ladies, who will be assisted by others, also residents of the town. Let these patriotic and Christian ladies be remembered! Their kind deeds have gladdened many of our weary and sick and wounded men in other campaigns, and their devotion is limited only by lack of resources.

We add the names of those who are acting as Agents for the Commission:

Mrs. Trippe, Miss Allie Sharp, Miss Hattie Griffith, Miss Sallie Diffenderfer, Miss Martha L. Sidwell, Miss Mattie Shumate, Miss Annie Diffenderfer.

At the hospital of Confederate wounded, in charge of their own surgeons, Mrs. Williams, of Winchester, has been appointed agent, being peculiarly fitted for this difficult position. A certain portion of the stores is consigned to her for distribution. The seriously wounded will be retained in the General Hospital instead of being transported to distant places at the risk of life. For this merciful decision we are indebted to Dr. Brinton, the excellent Medical Director.

The following list will partially indicate the variety and quantities of articles needed at such crises of a campaign, being those forwarded from Baltimore up to September 28, and not including the goods in store at Harper's Ferry, at the beginning of the battle, which amounted to about five wagon loads. The value is about $40,000:

3,825 wool shirts.
3,556 wool drawers.
4,380 handkerchiefs.
3, 64 pairs wool socks.
500 blankets.
500 quilts.
896 bed sacks.
6,062 cushions.
618 pillow ticks.
680 pillows.
1,024 pillow cases.
1,190 cotton drawers.
516 cotton shirts.
480 pairs slippers.
559 sheets.
1 200 pairs cotton socks
45 pieces mosquito netting.
15 pieces oil silk.
40 bbls. crackers.
540 lbs dessicated eggs.
960 lbs. roast beef.
3,816 lbs. condensed milk.
1,316 lbs. beef stock.
2,195 lbs. coffee.
1,852 lbs. sugar.
206 lbs. tea.
384 lbs. peaches.
10 bbls. eggs.
22 boxes lemons.
3,560 lbs. chocolate.
8 bbls. potatoes.
1 bbl. vinegar.
157 bbls. dried apples.
320 lbs. corn starch.
384 lbs. farina.
60 lbs. canned chicken.
47 lbs. butter.
2,093 bottles whisky.
600 bottles cherry wine.
78 galls. pickles.
256 bot's blackberry brandy.
888 bottles Jamaica ginger.
12 bottles alcohol.
12 bottles Jamaica rum.
170 lbs. candles.
430 lbs. soap.
1,204 tin cups.
260 bed-pans.
50 feeding cups.
240 spit-cups.
509 tin plates.
154 tin basins.
108 lanterns.
12 doz. candlesticks.
150 headrests.
12 bed tables.
47,000 envelopes.
50 reams note paper.
179 doz. chewing tobacco.
179 doz. smoking tobacco.
10 hhds. ice.
1,101 pairs crutches.
240 prs. shoes.
25 lbs. sponges.
775 towels.
96 lbs canned tomatoes.
1,000 fans.
200 lbs. maizena.
5 galls. tamarinds.

pails, spoons, knives and forks, brooms, washboards, washtubs, baskets, chisels, tacks, hatchets, axes, saws, hammers, corkscrews, can-openers, lamps, kettles, stoves, oil, pans, boilers, blank-books, mucilage, penholders, pens, lead pencils, ink, corn meal, lint, adhesive plaster, table salt, oats, hay, reading matter, arm slings, old linen, jelly, ale, &c.

SHERIDAN'S ARMY.

HARPER'S FERRY, VA., *September* 24, 1864.

TO WM. A. HOVEY,
Assistant to Associate Secretary, etc.:

DEAR SIR—At this moment I find it an absolute impossibility to give you a detailed account of the Sanitary work in this Department for the week ending this day. I will, therefore, confine myself to a rough outline, reserving for an early day a more complete report.

The news of the battle on the Opequan Creek reached us in the afternoon of Monday. In the course of the night our complete victory was confirmed. Having ascertained the loss in killed and wounded, I ordered all the goods on hand to be loaded on two of our wagons, and started myself on horseback, in company with Medical Purveyor Dr. Patton, and a train of medical stores of the Government.

We reached Winchester at three o'clock, A. M. Without seeking a bed, I commenced at once my visits to the many hospitals, all crowded to overflowing, and in the most miserable and destitute condi-

tion; wounded and all lived on one-fourth of a ration, and help was terribly needed. To share out equally, I went to see Medical Director Dr. Dubois, as soon as daylight came, and obtained a rough estimate of the number of wounded in each Corps. This estimate guided me in the distribution of all I had. I made the repartition, and issued in bulk to the Surgeons in charge of each Corps, whose vouchers I hold.

By three o'clock, P. M., on the same day, I had passed through all the principal hospitals, and then hurried back to the ferry, with an escort of ten men.

Since then, we have all been working day and night to receive, re-load, and forward goods to the front. Dr. Jenkins and Mr. Knapp went out in an ambulance last Thursday. Two more wagons heavily loaded started with them. At this moment I am busy in having five more wagons and six ambulances loaded with stores. The whole will leave to-day, yet Mr. Knapp sent me word last night, that my presence at W. is needed, so I will start again, though I feel very tired for want of sleep, and the effects of a bad cold, which seems to settle on my lungs.

The two wagons arrived this morning. One of our teams broke down this side of W., and has not yet returned; as soon as it comes in, it will have to start for Hagerstown. There, too, our help is needed.

The Sandy Hook Hospital has been frequently visited, and provided with ice, wine, and other articles.

Mr. Evans leaves just now, and I am anxious you should get these few lines before Monday. Our stores may last four or five days.

Yours, etc.,

G. A. MUHLECH.

WASHINGTON, *September* 26, 1864,

MR. WM. A. HOVEY,
Assistant to Associate Secretary:

DEAR SIR—In compliance with your request, I herewith present you a brief sketch of my work with General Crook's command during the last few days of my labors among them.

On Sunday afternoon, the 18th instant, the camp near Summit Point was broken up. The long trains were ready for the march, the men stood long impatient for the "forward, march."

It was not given that night, so we bivouaced as best we could, expecting that in the morning, the anticipated order would be given. At daybreak we commenced to move, the Commission wagon falling into its appropriate place behind the medicine wagon of the Second Division.

This march was performed for the most part amid the low reverberations of the distant firing of the artillery and musketry of the 6th and 19th Corps. It was not until about eleven o'clock that Gen. Crooks was brought into the action.

The location of the field hospital being determined, I left the wagon there and set out with Mr. Knowlton for the front to assist as we could. On arriving on the field we found our forces pushing ahead, thus affording us the best opportunity to remove the wounded, dying and dead into the field hospitals. We did what we could, we assisted them to ambulances, and endeavored to stimulate their patriotism, patience and courage.

By midnight the greater part of the first day's wounded were gathered to the various hospitals—no one spared exertion. Late in the evening we returned to the hospitals to make all, as far as possible, comfortable for the night. By help from nurses, I arranged the sufferers side by side, so that two, and sometimes three, could enjoy the benefit of the same blanket. He who had abundance, by being appealed to, was induced to part with something to cover his less fortunate comrade. Thus by dint of a little planning we were enabled to warm the chilled frame and stop the chattering teeth.

* * * * * *

The early morning brought us new work. We assisted at the amputation table, furnishing sometimes lint, bandages and other stores.

I kept the nurses to work on the most needy—sought out the bummers and stragglers around, and set them to work washing off the whole body of the slightly wounded, as they passed under the Surgeon's and dressers' hands, supplying them myself with clean clothing. You would have been pleased to see the trans-

formation I worked in this way. Took the name, and nature of wound of each man for the Surgeon's report, and in this way turned my hand to any and every thing that demanded attention. Thus passed the day, distributing meanwhile many stores I had in my well-stocked wagon for this emergency. Thus passed the next day in part. About noon I turned over to my successor all the Sanitary Commission interests, and went to Winchester to return home. This closes my connection with the Commission as a Relief Agent.

It is with pain I part from a work in which I have taken much pleasure. The soldier that lies bleeding, hungry and chilly, to keep from our doors the tyrant and oppressor, is worthy to receive the sympathies of the best, to engage the energies of the greatest in this most noble of all work—alleviating his sufferings.

Most respectfully, etc.,

D. W. Evans.

—

To the Standing Committee of the U. S. Sanitary Commission:

Harper's Ferry, *September* 21.

Soon after mailing my letters of yesterday to you at Baltimore, I heard of the engagement near Winchester, and decided to come here before visiting City Point.

I ordered Mr. Pancoast to send by Adams' Express, a designated assortment of battle-field and hospital supplies, most of which were in our store-house at Baltimore, the only articles purchased being tin cups, milk and sherry wine, the latter having been specially telegraphed for by our agent here, by request of the Medical Director of the District. I then telegraphed to you my intention to come here, and to Mr. Hovey, at Washington, what I had done. An hour later, I found Mr. Knapp, Associate Secretary for the East, and Mr. John S. Blatchford, of Boston, an Associate Member of the Commission, and requested them to accompany me. No train was to leave Baltimore until this morning.

We reached this place at about 1 P. M. Visiting our storehouse, we found Colonel Muhlech absent at the front, and the stock of supplies low from the drafts just made upon us. The wagons were at the front, or on the way back, except two four-horse teams and one two-horse team. Our stores were not to arrive on freight-train here until five P. M., after which, there was to be no train to Winchester with an escort, (without which the road is not considered safe,) until to-morrow afternoon—so the Assistant Adjutant-General and Captain Flagg, the Quartermaster, told us.

By the aid of our natural allies, the press correspondents, we heard of a stragglers' guard as likely to go out at eight o'clock to-morrow morning, and have directed the loading of the two four-horse wagons, to go out under its protection.

We have carefully chosen the articles most likely to be needed, viz., beef stock, stimulants, woolen underclothing, bandages and old linen, crackers, lemons and sponges.

The Government transportation is heavily taxed, and though Capt. Flagg and the other officials show a desire to assist as far as they can, they are unable to give us the transportation for a single pound.

Yours respectfully,

J. Foster Jenkins,

General Secretary.

—

Mr. Knapp writes from Harper's Ferry, September 21:

Four car loads of supplies have arrived here to-day, since Dr. Jenkins and I reached here, (one car load from Washington—an excellent assortment—and three from Baltimore.) Three teams, four horses each, are with the three Army Corps. Yesterday Col. Muhlech sent out two more teams with assorted supplies, and in the morning to-morrow, two more teams well loaded go out, while the two yesterday's teams will probably be here to take out loads to-morrow afternoon; these, with two more teams to come from Washington, will make a good train.

No train has gone out this afternoon, with which Dr. Jenkins and I could go, escorted by them. We expect to go to Winchester to-morrow morning, getting there to-morrow evening. I telegraphed you to-night on receipt of your last telegram, to send another four-horse team from Washington, taking it, if need be, from the storehouse service; also, one saddle horse.

10, P. M. Col. Muhlech is just in from

Winchester. The need there of supplies is large. A medical train and a commissary train arrived just before he left the place.

The wounded to be provided for, (our own and the rebel,) are about six thousand. There was another engagement for the possession of Fisher's Hill—sharp but short—in which we drove the rebels with a dash—moderate loss to us—captured eight hundred rebels.

* * * * *

—

Colonel Muhlech writes from the same place, September 23:

I sit down at a late hour of the night to pen you yet a few lines, so as to inform you of the whereabouts of Dr. Jenkins and Mr. Knapp.

They left for the front yesterday morning. I hope they have safely reached Winchester. I myself, returned from there on Wednesday night, after a ride of seventy miles in twenty-four hours. Horse and rider were equally exhausted.

I found some six thousand wounded, (union and rebel,) scattered all over the town; churches, hotels, stores, and private houses are used as temporary hospitals. They were destitute of every thing, and an immense deal of good will be done by the timely arrival of our sanitary goods. Would to God I had more means of transportation, now that our storehouse is overflowing. Four teams heavily loaded have been forwarded to Winchester thus far. As soon as your two other wagons reach the ferry, I shall send out further four loads. One team loaded with stores leaves to-morrow morning for Hagerstown, where there are also a great many patients, and help is badly wanted.

Dr. Jenkins and Mr. Knapp are expected back to-morrow night. However, I hardly think they will be here before Sunday, as the road is unsafe, and can only be traveled with an escort.

Two thousand prisoners, with one hundred and forty-seven commissioned officers, passed through this afternoon; a thousand wounded are also expected in to-night. They will be left at Sandy Hook Hospital; a further lot of as many will be sent either to Baltimore or Frederick. This will leave at Winchester only the most serious cases.

U. S. Sanitary Commission,
Winchester, Va., *Septmber* 26, 1864.

To the Standing Committee of the
U. S. Sanitary Commission:

Gentlemen—I have the satisfaction this morning of reporting the arrival of Col. Muhlech last evening, a few hours in advance of the Commission's supply train of five wagons and eight ambulances. The train was to park on its arrival at the suburbs, and to report here this morning. Miss Harris, Colonel Fach, and two Relief Agents from Washington, accompany it; a very welcome addition to our working force. The supplies are equivalent to eight wagon loads—an assorted stock, with rather a preponderance of food *and deficiency of warm coverings and under clothing. These are the great want we have here now. The weather became cooler on Saturday evening, and there has been a great increase of suffering the last two nights, three cases of tetanus, resulting from exposure.*

Col. M. hopes to be able to secure ambulances, so long as large trains come back here empty. It is not likely to be long, unless much larger numbers of wounded from the front are precipitated upon us.

There are here some thirty very devoted union women, who, ever since the tide of war began to surge up and down the valley, have, when occasion offered, given their time and goods for the relief of our disabled soldiers; whether in our own hospitals, or prisoners in those of the enemy.

The casualties attending the campaigns of Banks, Milroy, and the occupation of Crooks and Averill in July last, were greatly mitigated by their attentions.

In one of the rebel hospitals here, are now thirty-nine wounded union soldiers, who are enthusiastic in their eulogy of those who have treated them so kindly every day since the evacuation by our troops in July.

These ladies have been visiting indiscriminately the past week the hospitals of the city—overdoing the matter in some, entirely neglecting others.

Mr. Blatchford and I devoted a good part of yesterday to the effort of inducing them to systematise their work.

After visiting the representative women at their homes, we effected a conference in the afternoon, and, by our advice, they designated seven of their number who should

be responsible for certain relief work in the seven districts into which we have arbitrarily divided the city. Each of the seven—who will be personally known to Col. Muhlech, Mr. Adams, (Hospital Visitor,) and the storekeeper—will call to her assistance such aid as she needs in her district. We shall issue only to the seven such portions of our stock, suitable for the preparation of extra and light diet, as we can, with regard to the wants of the whole service, spare day by day.

The plan has the approval of the Medical Director, and of such of the Chief Medical officers as I have consulted.

I think we have thus secured a reliable corps of hospital visitors, under a good organization, not cumbersome, or embarrassing.

Yours respectfully,

J. FOSTER JENKINS,
General Secretary.

Consolidated List of Stores received at Storehouse, Winchester, Va., Tuesday, 20th, and Thursday, 22d September, 1864.

360 lbs. beef stock.	2 bbls. bandages.
144 bottles whisky.	2 " old linen.
96 " sherry wine.	2 boxes lemons.
384 lbs. condensed milk.	54 lbs. dessic. egg.
598 wool shirts.	92 " crushed sugar.
409 prs. wool drawers.	400 tin cups.
162 blankets.	250 splints (surg.)
149 quilts.	10 prs. crutches.
400 towels.	5 reams paper.
200 cushions.	2,500 envelopes.
135 bed sacks.	250 prs. wool socks.
108 pillows.	126 sheets.
401 lbs. chocolate.	25 lbs. sponge.
7 bbls. crackers.	144 bottles Jamaica ginger.
400 lbs. maizena.	103 " blackberry syrup.

Statement of Supplies received at the Depot of the Commission at Winchester, Va., on Sept. 26th, 1864.

67 bed sacks.	6 bbls. coffee.
184 pillow cases.	50 lbs. chocolate.
184 blankets.	1,440 lbs. cond. milk.
100 quilts.	162 " dessicated egg.
120 sheets.	3 bbls. white sugar.
440 flannel drawers.	5 " brown "
530 " shirts.	1 case jellies.
540 prs. woolen socks.	540 lbs. beef stock.
120 " shoes.	180 " roast beef.
2 cases handkerchiefs.	20 gallons pickles.
3 " towels.	216 bottles wiflisky.
3 boxes soap.	216 " sherry.
1 lot hand basins.	3 cases blackberry brandy.
1 lot coffee pots.	18 reams note paper.
350 tin cups.	4 " letter "
48 lanterns.	1 lot envelopes.
1 bbl. tin plates.	1 lot reading matter.
24 bbls. crackers.	390 cushions.
5 boxes (200 lbs.) maizena.	2 bbls. old linen.
4 chests tea.	1 case lint.

WORK OF THE COMMISSION ON THE JAMES RIVER.

The following definite and clear expression of opinion in regard to the operations of the Commission, is from one who has been in active military service from the beginning of the War, and has had abundant opportunities of observation:

NEW YORK AGENCY, CITY POINT, VA.,
September 20th, 1864.

TO COL. SAMUEL NORTH,
N. Y. State Military Agent, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SIR—In my rounds of observation to-day, I visited the Headquarters of the U. S. Sanitary Commission at their floating depot at the wharf, and was, as usual, very kindly received, and my suggestions as to the kinds and methods of relief most requisite just now in hospital and at the front, courteously accepted and considered.

My convictions are only strengthened by every day's observation, that the true way to work for the soldiers is by and through this many-armed organization, and to see that it is supplied with the means, and then that it does its work, and to give it credit for what it does. It is for the interest both of the State Agencies and the Sanitary Commission that their relations be distinctly and permanently adjusted upon these principles. Your own experience as State Agent, will, I know, confirm this view.

On the broad and capacious wharf, I found the work of receiving and sending out fresh vegetables going bravely on. There was a stock of fine cabbages, part of 6,000 heads, which had just come in from Philadelphia by the Commission's Steamer "Elizabeth:"

Onions, 460 barrels.
Sweet Potatoes, 95 barrels.
Pickles, 45 casks,
Irish Potatoes, 50 barrels,
Beets, 50 "

And boxes of peaches, &c., in proportion, to be distributed from the local depots in the hospitals on the hill, to say nothing of the well-stored barges piled with the usual and varied supplies.

Several teams were receiving their loads for the front, and I ascertained upon inquiry, that 18 teams (owned by the Commission,) were at the moment employed in getting the fresh supplies to the very front. To the 9th Corps and to the 18th, each, 1,000 cabbages had gone; 715 to the 5th; 750 to the 2d, and the work was going on.

As I stood by the pile, asking questions, I found myself instinctively taking out my

jack-knife, whittling and munching the plump stalk of a broken cabbage-leaf with such memories and visions of home autumn scenes of in-gathering, as you can readily imagine. "That *does* seem natural?" said a soldier standing near, as he stepped forward and followed my example!

To my great satisfaction, also, I found that the authorities of the Commission had reached the conclusion, which you know had long been entertained by the writer, that the Government supply of liquors for medical purposes is ample, (though not always the best in quality, as they ought to be,) or may be made ample; and that this item of expenditure, so costly and so liable to abuse, may safely give way to the claims of other kinds of relief, more strictly within the sphere of the Commission. It is, in my view, a most judicious step, and not taken too soon. Yet a highly respected surgeon near me, suggests, as I write, that *good domestic wines* ought not to cease to be issued by the Commission; and that these can only be collected throughout the country by its agency. I presume they are still furnished, in detail, by the Commission, through trusty visitors of the General Hospitals in the cities, upon the proper requisition.

The issuing of *tobacco*, which had been suspended for a time, has been resumed, but is restricted in amount. To the *unpaid* men, and to those in hospital who desire it, no issue is more valued or more welcome; and I repeat only what I hear from the surgeons, most of whom speak "not inexperienced," when I say that there ought to be no deprivation of it to the classes I have just named. Mr. Seymour's supplies of this article, here in the front, will be remembered when the fresh vegetables so freely sent have been long forgotten.

The demand for *woolen shirts, drawers and socks*, is always very great; but the need now is more imperative than ever before, at this season and in this climate; and I am told here that every woolen shirt given out costs the Commission nearly *four dollars*. The class really needing them most is that of the convalescents, returning or about to return from hospital to regiment, with little flesh and blood about them, and almost certain to relapse if sent away thinly clad. In very many cases these must go back shivering, unless the Commission or a State Agency supply them; and it may be weeks before the convalescent, returned to duty, can "draw" them in his regiment. The sequel is, a relapse and a return to hospital.

And this brings up a very urgent and momentous *question of economy*. Where one thousand dollars is paid readily as bounty to a raw recruit, out of the public treasury, is it not a strange contradiction and neglect of wise *economy*, (leaving *humanity* out of the question,) to suffer the loss of the vigorous service of an experienced soldier by this defect in arrangements and provisions, otherwise so admirable and bountiful?

A soldier is brought to the hospital, sick or wounded, from a distant camp or line. His soiled or bloody shirt and drawers replaced by a hospital shirt and drawers of cotton; he remains for weeks—unpaid most likely; recovers, is "returned to duty,"—but, if he cannot communicate with his regiment, and often even if he can, there is no provided source for fitting him out warmly for his new exposure, except the charities of the Commission. It is so, too, as regards rheumatic invalids in hospital, requiring warm woolen underclothes. I know how entirely you will agree with me, from your own large experience in your office, when I express the earnest wish, that this simple consideration could *rule* in all that regards the sick and temporarily disabled soldier, who is not a proper subject for *immediate discharge;* namely, that "If a green recruit is worth $1,200 or $1,500 to put into the ranks, then it is the purest economy to spend at least half as much on any means and appliances which promise to promote and hasten the restoration of a sick or disabled veteran to sound health and vigor, and to efficient service."

I wish that this rule could dominate is all that relates to our hospitals, as it certainly has been recognized by the Sanitary Commission.

And I cannot help asking, why, if fresh vegetables are needful and desirable for keeping up the health and vigor of soldiers

in the front, the inconsiderable outlay of a few dollars per month, for extra-clothing for each invalid, should be omitted or unprovided for in the arrangements of Government, while such enormous sums are paid merely to secure the *enlistment* of men, who, for the want of just this outlay, are so soon to be transferred from the ranks to the hospitals.

I have always urged and recommended, though ineffectually, that a per centage of all State and local bounties should be *retained*, to constitute an "extra-clothing and hospital fund"—ample for the need, and a far more honorable resource to the recipient.

If society choose to *add*, as it will, to this requisite supply, by voluntary gifts, well. It is a necessary expression of its warm interest in the soldier; but the question is, whether its gifts should be so heavily drawn upon as they are, in simply enlarging and improving, (and that fitfully, unequally and partially,) his daily ration; or, whether its bounty should not be concentrated upon the work of assisting Government *in all means and appliances, however costly*, for hastening the return of vigor to a sick or wounded veteran, and of the cured veteran to duty in his regiment?

And I would instance the following as among the foremost examples of the direction of such efforts:

First of all. A very large addition to the medical staff of the army in the field and in the hospitals—of experienced and faithful Surgeons. This cannot be had without—

Second. A liberal increase in their pay, which is now mean and scanty.

Third. A liberal expenditure for extra clothing for all invalids—making this indispensable requisite to recovery and restoration easily accessible.

Fourth. A great and prompt enlargement of the appliances and the material for the preparation of special diet, in connection with all hospitals; and the provision of intelligent and faithful oversight and management of this department, so liable to abuse and its consequences to the sick.

And last. Perhaps most difficult, the utmost efforts, in the transportation of the sick and wounded, from camp and the battle-field, to prevent that waste of strength through exposure and unrest, which, more than any other cause, perhaps, so often precludes recovery, by making subsequent medical cure, however kind or skillful, ineffectual.

Yours respectfully,

J. V. VAN INGEN,
Fie'd Agent, N. Y. S.

DOINGS AT THE FRONT.

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL.

SATURDAY, *September* 10, 1864.

Sent Tug "Curtain" to Point of Rocks in charge of Mr. Anderson, with the following supplies, to be distributed through the 18th Corps, by Mr. Geo. A Williams, Agent, 15 bbls. pickles, 30 bbls. onions, and 10 kegs tamarinds.

Communication from Mr. Fay, that the matter of head-boards has been arranged with the Chief Medical Officer, and the Commission need not supply them.

September 12*th.*

The issues to-day have been very large.

September 15*th.*

No news of importance from the front. Rebels continue to fire upon passing trains, but as yet, have failed to hit any. They use the solid Whitworth shot, and in some instances have hit between the rails. Trains are now running mostly at night, and earthworks are being erected for their protection.

Issues to-day have been rather large, yet during the afternoon, business was quite slack.

September 18*th.*

Went front and met Dr. McDonald at the 9th Corps; rode along the lines, giving Mr. Marsh, who accompanied us, every facility for gaining any information he might want. Rode to the 10th Corps, from there home. The Station at the 9th Corps is almost perfect in its arrangement. Tents neatly arranged. Grounds in good condition; arbors and archways made from cedar boughs, and the whole enclosed by fence, made from the same material.

The day was very quiet, and the pickets to a great extent observed it, as there was but very little firing.

September 20*th.*

News from Gen. Grant's Head-Quarters that Gen. Sheridan had badly whipped Gen. Early in the Shenandoah Valley, captured three thousand of the enemy, six guns, and all the dead and wounded. Found two thousand dead.

A salute of one hundred shotted guns is ordered to be fired along the lines to-morrow morning at 7 o'clock, in honor of the victory.

Great rejoicing; troops arriving, and with the good news just received, all feel that the end of this rebellion is near at hand.

September 21st.

The salute in honor of Sheridan's victory was fired according to orders this morning, meeting in portions of the line a vigorous response from the rebels.

Sent to the front yesterday and to-day, 218 bbls. onions, 2 bbls. beets, 49 bbls. pickles, 8 boxes peaches, (green,) 1 bbl. tamarinds; all transported by our own wagons.

September 22d.

Sent to the front, 144 bbls. onions, 6 bbls. beets, 32 boxes peaches, (green).

Four Corps received battle-stock, viz., 2d, 9th, 10th, and 18th.

Four Corps received stock for issuing, viz., 2d, 9th, 10th, and 18th.

Every preparation is being made to meet the demands of the next battle. Have a good reserved stock, but we need a great deal more, even if the resistance on the part of the rebels is not as stubborn as we all expect it will be.

September 23d.

Issues to-day have been very large.

Sent three wagons front; two to the 5th, and one to the 10th Corps.

Communication from Dr. C. R. Agnew, from which the following abstract is taken:

"The Executive Committee, upon the receipt of your note (Dr. McDonald's) of the 16th inst., passed the following resolution, viz., Dr. McDonald be instructed to issue *tobacco* to soldiers *in the trenches*, notifying them, however, that such issues cannot be permanent."

—

HEAD-QUARTERS 2D DIV., 5TH A. C.,
SATURDAY, *Sep. 24th*, 1864.

"Received of Mr. E. M. Barton, Agent of the Sanitary Commission for the 5th A. C., the following articles for the use of the enlisted of this Division: 6 bbls. pickles, 26 bbls. onions.

Signed, C. E. LA MOTTE,
Lt.-Col. and A. A. A. G."

—

Issue of Vegetables to the 10th Corps by J. R. ELSBREE, *Agent in charge 10th Corps Station, Sept. 24th*, 1864:

First Brigade 1st Division, 13 bbls. onions, 1 gall. pickles.

Second Brigade 1st Division, 8 bbls. onions, 210 heads cabbage.

Third Brigade 1st Division, 9 bbls. onions, 1½ bbls. pickles, 115 cabbages

First Brigade 2d Division, 13 bbls. onions.

Second Brigade 2d Division, 5 bbls. onions, 121 heads cabbage.

Third Brigade 2d Division, 6 bbls. onions, 282 heads cabbage.

Colored Brigade 3d Division, 14 bbls. onions, 1 bbl. pickles, 50 cabbages.

Light Artillery, 2 bbls. onions, 3 galls. pickles.

Detachments, Head-Quarters Guards, and Ambulance Corps, 170 heads cabbage, 7½ bbls. onions, 2¼ bbls. pickles.

Some preferred cabbage to onions, and vice versa, but if onions only were distributed, there were enough to give each man four times the amount of Government rations.

This distribution is now being made to all the Corps, but have received no reports from other Agents.

September 27.

The barge Oneida, of Philadelphia, was loaned to us by Col. Pitkin, and the work of placing her in suitable condition for our use and wants was immediately commenced.

September 28.

The 10th Corps are crossing the Appomattox this evening. It was rumored that they were going to Newbern, N. C.

We are anxious about the movements at the front; various rumors are afloat, but nothing definite can be learned.

September 29.

2 A. M. Messenger from Captain Harris arrived, asking for two wagons to remove his goods. The hospitals were broken up, sick sent to City Point, and were ordered, (the hospitals,) to move at 4 o'clock.

All teams were to be at Gurley House at 4.30, at which time, also, the troops were to march.

4 o'clock. Captain Harris arrived, and expected a hot time during the day. Wagons were sent for his disposal. One wagon with battle stock was to follow in each corps, and two wagons were loaded at this point, to report at Cedar Level, and there to await orders. Captain Harris returned to the front about 5 o'clock, Dr. Anderson accompanying, and have not heard from him since.

News this evening is, they are fighting on the right, have carried three lines of the enemy's works and captured sixteen guns.

Wagons sent front for the removal of superfluous goods from the 2d, 5th and 9th Corps, arrived this evening; brought no news.

Wagons sent to Cedar Creek to await orders, returned; loads to be retained in them, and to be ready to move at a moment's notice.

September 30.

News from the Right, glorious! Captured thirty guns, two fifteen-inch and one hundred-pound Whitworth, with all their ammunition, together with quartermasters' stores. Kautz's Cavalry was within three miles of Richmond last night, and reinforcements were sent him. The negroes fought splendidly, and we are slowly driving the rebels. Casualties not known.

The 10th and 18th Corps are the only ones engaged on the Right, and they are doing their work well. Gen. Barnham was killed, and Gen. Ord wounded.

The 10th Corps crossed the James River at Deep Bottom, on the 18th, at Aikin's Landing. General Grant has been on the Right both days.

Our wagons accompanied each corps, and sent besides tug Curtin, with large load in charge of Mr. Anderson, to Deep Bottom; also, having on board Mr. Fay and six Relief Agents. The Sanitary Commission was on the ground first. The two wagons that were kept loaded were sent to the Right, one going to the 10th Corps, and the other to the 18th in the field.

Tug returned at 3.30, again loaded, and sent back; besides loading two more wagons and sent out, giving us on the Right a bountiful supply to meet any emergency.

Skirmishing during the night and morning, in the afternoon a regular engagement, resulting in our forces carrying two lines of the enemy's works. Mr. Davis in charge of the wagons is with the troops, and has a good supply.

At the request of Col. Sharpe, Deputy Provost Marshal General, we accommodate to-night three refugees from Petersburg, who left that place yesterday. They report that the people are greatly dissatisfied, and that the majority of them will hail our forces with joy when they enter either Petersburg or Richmond.

Four wagons and tug sent to the Right.

October 1.

Have had a drenching, cold rain all day. No fighting that we have heard of. Our forces on the Right, (Butler's command,) are within 6 miles of Richmond, and there must remain till reinforcements come up; some have gone to-day. Roads are in wretched condition already, and two or three days of such rain as this will dig out the bottom. Colored troops of the 10th Corps fought splendidly, and we hold all that they gained yesterday and the day previous. The wounded are being sent down the river as fast as possible. The Sanitary Commission have done a good work in this department. Were on the ground yesterday before noon with stores and agents, (at Deep Bottom,) and at work immediately on landing. Two loaded four-horse teams were sent to the front early in the morning, one to the 18th, the other to the 10th Corps. The tug Curtin took a second load of stores to Deep Bottom yesterday afternoon. These, with the two loads that crossed with the corps the day previous, were enough to supply the demands, but it was desirable, in case more were needed at the front to dispatch two loads yesterday afternoon.

They got off at 5 o'clock, P. M., and reported at Deep Bottom, at 2 A. M. of to-day. The Curtin was sent up this morning with fresh supplies, and again during the afternoon. Finding the hospitals were being cleared and no new cases being brought in, the two teams which arrived this morning were sent across the river to find a camping ground and await orders. One team, partially loaded, remained at the hospital to remove tents and stores in case the hospital should change location.

Eleven wagon loads (4 horses each) have been sent to Deep Bottom, and two (four horse) loads have gone directly to the front, making thirteen (four horse) loads sent to the 10th and 18th Corps. Two agents have gone directly to the front, and from eight to ten have been constantly engaged at the hospital at Deep Bottom.

From the left we have glorious news. A messenger came in at 2 A. M for two loads of stores to be sent to the left, as our stock in wagons at that point was nearly exhausted. The teams left early this morning in charge of Mr. Little.

We have on the left Capt. Harris, Capt. Davis, Dr. Stevens and Son, Mr. Barton, and four teams with 5th and 9th; Mr. Miles and two teams in reserve at 2d; Mr. Risden and Caulkins' two teams with 18th at Bermuda Hundred; Mr. Richards and one team with 18th Corps front; Mr. Ellsbree and one team with 10th Corps, front; Mr. Clayton and one team with a part of Mr. Fay's A. R. C. at hospital, Deep Bottom; Wagon-master Luce with two teams encamped on south side of the James, at Deep Bottom. Mr. Fay is on hand with his corps of A. R. Agents, but still keeping a small force at the base hospitals.

October 2d.

The steamer Elizabeth arrived at one o'clock to-day. Her stock is much needed, and we are unloading her as rapidly as possible.

Our left wing is reported to-night as being within one mile of the South-side Railroad, still pressing forward; have been fighting all day, and the wounded are coming in very rapidly, being brought by rail within one-half mile of the hospitals, thence by ambulance. A large number of them are bad cases.

WESTERN DEPARTMENT.

Dr. Newberry writes from Louisville, September 8:

By Wheeler's raid we are cut off from all communication with the army, and shall be for —— or more to come. For this reason I can give you no late news of our operations there.

In the supply Department there must be little done for sometime, as when the road is opened we must expect to have our trans-

portation limited by the demand for food for the fighting men.

Dr. Blake has written me, calling loudly for stores at New Orleans, and this interruption of our communications with Atlanta will permit me to respond to this call.

I shall, therefore, on Monday start a steamer load of stores down the river. We have a fair lot of just the articles he wants.

Among the items of our business at the front, not before reported, I may mention—

1st. The death by typhoid fever of J. H. Milliken, our agent at Knoxville. Milliken was a young man of fine acquirements and pure and estimable character. Mr. Bellam takes his place temporarily.

2d. Culbertson gives a good report of the garden at Knoxville, with tabular statement of products distributed. Wills, at Chattonooga, ditto.

3d. Mr. E. L. Jones, our invaluable storekeeper at Chattanooga, has returned to Nashville sick; will soon be better, however—shall probably keep him at Nashville, and make him storekeeper there.

M. C. Read and Prof. Horsford, of Chattanooga, are both still absent on sick leave, but will probably return by the 15th.

Dr. Seymour, now holding M. C. Read's place at Chattanooga, closes his term of service on the 10th instant, and must go home for three months.

A Mr. Longley, a friend of Dr. Warriner, has been appointed storekeeper at Chattanooga, in place of Mr. Jones, and will go there as soon as communication is opened.

These changes, and many others of less importance, have given, and will give me much thought and anxiety. The work of the Commission at the front, Chattanooga, Nashville, and all along the line, is going on as well or better than could be expected.

Dr. Webster, appointed Chief Inspector to Sherman's Army, in place of Dr. Read, (disabled,) has been brought back to Nashville, sick, and will not be able to return. If he recovers soon, I shall make him Superintendant of the Agency at Nashville, in place of Mr. Root, who will return to the Relief Department.

Dr. Woodward will take Dr. Webster's place at the front.

Rev. J. P. T. Ingraham, the best of our hospital visitors, is about to leave us to take a pastoral charge at Indianapolis. I am very unwilling to lose him, as he is a model man.

The hospital gardens continue to prove great institutions.

The hospital trains are now all reduced to syst m under Dr. Barnum's management, who has a contract from the Medical Department. New and improved cars are being procured, and soon that branch of the service will be a credit to all concerned.

We are furnishing stores and other fixtures, extra assistants and supplies, in all needed ways; helping the enterprise on to the highest success.

Dr. Hazen and Mr. Carpenter, with my consent, have left the service of the Commission, and have taken contracts as Surgeons on the hospital train.

In the warehouse, office, hospital directory, home, etc., here, every thing is going on as usual.

We send you, this week, report of issues and shipments. We aim to keep very little here, but push every thing forward as rapidly as possible.

Supplies are coming in freely, and, in compliance with instructions, we have been purchasing largely of onions, pickles, and kraut—have ordered, bought up, all we could in the country, and have had large quantities of pickled cabbage, cucumbers, and onions made up for us.

The pickles sent by you have arrived safely.

I bought two thousand bushels of onions in Cleveland, at $1.25 per bushel; while at Cincinnati they are worth $2.50.

MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT.

No great changes have occurred in this Department. The two Ways have left Vicksburg, sick. Benson remains in charge. Carpenter and Grant, of Memphis, have returned with restored health. Christy's report of his late trip you have received. He continues to give entire satisfaction.

At Cairo, all things work smoothly under Mr. Shipman's good management. The status in the home field is very encouraging. Our friends are working busily, and in the best of spirits.

KINGSTON.

August 13.

Mr. Eno writes:

In my last report from this station, I stated that Mr. Van Dyke would make the next. About the close of the month, an active agent was wanted for the 14th Army Corps, and he was assigned to it—but unfortunately was too unwell to make a report, or go to the field assigned him.

The following is a condensed statement of refreshments given to the sick and wounded on trains going North, and also the report of disbursements for the month. From this, the supporters of the Sanitary Commission, can see at a glance, that they have not given, or labored in vain.

During the month of July, there were 6,671 sick and wounded soldiers on the trains going North, to whom there were given 671 gallons of coffee, 16 gallons of soup, 53 gallons of punch, 5 gallons of tea, 55 gallons of ale, 16 bottles of stimulants, 414 lbs. of crackers, 3,895 rations of bread and ham, 2 shirts, 6 lbs. of bandages, 5 lbs. of candles, (to use in box-cars at night,) and milk and sugar sufficient for their coffee.

Mr. Sutliffe's report of the refreshment station at Dalton, was sent you some days since. You can always rely upon his work being done well.

After the 15th of July, the trains ran so that it was not necessary to stop at Resaca, and I directed Mr. Johnson to report at Marietta, with his fixtures and stock.

Dr. Herrick, who had charge of shipping the wounded, then thought it best to start a station, either at Marietta or Vining's, but a change in running trains rendered it unnecessary. Mr. Johnson is now assisting Mr. Tone; should it be necessary to start another refreshment station he will be an excellent man for it. His report of the 15th of July, shows that there were 3,235 sick and wounded soldiers stopped on the trains at Resaca, to whom he gave 386 gallons of coffee, 88 gallons of soup, 14 bottles of stimulants, 735 lbs. of crackers, 12 shirts, and 12 drawers. Many of the wounded going north on furlough, have lost their clothing, and leave the hospital minus coat and pants, rather than wait for clothing to be brought to the front by the Government—thinking they would be able to draw in Chattanooga or Nashville; in this, many have been disappointed, merely because proper arrangements had not been made.

In justice to the officers, it may be said they have had their hands full but the Government has sufficient clothing, and measures are being taken by which it is hoped the evil will be remedied.

Dr. Clendenin, of Nashville, and Dr. Salter, of Hospital No. 1, Chattanooga, assured me that wounded men reporting to them, should have clothing drawn for them.

Dr. Goslin, of the 15th Army Corps' Field Hospital in this place, has taken the right method to insure every man what is necessary.

He sends a man to Chattanooga with them, to draw their clothing there. Still, I fear there will be some who will have to depend on the Sanitary Commission, and I would advise keeping Capt. Brayton, of the Home in Nashville, supplied, so that he can send men away rejoicing, instead of ashamed to meet their friends.

August 23.

Since my last, the refreshment stations at Dalton and Kingston have been doing their usual "good Samaritan" work, supplying the wants of the sick and wounded soldiers on their way North. Mr. Sutliffe had the misfortune to lose his stock and fixtures, by the raid into Dalton last week, but his stoppage will be only temporary.

At this station, Mr. Kennedy has charge of the relief department, and Mr. Barret the refreshments. From the 1st to the 21st of August, 2,555 sick and wounded passed on trains going North, to whom refreshments were given, consisting of hot coffee, light bread, cold ham, crackers, apple sauce, pickles, etc.

Whole No. since the 15th of June, 14,616.

Much of my time this month has been spent in looking after the interests of furloughed men and men in hospitals without descriptive rolls—many furloughed men, who had lost their clothing in battle, were being sent from hospitals of the Army of the Tennessee, in shirts and drawers, without any provision being made to draw clothing on the way home, leaving them dependent on Sanitary and State Agents for

a supply. As State Agent for Illinois, I was authorized to furnish clothing for Illinois soldiers, but did not feel justified in expending money that should be used for purchasing vegetables, when I knew the Government had made ample provision, and all that was necessary to obtain it, was to know how. I found the Surgeons willing to do all they supposed they were authorized—and as soon as the Medical Director's attention was called to it, the evil was remedied, and now there is no reason why a soldier should be sent from hospital without sufficient clothing.

The medical authorities also say they would much prefer that the Sanitary Commission would furnish less of stimulants and clothing, and expend the money saved in anti-scorbutics. I would, therefore, suggest that every Sanitary Agent should make himself acquainted with what the Medical Purveyor can furnish, and regulate his orders and issues accordingly. If this is done, I firmly believe it will be safe to reduce the amount appropriated for clothing and stimulants three-fourths, and the amount thus saved will do vastly more good expended in anti-scorbutics.

The great staples necessary for the health and comfort of the army are vegetables, pickles, kraut, good vinegar, dried fruit, condensed milk and beef, farina, rags and bandages. Let there be a full supply of these, and with what the Ladies' Aid Societies will furnish, there will be no scurvy or complaining.

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CAIRO.

The Agent writes from the "Soldiers' Home" at Cairo, September 21:

I have thought it would be a pleasure to you, were some one to write you something about affairs at this very busy place. Heretofore you have heard little of our labors and successes at this point, from the simple fact that we have all been so busy, not for the past day, week or month, but all the time.

Once in a while, it is true, we do have a lull in the storm, but these quiet times are always occupied by preparations for the coming contest, which we know must shortly follow. Invariably the contest begins with redoubled force and energy. Our rests are short. They are only breathing spells, in which the decks are cleaned, the guns rubbed up, and every instrument for our bloodless warfare, put in order for action. The stay of our guests is necessarily short. They do not as a general thing desire to remain long, either going home or to their regiments, and we *could not* with our limited arrangements, accommodate them for a longer time. In fact, for this place our arrangements are not extensive enough.

We have not room enough, force enough, nor ability sufficient to cope with the great numbers daily and hourly pressing upon us. Here we are with our two regular trains, besides extra ones, daily pouring their live streams of blue coats upon us—with the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers depositing their loads from above, for shorter or longer times, and from below as far as New Orleans; and on either side of the great father of waters there, the arteries of the Southwest both great and small, they come, and come not like the steady flow of blood from veins, but in gushings and floods, not unlike the discharge from the arteries of the human frame.

Our dining room is capable of seating one hundred and eighty men comfortably, but by crowding it will accommodate two hundred and ten men. Our sleeping apartments are three in number, containing in all two hundred and forty-three beds. The rooms are high and well ventilated. The beds are all kept clean and free from vermin. The clothing is neat and comfortable. There are, besides these, eight in the hospital room, for the use of the sick alone.

There are comparatively few of our people who know much of the workings of these indispensible institutions, and smaller by far is the number who know anything about this particular one. Here every man has his duties laid down, and he is expected and does perform them. The workings of the "Home" here are as regular as clockwork; the machinery of which is wound up daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly. It is not a wheel within a wheel, but a clock within a clock. Soldiers are received only in squads, or one at a time—squads numbering from two to one hundred and fifty.

Their names are registered, and tickets of admission to the dining room are given them, which are taken at the door. Tickets are issued three times a day.

Last Thursday the 143d Illinois came up from Helena, Ark. Only twenty-seven men, out of a regiment of over eight hundred men, were fit for duty. These men had been cooped up on board the boat for four or five days, and their situation was enough to soften the hardest heart. Seldom, I trust, is such a regiment seen. They looked more like moving skeletons than a live regiment. A great many were boys, tender and delicate—too young for such hardships. Their sufferings had been great, their situation was a sad one. Our breakfast lasted until 11 A. M. That day we issued about seven hundred meals. But to see their feeble looks of thankfulness, was enough to repay us for our labor. Food was carried to those who were not able to to come to the table.

Yesterday, the 20th September, was a lively day. The 140th Illinois, on their way home from Paducah, Ky., to be mustered out, stopped in Cairo about twenty hours.

Application was made by the Surgeon to Mr. Shipman, the General Agent and Superintendent of the Soldiers' Home, for supper and lodging for his sick. They were received. Then there was hurrying to and fro, of busy feet. New life was infused into the kitchen, renewed energy was necessary for all. The tables were set again for the third time for supper. The hospital room was soon filled with the sickest. Still they came. They were carried up stairs to the sleeping apartments and there was room, at least for the most serious cases.

By this time supper was prepared. Hot tea and coffee steamed upon the tables. Good bread and good butter were there in abundance. Stewed fruit and pickles awaited the assault. The meal was a simple one, but with those poor fellows it was a feast. To stand at the head of that room and look upon that scene was a sight rarely to be met with.

If the noble self-sacrificing men and women at home, who are working in the cause, could have been present, they would have returned to their homes satisfied that their efforts were not made in vain.

The full number of meals issued yesterday was about eight hundred. The report for the week ending September 21st, has just been brought in. In it seventeen States are represented. Number of men admitted, two thousand eight hundred and thirty-three. Number of lodgings, two thousand seven hundred and sixty-two; Number of meals issued, five thousand three hundred and fifty-two Average number per day, four hundred and five. Aided in procuring transportation, one hundred and forty-four.

ANTI-SCORBUTICS—FORREST AND WHEELER'S RAID—SOLDIERS' HOME.

Dr. Newberry, under date of September 30, Louisville, Ky., writes:

"For the last ten days we have been in a state of suspended animation in consequence of the raid of Forrest and Wheeler on the Nashville and Chattanooga road. For the present it has arrested all transmission of goods or persons below Nashville, and has, of course, checked the flow of the flood of vegetables with which we proposed to inundate Sherman's army. As a part of this special effort, our shipments have been within the past week very large, about 25 car-loads, and I had made arrangements for keeping up an almost equal flow of stores for some time to come.

"I have authorized the establishment of a Home at Paducah and another at Jeffersonville, opposite this city, in both of which places such institutions are greatly needed."

AID TO THE UNION PRISONERS IN CHARLESTON.

It will rejoice many hearts to know that the United States Sanitary Commission has opened a communication with our officers and soldiers imprisoned in Charleston, Andersonville, and other places in the South. Through Lieut.-Col. Woodford, Agent of Exchange at Charleston, assurances have been received from Maj. Lay, the Confederate Agent of Exchange, that supplies of specified kinds, and packed under specified directions, will be safely forwarded to our men. The offer was received by the Commission with some distrust, and it was not until after a thorough examination of the grounds of encouragement for the successful issue of an undertaking so important, that the decision was made.

Dr. M. M. Marsh, the efficient agent in charge at Beaufort, S. C., has already sent over the lines the following articles:

24 cases beef stock.	2 cases lemon juice.
14 cases condensed milk.	10 bottles stimulants.
13 cases coffee.	36 linen vests.
13 cases tomatoes.	36 linen coats.
1 case cocoa	40 prs. pants.
24 cases chocolate.	20 lbs. tea
4 cases pickles.	202 woolen blankets.
4 cases jellies.	100 quilts.
11 bbls. crackers.	1,290 towels.
1 bbl. dried fruit.	1,300 handkerchiefs.
25 tin cups.	1,150 prs. woollen socks.
quantity black pepper.	590 prs. slippers.
quantity red pepper.	750 prs. woolen drawers.
quantity soap. combs and pin-cushions.	400 prs. cotton drawers.
quantity writing paper and envelopes.	400 cotton shirts.
	780 woolen shirts.

A second lot is on the way, viz:

3,000 blankets.	1,000 prs. shoes.
2,000 shirts.	2,000 prs. pants, wool.
2,000 prs. drawers.	1,000 blouses, wool.
2,000 prs. socks, wool.	

If the object is attained, and no new obstructions arise, the Commission will continue the merciful work, as far as its means will allow.

THE COMMISSION AND THE GOVERNMENT.

SIR—Although the Sanitary Commission has been in active operation more than three years, its plan of action, and what it tends to do or not to do, and its relation to the United States Government and the people, are even yet imperfectly understood, and though it has sought to do its work through the Medical Department of the army, there are Surgeons who mistake its object, and look to it for supplies which the Government is both willing and able to furnish.

The object of the present article is to set these things in their right light, and to show what the Government can supply, and how those wants can be met, and how and what the Sanitary Commission is ready to do, and also to show the harmonious working of the Sanitary Commission with the Medical Department of the Army.

The Sanitary Commission is merely auxiliary to the Government in meeting the wants of the sick and wounded of the army, at those times and in such places as from the exigences of the case the Government is not prepared to meet. It does not propose either to manage or supply general hospitals in the rear of the army or rear of its basis of supplies, except in extreme or urgent cases. All that can be needed at such places can be had of the Medical Purveyors and Commissaries of Subsistence of the Army, upon proper requisitions, approved by the Medical Directors.

I copy the list of regular supplies for hospitals as they appear on the supply tables, viz.:

Barley, (pearl,) beef, (extract,) cinnamon, cocoa, or chocolate, corn starch, farina, gelatine, ginger, nutmegs, pepper, (black,) porter, sugar, (white,) tea, tapioca, wine and whisky.

This comprises staples articles of light diet, whilst the Commissaries will furnish fruits, (green and dried,) vegetables, oysters, crackers, butter, etc.

At all the principal points these articles can be had in unlimited quantities, and charged to the Hospital Fund.

Medical Purveyors will furnish sheets, pillow cases, counterpanes, mattresses, mosquito bars, pillows, shirts and drawers.

All these things and many others, are within the reach of every Surgeon in charge of hospitals in rear of the army, and an inspection of the Medical Purveyor's and Commissary's stores at this point shows that these departments are fully adequate to the whole army in this Department, and both the Medical Purveyors and Commissaries of Subsistence, state that they can and do fill every proper requisition made upon them by Surgeons in charge of hospitals. It is a well known fact that every hospital can, by proper management, save a hospital fund sufficient for the purpose of purchasing all that is required over and above the regular ration. So far as hospital clothing is concerned, the Government supplies are all that is needed for the use of the men *while in hospital*.

What then is the work of the Sanitary Commission? I answer; It is intended to furnish what is *needed* as diet or clothing at those times, and at such points as the Government is not prepared to meet.

The exigencies of war, especially when the lines are long, leading to the base of supplies, require all the attention and care of the Government to keep the army supplied with the proper material of war, such as ordnance, quartermaster's and commissary stores.

Here is the work of the Sanitary Com-

mission: By the favor of the Government it is allowed separate transportation, which is accompanied by its own agents, charged with the distribution of its supplies. Since the commencement of the campaign in the South-west there has not been one day in which there has not been either a battle or a heavy skirmish, involving the care of great numbers of sick and wounded men.

The agents of the Sanitary Commission have their supplies with the army, ready to be distributed when needed, and no one who has not been with the army in time of battle can have any conception of the magnitude of the wants which must then be met. Clothing must be provided for the wounded; food and stimulants suitable for wounded men must be on hand.

The Government can only provide the regular ration, and not always even that—but the wounded must be provided for with something beside meat, bread, and coffee. The Sanitary Commission has all that is needed, and the Surgeons have but to ask and their wants will be supplied.

Vegetables, in large quantities, are required both for the sick and the well, or scurvy will decimate the army. The work of the Sanitary Commission is *pre-eminently at the front with the army.*

There are three thousand cars daily running between Nashville and the front. The Sanitary Commission has for many weeks past and is now sending one hundred tons of supplies to the front every week from Nashville, and still the cry is, "send us more." To give one hundred thousand men four ounces of vegetables a day, would require one car and a half each day, or twenty-five thousand pounds.

One peculiarity of the Sanitary Commission is, that it works through and in harmony with the Military and Medical Departments. Its agents are accredited to its Commanding Generals and Medical Directors. It sends no men to give to *this or that* man. It goes to the General and his Medical Director and says, we propose to do thus and so for the sick and wounded. "What do you need? And in no one case has a general or Medical Director turned to them the "cold shoulder." They meet us as friends and tell us what they need. *We give only through the Medical Department.*

We do not know the soldiers of one State from those of another, we only know them as soldiers of the United States, fighting to maintain and restore our beloved Government. We are co-workers with them. Its officers are our friends, and we abundantly acknowledge the kindness with which they greet us in our work.

The constant cry of misappropriation is false. As a class, the Surgeons of the Army are a humane, high-minded, and honorable set of men, working night and day for the good of those under their charge. There are bad men among them, and so there are among the Quartermasters and Commissaries. But will the loyal people of the North say, "We will send no more supplies, because some of them are not properly appropriated." As well might the Government say, "We will send no more stores to the army, because there are dishonest Quartermasters and Commissaries." Rather do as the Government does—search out the bad men, and drive them from the service, and put better men in their places.

In going through the warehouse of the Commission to-day, I counted one hundred barrels of dried apples, three hundred and fifty dozen cans of oysters, and other supplies in proportion. There is no excuse if the hospitals at this and other parts of the rear are not supplied with all they require, for the Government has made ample provision and nothing but carelessness or inefficiency, prevents their being used for the benefit of the soldiers.

In cases where men are being sent through this place, either to the front or the East, and are without clothing, where, as it is often the case, there is not time to make out the proper descriptive rolls, the Sanitary Commission is ready to furnish what is needed. But where there is time so to do, it can be had of the Quartermaster.

The relations of the Sanitary Commission to the Government, the people, and the army, are those of the most perfect kindness that can be desired—and it is believed that it enjoys the full confidence of the Medical Bureau.

BENJ. WOODWARD,
Inspector Sanitary Commission.

SCENES AMONGST THE WOUNDED.

Rev. Mr. Grant writes from Memphis, July 30:

The work continues pretty uniformly the same, varied at distant and irregular intervals by incidents that tend to stir the blood into quicker motion, and more firmly fix in the mind dates for future reference.

On the evening of the 20th, Capt. Way and myself were at the railroad depot, waiting for the train to come in with the wounded from the battle-field of Tupelo. At dark it arrived with its freight of mutilated men, numbering about two hundred and fifty. Some were but slightly wounded, others were dying of the injuries they had received, and a few were already dead. All hands were soon actively engaged. The evening was mild and pleasant, and the first thing to be accomplished was the removal of the sick and wounded from the cars, rendered almost intolerable by the offensive odor arising from the putrefying blood which had flowed from the wounds. The sight was sickening to the strongest heart, but it was no time for the indulgence of squeamishness. In as short a time as possible, all were taken out of the cars, the severely wounded being placed on stretchers, and then gently lifted into the open air. Cool water and a few crackers were very gratefully received by them, and they were greatly needed, for with all the diligence that could be used, it was one o'clock at night before the last one was in hospital. The strangest thing to me was the absence of all impatience and complainings on the part of the wounded. They seemed to think that everything was being done for them that could be, under the circumstances, and were very grateful for the assistance rendered. Some of them manifested indomitable "pluck" to the last.

One poor fellow who had a ball through the body, below the diaphragm, was lying near the door of one of the cars. When the stretcher was placed near him, he raised himself on his elbows and looked up into my face and said, "Doctor, I *can crawl* on to it." "No, lie still." "Jump in, men, and place him on the stretcher. Be careful, gently, gently—there, that will do—now lift him into the open air." Asking him afterwards how he felt, he replied, "better, thank you. You belong to the Sanitary Commission, don't you?"

I wished very much to ask him why he thought so, but others needed immediate attention, and I did not have time to listen to his answer. The next day he was dead. Another had both thighs terribly shattered, and was otherwise severely wounded by a minié ball. He was so very quiet that at first sight he appeared to be dead. Finding him on examination still alive, I moistened his face with water, and gave him a sup of the same, which seemed to revive him. Smiling feebly, he said, "thank you, you are very kind." He was carried by hand to the hospital, being too weak to endure the jolting of the ambulance. In an hour his spirit had thrown off its "mortal coil," and had winged its flight to that "bourne whence no traveler returns."

Many similar scenes could be detailed, but it is not necessary. Those mentioned will serve to show you what your agents often witness.

Since the return of the troops from the expedition to Tupelo, I have visited many of the sick in the regimental hospitals, relieved some of their pressing wants, and, I hope, remedied some defects in their hospital arrangements.

THE SANITARY AND CHRISTIAN COMMISSIONS.

HOPKINTON, MASS., *July* 28, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY:

DEAR SIR—I have just returned from a protracted tour to the West and Southwest, where I had the satisfaction of observing the operations of the Sanitary and Christian Commissions in those departments, and I had proposed to sum up the results of my observation for the use of any who may desire to know the opinions of different individuals who have been over the ground. But I find that there is little left for me to do, since noticing in the July number of the Sanitary Reporter the extract from a communication of Rev. Dr. Thompson, of New York, who had just preceded me. His opinions so precisely accord with my own, I beg leave to indorse them most

heartily. I was satisfied that both the Sanitary and Christian Commissions had their distinctive and most valuable offices to perform, and that in those departments they were being performed as faithfully as could be expected, considering the imperfections always incident to poor human nature. And with nothing was I more pleased than the practical as well as theoretical harmony between the two great Commissions, for the humane and Christian comfort of our brave and patriotic soldiers.

The good understanding prevailing between the principal officials of these Commissions at Nashville is quite satisfactory to every liberal and generous mind, and it would certainly seem as if there never need be any friction between these two great agencies, which can scarcely be regarded as other than real, though separate departments of the Government itself. Here and there some evil-minded persons may have been found to disparage the one or the other, and perhaps both. It may have been that some soldier, from some unfortunate circumstances, amid the confusion always incident to a battle, may have failed to receive the aid and comfort which would otherwise have been most gladly contributed. But certain it is, the great mass of our suffering men do fully appreciate the charities and self-denying efforts of their fellow-countrymen, and none more than those who are engaged in the service of the Sanitary and Christian Commissions. For if there are any true-hearted, philanthropic, Christian men and women in the land, to be relied on as faithful almoners of a nation's bounties, they are those whom I had the pleasure of meeting in Nashville, Chattanooga, and Huntsville. Their simple object being to do good, both to the bodies and souls of our soldiers, they cannot easily work otherwise than hand in hand, and cheerfully aid one another in their respective spheres of labor; and while we honor the names of Sherman, Rousseau, Hooker, Howard, and others in the field, we can regard with scarcely less respect those of Read, Root, Ewing, Smith, and their coadjutors in the Sanitary and Christian departments of the great work of suppressing rebellion.

Nor are those other benevolent efforts in behalf of the freedmen and poor fugitives less worthy of mention, since they, too, appeal to the most patriotic, humane, and Christian sympathies and principles of the nation. Earnest and faithful men and women are toiling amid countless and gigantic difficulties in behalf of these classes of our fellow-countrymen, whose sufferings are unknown, and can never be told to the great mass of our people. I bespeak for them the continued and increased charities and prayers of every patriot, philanthropist, and Christian.

With the most grateful remembrance of your own personal kindness, I am,

Most respectfully yours,

J. C. Webster.

THE HOSPITAL TRAIN.

How many of my readers ever rode an hour upon the bare floor of a freight car? Would not most of them wait a long time before commencing a journey if this was to be the method of their going? If any of them have had this experience, they understand the difference between it and the soft yielding seat of the passenger coach that only lulls to repose.

And yet the retreating tide of maimed humanity that had dashed in its strength against the rebel strongholds in Georgia, is flowing from the front in just this way. Thousands of men, wounded in all conceivable ways, are coming forward in freight trains, with nothing to rest upon but thin beds of straw, laid upon the bottom of the cars.

It is more than a hundred miles, all day and all night, from the front to Chattanooga. There the wounded men rest, perhaps, for a time in hospitals, and perhaps not. Then on they go a hundred and fifty miles farther, all day and all night long again, to Nashville, and then, those who are able, a hundred and eighty-five miles farther, to Louisville. What a journey this to wear out the strongest man!

This method of transporting the wounded is not peculiar to the Army of the Cumberland, and it must not be inferred that Government is remiss in the cause of its brave defenders. All available means are used to promote their comfort. The best means of transportation at hand are em-

ployed. Surgeons and nurses, with medicines, are sent with the trains. And here steps in the U. S. Sanitary Commission with its labor of love. At appointed stations along the road its agents are ready with coffee, soup, sandwiches, stimulants, fruits, and other supplies in abundance. Thus the rough way is smoothed, and suffering alleviated as much as possible.

But this is not all that is done. There is now established what is properly called the "Hospital Train." It is, indeed, a hospital on wheels. Passenger coaches are procured, the backs removed from the seats, boards are laid along these seats on each side the whole length of the car, and upon these beds are spread, with nice white sheets and pillows, presenting a truly inviting appearance. These trains are furnished with a dispensary and cooking car, nurses, and all the appliances for dressing wounds, all under the care of a surgeon in charge. Besides, we have on board a wardrobe supplied by the U. S. Sanitary Commission, from which the men are furnished with clean shirts and drawers as they need them. Regular meals are served, their wounds dressed, and everything done for the comfort of the suffering soldier that can be devised in a well-regulated hospital. And this care is appreciated. The men often say, "I wish I could ride upon the hospital train until my wound is healed." In describing the hospital train I should have said that, in some of the cars, the seats are entirely removed, and upright standards placed along each side of the passage way, to which stretchers are suspended by rubber bands. By slipping off the rubber bands the stretchers, with the patients upon them, can be readily removed, and thus the wounded easily transferred to hospitals when the train arrives at its destination.

Each of these methods has its advantages, but both, as can easily be seen, are a great improvement upon the hard, jarring, springless box car.

Again, in the freight train there is no communication between the cars, and it is very difficult to give proper attention to the patients while the train is in motion. Is it asked, "Why not use passenger cars altogether?" the answer is, they cannot be procured. There are not enough on these roads that can be spared to supply the demand.

As I sat down to write I was about to head my letter, "*Who'll contribute a car?*" If a few of the railroad companies of the North, who could so easily do it, would send us each one of their easy-going coaches, how speedily could they be fitted for use, and what an amount of suffering might be saved. The farther our army advances into the enemy's country, the more urgent the call for increased means of transportation.

A great part of the credit of establishing and maintaining the hospital train is due to Dr. J. P. Barnum. He has labored since December, 1862, against difficulties that would have worn out a less earnest and unselfish man. He has found a constant helper in the U. S. Sanitary Commission, which has ever been ready to furnish him with supplies for the suffering soldier. The Government have, in this work of mercy, gone hand in hand with the Commission.

But much as the Hospital Train is doing, it is very inadequate to supply the pressing wants of the thousands who are coming forward from the front.

Think, then, anew, friends of the soldier. As you ride on velvet-cushioned seats, yielding with gentle motion to every inequality; as you recline upon beds that offer the perfect luxury of repose, think of the soldier wounded, shattered, in defence of our best privileges, as he is rushed on for hundreds of miles, in rattling, swinging, jarring, springless freight-cars, every motion, almost, of which sends a thrill of pain to limbs that will never tread again the old familiar walks of home—that never will *kneel* again!—to limbs that never can respond again to the warm pressure of friendship's grasp, that never can strike another blow for country or for right—to bodies that still carry the deadly missile that did not quite reach the seat of life—to bruised, aching heads, that must always ache, and to brains from which reason has been suddenly driven by the shock of bursting shell.

What a contribution have these made to the country?

Who'll contribute a car? C. B. W.

SOMEBODY'S DARLING.

Into a ward of the white-washed halls,
Where the dead and dying lay,
Wounded by bayonets, shells, and balls,
Somebody's Darling was borne one day—
Somebody's Darling, so young and so brave,
Wearing yet on his pale, sweet face,
Soon to be hid by the dust of the grave,
The lingering light of his boyhood's grace.

Matted and damp are the curls of gold,
Kissing the snow of the fair young brow,
Pale are the lips of delicate mold—
Somebody's Darling is dying now.
Back from his beautiful blue-veined brow
Brush all the wandering waves of gold;
Cross his hands on his bosom now—
Somebody's Darling is still and cold.

Kiss him once for somebody's sake,
Murmur a prayer both soft and low;
One bright curl from its fair mates take—
They were somebody's pride, you know;
Somebody's hand hath rested there—
Was it a mother's, soft and white?
And have the lips of a sister fair
Been baptized in the waves of light?

God knows best! he has somebody's love;
Somebody's heart enshrined him there;
Somebody wafted his name above,
Night and morn, on the wings of prayer.
Somebody wept when he marched away,
Looking so handsome, brave and grand;
Somebody's kiss on his forehead lay,
Somebody clung to his parting hand.

Somebody's waiting and watching for him—
Yearning to hold him again to her heart;
And there he lies with his blue eyes dim,
And the smiling, child-like lips apart—
Tenderly bury the fair young dead,
Pausing to drop on his grave a tear;
Carve in the wooden slab at his head,
"Somebody's Darling slumbers here."

TAPS.

BY MRS. ROBERT S. HOWLAND.

"*Our* ward fronts on the sea, and the night bugle-music is blown away on the sea-wind, and comes back to us in sweet fragments. It is nine o'clock: the day, full of fear and hope, is ended; and while I write the sick men are all quiet in their little camp-beds. A moment more and the last bugle will sound, signal for silence and darkness. Now it begins, and the notes, rising and falling, say as plainly as music can say anything: 'Put it out; put it—out; put —it——out!'

"It is a clear, golden call, almost a human voice, falling softer and slower to the end; and when well played, lingering a little at the last, like some one very cautiously hushing a baby to sleep," &c.—*Part of a letter from the U. S. Army Hospital.*

Put it out! Put it out! Put it out!
The clear notes rising, climb
A ladder of sweet sound,
And from each golden round
The ascending angels, nearing heaven, do chime,
"God's watch begins, put your dim lanterns out!"

Put out each earthly light;
It is God's shadow falls
Along the darkening walls,
Closing us round, when men say "it is night:"
He draws so near it shuts the daylight out.

Put it out! Put it out! Put it out!
Forbear each scheme of ill;
Good angels walk the ward,
And heaven is all abroad
When twilight falls and earth lies hushed and still;
Room for the angels! Put the dark deeds out.

Put out all thoughts of care:
Rest gently, aching head;
He stands beside the bed,
Who brings in peace and healing, unaware,
And sends soft-footed sleep to shut pain out.

Put it out! Put it out! Put it out!
Put out—quite out—the light.
Hark! as the notes grow faint,
Was that a new-voiced saint
Who climbed with them and scaled the starry height?
Has from among us any soul gone out?

God's love falls as a screen,
Where lights burn dim and pale,
No flickering flame shall fail,
For with His hand held steadfastly between
No wind can blow to put these life-lamps out.

Through earth's long night He waits,
Till to the soul's glad eyes,
Filled with divine surprise
Heaven opens wide her golden morning gates:
Then, day being come, He breathes the candle out.

A SOLDIER'S LETTER.

June 4.—We are at White House; the wounded are pouring in; forty wagons passed us. Here comes a man with his hand shot off. He has walked twelve miles to get his wound properly dressed. He seems to forget it, and with wild excitement shouts, "Grant is the man; he is hell on the fight." The Sanitary Commission is splendid. It is here tending our sick and wounded. Tell the ladies it does more good and relieves more suffering than any one thing in the army. Here comes another wagon train of wounded, every one a hero. Although cut and slashed in every direction, not one of them complains.

June 15.—Have been on forced march for the last four days and nights; one hundred thousand of the army marched with us, and it was terrible to see the men fall out of the ranks by hundreds, unable to move one step farther. One man dropped dead near me. We have been two days on half rations—one day with none.

June 17.—Charged the enemy. Had a terrible enfilading fire against us. Out of the regiment, (only four companies,) in killed, wounded, and missing, lost fifty, only one hundred and fifty going in. In the evening, made another charge, and then engaged the enemy for some time.

June 18.—Tried to take a fort; our regiment sent to the front. First we ran double-quick about one-eighth of a mile to the railroad, through a shower of bullets; rested a moment, climbed the hill near the road; went double-quick twenty yards; rested, and again ran twenty yards to a sort of gully. There we stayed about four hours, fired at continually.

June 21.—Had to be all day in the dust; sun almost scorching us.

June 22.—Worked all night on fortifications. Saw a number of negroes. They are much more intelligent than I supposed, cleanly and brave. They have made the most splendid charges here on record. I have seen them fight right here.

June 28.—So near the enemy can hear them talk. The Sanitary Commission gave each soldier in our brigade a ration of porter, a pickled cabbage and onions to-day. The Christian Commission gave each of us two sheets of paper and two envelopes. Lost my knapsack and every thing in it in the charge, as did the other men.

June 29.—The Sanitary Commission is the greatest thing of the age—to my personal knowledge furnishing our sick boys with tomatoes, pickled cabbage, chocolate, dried apples, corn starch, soft crackers, and everything essential. At work all last night on fortifications.

June 30.—Worked all day cutting trees and carrying them to our pits to make bomb-proof shelter for them, as we expect to be shelled by a fort near us. We live on hard tack.

July 1.—The Sanitary Commission knowing how hard our regiment has been worked, gave each man some pickled tomatoes, preserved chickens, chocolate, lemons, condensed milk, etc. Of course very little to each, but my share made a new person of me.

July 8.—I have been sick, but the doctor got for me, from the Sanitary Commission, farina, corn starch, turkey soup, etc., and built me up. Our regiment, after being in front of rifle pits and under a continual fire for eighteen days, has at last been relieved. When sent back Company A. had eight men and two corporals, and Company D. two men and one corporal fit for duty. You have no idea how much soldiers think of letters. When I ask sick boys how they feel, more than half answer, "Oh! a great deal worse; have not had any letters for a long time." They seem to think that the cause of their illness. The names of the officers who carried muskets for sick or tired soldiers, were Lieut. Col. Pier, of Fond du Lac, Capt. Carpenter, and Lieut. Ballard.

July 17.—The regiment has but twenty-nine men fit for duty. Last night Col. Pier hearing one of the men cough, got up at midnight and brought him a cup of his own sugar. It is what few officers would have done for a private.

July 17.—We drew a number of sanitary stores this afternoon, consisting of pickled onions, condensed milk, tomatoes, etc. I suppose, of course, you know that by sanitary stores we mean provisions given us by the Sanitary Commission.

July 18.—To-day I saw a little negro, (about twelve years old,) busily engaged trying to learn to write. He had a lead-pencil and an old piece of paper, with a copy set him at his request. He is very ambitious to learn, and if you would send him a writing book it would help.

July 19.—Back to our old diet—hard tack and coffee; like it very well indeed. Pound it and fry it like griddle cakes, fry it whole, make fish-balls of it; with coffee and sugar, who can complain?

July 24.—Our regiment at the front again. I am detailed to guard baggage cars at City Point. Drew rations of dried apples, buy five cents' worth of flour, and make pies. If anything ever tasted good, that's it. Shall request soon to be relieved from the detail and join the regiment.

Yours,

W. H. PECKHAM.

TREATMENT OF OUR PRISONERS BY THE REBEL AUTHORITIES.

I.

Ever since the outbreak of the war, the country has been full of painful rumors concerning the treatment of prisoners of war by the rebel authorities. Every returned prisoner has brought his tale of suffering, astonishing his neighborhood with an account of cruelty and barbarity on the part of the enemy. Innumerable narratives have also been published and widely circulated.

The public have been made very uneasy by these reports. One class have accepted them as true; another have felt them to be exaggerated; still another have pronounced them wholly false, fictions purposely made and scattered abroad to inflame the people against their enemies, and doing great injustice to the South.

REPORTS OF REBEL CRUELTY.

On the other hand, rumors have crossed the border, of an outraged public sentiment in the South, precisely on the same account; reports abounding there of cruelty and barbarity to the rebel soldiers in our hands. It has been repeatedly announced that whatever restrictions or privations have been suffered by Northern men in Southern prisons, were in retaliation for these.

In the beginning of such a prodigious contest as this has proved to be, breaking out in the midst of a people unaccustomed to war, and quite removed from extensive military traditions and examples, it was natural that many irregularities should have occurred, and many usages of warfare been disregarded on both sides; and that in the matter of prisoners especially, where either region was suddenly inundated by many thousands, great abuses should have taken place, until accommodations could be provided and arrangements perfected.

But these early days of ill-preparation have long passed away. The war has lasted more than three years. Both sections have become accustomed to it, and are familiarized with the ideas, habits and laws of military life. The passionate fury of one side and the patriotic indignation of the other, have had time to settle down, at least so far as to accept this condition, and make every civilized provision known in modern warfare, for the mitigation of its horrors and inhumanity.

WRETCHED CONDITION OF THE RETURNED CAPTIVES.

And yet the painful rumors, so rife at the outbreak of the war, instead of subsiding with its early tumult, have lately increased to an extent which has seriously alarmed and aroused the public. The tales of cruelty and suffering have become even more heart-rending. Months ago we heard reports that our men were starving and freezing in the Southern prisons. In the late temporary resumption of the cartel, boatloads of half-naked living skeletons, foul with filth, and covered with vermin, were said to have been landed at Annapolis and Baltimore. Men, diseased and dying, or physically ruined for life, unfit for further military service, had been received in the stead of soldiers of the enemy returned in good condition, and who had been well fed, well clothed, and well sheltered by our government during their captivity.

But many reasons were circulated to account for such a difference. It was alleged that these emaciated men were the victims of camp dysentery, or similar distempers, and of food, which however good in quality and sufficient in quantity, was averse to the Northern constitution. Again it was alleged that the rebel army was, itself, suffering for want of food and clothing, and that the very guards to these prisoners had fared no better.

There were many among us who were willing to credit any statement which would mitigate or excuse the infamy of permitting such a condition of things. For the sake of humanity and the American name, they hoped that the worst could not be proved.

But there were others to whom the proof was sufficient, and who were convinced that the whole was a horrible and pre-determined scheme, contrived for the purpose of depleting our armies, and discouraging our soldiers.

The attention of Congress was roused, and a committee was appointed to investigate this and other alleged barbarities. Their report has just been published.

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY.

Before, however, the result of their inquiries was known, the United States Sanitary Commission, as the organ of popular humanity and philanthropy, determined to make an independent investigation, and such a one as would, if possible, put the question at rest on all points upon which the public mind was divided or unsettled, and furnish information so full, and so direct from original sources, that every one could arrive at a just conclusion.

They accordingly appointed the undersigned as a Commission of Inquiry, partly because they were known to be removed from any political affiliations and prejudices, and partly because three of their number were supposed to be professionally competent to read the unerring testimony of nature in the physical condition of the men.

Two distinct departments of evidence were thus opened.

MANNER OF THE INVESTIGATION.

In entering upon their duties the Commissioners had no other wish than to ascertain the truth, and to report the facts as they were. For this they endeavored to collect all the evidence within their reach, and to hear and record all that could be said on every side of the subject. They were accompanied by a United States Commissioner, and in every case the testimony was taken on oath or affirmation before him, or in his absence before other officers equally empowered.

The mass of evidence, printed as an Appendix, was collected during a period of several months, and is now arranged and classified to facilitate the reader's reference. If it had been printed in the order in which it was taken, it would have been too irregular and apparently heterogeneous to have exhibited the total result of the investigation. But, as it now stands, it will be found united and homogenous enough in the tragical story which it tells, without variation or self-contradiction, to the country and to the world.

Much of the evidence, however, is made up of bare abstracts of the free and full conversations that were held with the persons examined, and although all the essential facts are preserved, yet many graphic and pathetic minor details are omitted, which escaped or could not enter the formal record, but sometimes were noted down by those who were present Besides this, the Commissioners were witnesses themselves, and saw and heard enough to overwhelm them with astonishment, and remove the last doubt from their minds.

For this reason, and that the reader may share with them, so far as can be, the almost dramatic development of the inquiry, they send out these pages, not in the form of a brief documentary report, simply referring to the testimony, but as a descriptive narrative, in which all the salient points of the evidence and the results of their own observation are incorporated together. Such a narrative need be only an intelligible grouping of material—its facts will speak best for themselves.

VISIT TO ANNAPOLIS AND BALTIMORE.

The Commissioners, at the very outset, were brought face to face with the returned captives.

They first visited the two extensive hospitals in Annapolis, occupying the spacious buildings and grounds of the Naval Academy and St. John's College, where over three thousand of them had been brought in every conceivable

form of suffering, direct from the Libby Prison, Belle Isle, and two or three other Southern military stations.*

They also visited the West's Buildings Hospital and the Jarvis General Hospital in Baltimore, where several hundreds had been brought in an equally dreadful condition.

LIVING SKELETONS.

The photographs of these diseased and emaciated men, since so widely circulated, painful as they are, do not, in many respects, adequately represent the sufferers as they then appeared.

The best picture cannot convey the reality, nor create that startling and sickening sensation which is felt at the sight of a human skeleton, with the skin drawn tightly over its skull and ribs and limbs, weakly turning and moving itself, as if still a living man!

And this was the reality.

The same spectacle was often repeated as the visitors went from bed to bed, from ward to ward, and from tent to tent. The bony faces stared out above the counterpanes, watching the passer-by dreamily and indifferently. Here and there lay one, half over upon his face, with his bed clothing only partially dragged over him, deep in sleep or stupor. It was strange to find a Hercules in bones; to see the immense hands and feet of a young giant pendant from limbs thinner than a child's. and that could be spanned with the thumb and finger! Equally strange and horrible was it to come upon a man in one part shrivelled to nothing but skin and bone, and in another swollen and misshapen with dropsy or scurvy; or further on, when the surgeon lifted the covering from a poor half unconscious creature, to see the stomach fallen in, deep as a basin, and the bone protruding through a blood-red hole on the hip.

Of course these were the worst cases among those that still survived. Hundreds like them, and worse even than they, had been already laid in their graves.

The remainder were in every gradation of physical condition. Some were able to sit up and to move feebly around their bed; others were well enough to be out of doors; many were met walking about the beautiful grounds of the Naval Academy—by a curious and probably accidental compensation on the part of the Government, swung to this Paradise on the Severn from the sandy little island in James River and its bleak and bitter winds.

EVIDENCES OF MENTAL SUFFERING.

But however unlike and various the cases were, there was one singular element shared by all, and which seemed to refer them to one thing as the common cause and origin of their suffering. It was the peculiar look in every face. The man in Baltimore looked like the man just left in Annapolis. Perhaps it was partly the shaven head, the sunken eyes, the drawn mouth, the pinched and pallid features —partly, doubtless, the grayish, blighted skin, rough to the touch as the skin of a shark. But there was something else: an expression in the eyes and countenance of utter desolateness, a look of settled melancholy, as if they had passed through a period of physical and mental agony which had driven the smile from their faces forever. All had it; the man that was met on the grounds, and the man that could not yet raise his head from the pillow.

It was this which arrested the attention of some of the party quite as much as the remarkable phenomenon of so many emaciated and singularly diseased men being gathered together, all, with few exceptions, having been brought from the same prisons in the South.

Every one who was questioned contributed his part to swell the following account of privation, exposure and suffering.

The vail is now to be lifted from two of the nearest and most noted Southern stations for prisoners. There appear, indeed, occasional glimpses of places of captivity in Danville, Virginia, and Andersonville, Georgia, but the chief interest centres upon Libby and Belle Isle, at Richmond.

THE HIGH CLAIM OF THE SOUTHERN PEOPLE.

Before, however, the narrative proceeds, two things must be borne in mind:

First, that we are now penetrating into the arrangements of a people who claim, and have so far maintained their entire independence of the United States Government; who have organized a government of their own; who have also organized immense and powerful armies; who had, in the beginning, so far prepared themselves, and, during the last three years, have so far completed their preparations, as to be able to match, and all but overpower one of the strongest military establishments ever known.

Let them, for the moment, be taken for what they claim to be: "The Confederate States of America," a mighty government, and a "superior race," first in civilization, in culture, and in courage; distinguished for all that is magnanimous, chivalric, humane, hospitable, and noble, for all the graces and refinements, and highest developments of individual and social life.

MODERN TREATMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR.

Furthermore, another thing must be borne in mind: that, in these days of civilized warfare, the cowardly and barbarous usage no longer prevails of maltreating prisoners of war, but the moment a conflict is over, every sentiment of christianity and humanity rises to mitigate the bloody horrors of the field. The distinction of friend and enemy is no longer known.

The surgeon, with the high sense of professional duty in which he has been educated, goes equally to all. The prisoners taken are not thrown into dungeons, nor shut up in jails, but put into barracks. They are made as comfortable as the arrangements necessary for their safe keeping will permit. They are sheltered, warmed, fed and clothed, in all necessary respects, as well as the soldiers that vanquished and captured them. They become, for the time being, part of the military family of the enemy, and are made subject to the same sanitary and other regulations.

Their barracks are never overcrowded; sufficient area is allowed for exercise and fresh air; so much bathing is permitted, and even insisted upon, for the sake of cleanliness; their food is in every respect the same as that consumed

* The Commissioners would acknowledge the courtesy and hospitality of the accomplished and efficient Surgeon in charge of the Hospital at the Naval Academy, Dr. Vander Kieft, by whom every facility for conducting the inquiry was heartily given.

by the army within whose lines they are; their clothing is all that they need. Such a thing as robbery of their private property is unknown, or never tolerated if known.

TREATMENT OF THE SICK.

When sickness overtakes the prisoner he is removed to the hospital, taken from his bunk and placed upon a bed, and then, whatever distinction existed before vanishes entirely; every kindness and attention, every remedy and delicacy that a sufferer needs, is freely and generously given.

Such is the high principle and noble usage which prevails in modern warfare. The perfection of its arrangements is a matter of pride and honor among soldiers, and the proper boast of every Christian government.

We now turn to the people and government at present waging war with our Government, and who, through a dead-lock in the cartel, hold tens of thousands of United States soldiers as prisoners of war.

II.

The first fact developed by the testimony of both officers and privates is that prisoners were almost invariably robbed of everything valuable in their possession, sometimes on the field, at the instant of capture, sometimes by the prison authorities, in a "quasi official way," with the promise of return when exchanged or paroled, but which promise was never fulfilled.* This robbery amounted often to a stripping of the person of even necessary clothing. Blankets and overcoats were almost always taken, and sometimes other articles, in which case damaged ones were returned in their stead.

This preliminary over, the captives were taken to prison.

The Libby, which is best known, though also used as a place of confinement for private soldiers, is generally understood to be the officers' prison.

DESCRIPTION OF LIBBY PRISON.

It is a row of brick buildings, three stories high, situated on the canal, and overlooking the James River, and was formerly a tobacco warehouse. The partitions between the buildings have been pierced with doorways on each story.

The rooms are one hundred feet long by forty feet broad. In six of these rooms, twelve hundred United States officers, of all grades, from the Brigadier General to the Second Lieutenant, were confined for many months; and this was all the space that was allowed them in which to cook, eat, wash, sleep, and take exercise! It seems incredible. Ten feet by two were all that could be claimed by each man—hardly enough to measure his length upon; and even this was further abridged by the room necessarily taken for cooking, washing and clothes-drying.

At one time they were not allowed the use of benches, chairs or stools, nor even to fold their blankets and sit upon them. but those who would rest were obliged to huddle on their haunches, as one of them expresses it, "like so many slaves on the middle passage." After awhile this severe restriction was removed, and they were allowed to make chairs and stools for themselves, out of the barrels and boxes which they had received from the North.

They were overrun with vermin. in spite of every precaution and constant ablutions. Their blankets, which averaged one to a man, and sometimes less, had not been issued by the rebels, but had been procured in different ways; sometimes by purchase, sometimes through the Sanitary Commission. The prisoners had to help themselves from the refuse accumulation of these articles, which having seen similar service before, were often ragged and full of vermin.

THE ROOMS OVERCROWDED.

In these they wrapped themselves at night, and lay down on the hard plank floor in close and stifling contact, "wormed and dovetailed together," as one of them testifies, "like fish in a basket." The floors were recklessly washed late in the afternoon, and were therefore damp and dangerous to sleep upon. Almost every one had a cough in consequence.

There were seventy-five windows in these rooms, all more or less broken, and in winter the cold was intense. Two stoves in a room, with two or three armfuls of wood to each, did not prove sufficient under this exposure, to keep them warm.

The regulations varied at different periods in stringency and severity, and it is difficult to describe the precise condition of things at any one time, but the above comes from two officers, Lieutenant Colonel Farnsworth and Capt. Calhoun. As it happens, they are representatives of the two opposite classes of officers confined in the Libby. The former coming from Connecticut, and influentially connected at the North, was one of a mess to which a great profusion of supplies, and even luxuries, were sent. The latter coming from Kentucky, and being differently situated, was entirely dependent upon the prison fare.

These officers were there during the same season, but never became acquainted. The accounts of each, which will be found in the evidence side by side, are here combined and run together.

From their statements it appears that the hideous discomfort was never lessened by any variation in the rules, but often increased. The prison did not seem to be under any general and uniform army regulations, but the captives were subject to the caprices of Major Turner, the officer in charge, and Richard Turner, inspector of the prison.

GUARDS ALLOWED TO SHOOT THE PRISONERS.

It was among the rules that no one should go within three feet of the windows, a rule which seems to be general in all Southern prisons of this character, and which their frequently crowded state rendered peculiarly severe and difficult to observe. The manner in which the regulation was enforced was unjustifiably and wantonly cruel. Often by accident, or unconsciously, an officer would go near a window, and be instantly shot at without warning. The reports of the sentry's musket were heard almost every day, and frequently a prisoner fell either killed or wounded.

* No instance of the promise being kept appears in the evidence, but there have been occasions reported, though very rare, where money was returned, but even then in depreciated Confederate currency.

It was even worse with a large prison near by, called the Pemberton Buildings, which was crowded with enlisted men. The firing into its windows was a still more common occurrence. The officers had heard as many as fourteen shots fired on a single day. They could see the guards watching for an opportunity to fire, and often, after one of them had discharged his musket, the sergeant of the guard would appear at the door, bringing out a dead or wounded soldier.

INSTANCES OF SHOOTING.

So careless as this were the authorities as to the effect of placing their prisoners in the power of the rude and brutal soldiery on guard. It became a matter of sport among the latter "to shoot a Yankee." They were seen in attitudes of expectation, with guns cocked, watching the windows for a shot. Sometimes they did not even wait for an infraction of the rule. Lieut. Hammond was shot at while in a small boarded inclosure, where there was no window, only an aperture between the boards. The guard caught sight of his hat through this opening, and aiming lower, so as to reach his heart, fired. A nail turned the bullet upward, and it passed through his ear and hat-brim. The officers reported the outrage to Major Turner, who merely replied, "The boys are in want of practice." The sentry said, "He had made a bet that he would kill a damned Yankee before he came off guard." No notice was taken of the occurrence by the authorities.

The brutal fellow, encouraged by this impunity, tried to murder another officer in the same way. Lieutenant Huggins was standing eight feet from the window, in the second story. The top of his hat was visible to the guard, who left his beat, went out into the street, took deliberate aim, and fired. Providentially he was seen, a warning cry was uttered, Huggins stooped, and the bullet buried itself in the beams above.

MURDER OF A PRISONER AT DANVILLE.

Very much the same thing is mentioned as happening to the prison buildings at Danville. A man was standing by the window conversing with private Wilcox. At his feet was the place where he slept at night, close under the window, and where his blanket lay rolled up. He had his hand on the casement. The guard must have seen his shadow, for he was invisible from the regular beat, and went out twenty feet to get a shot at him. Before the poor fellow could be warned, the bullet entered his forehead, and he fell dead at the feet of his companion.

Almost every prisoner had such an incident to tell. Some had been shot at themselves a number of times, and had seen others repeatedly fired upon. One testifies that he had seen five hundred men shot at.

The same brutal style of "sporting" while on guard, seems to have prevailed wherever the license was given by this cruel and unnecessary rule. Captain Calhoun mentions that while he and his companions were on their way to Richmond from Northeastern Georgia, where they were captured, they stopped at Atlanta, and just before they started, a sick soldier who was near the line, beyond which the prisoners were not allowed to go, put his hand over to pluck a bunch of leaves that were not a foot from the boundary. The instant he did so, the guard caught sight of him, fired, and killed him.

Another instance of equal skill in "shooting on the wing," will be noticed in the case of the soldier who only exposed his arm an instant in throwing out some water, and was wounded, fortunately not killed, by the rebel bullet. Something of the same kind was related in the course of conversation, but is not in the evidence, as happening at the Libby, when an officer was shot while waving his hand in farewell to a departing comrade.

But there were cruelties worse than these, because less the result of impulse and recklessness, and because deliberately done. There opens now a part of the narrative which is as amazing as it is unaccountable.

The reader will turn to the heart-rending scenes of famine which the testimony before the Commission has exposed.

FAMINE IN LIBBY.

The daily ration in the officers' quarter of Libby prison, was a small loaf of bread about the size of a man's fist, made of Indian meal. Sometimes it was made from wheat flour, but of variable quality. It weighed a little over half a pound. With it was given a piece of beef weighing two ounces.

SOUTHERN FOOD.

But it is not easy to describe this ration, it was so irregular in kind, quality and amount. Its general character is vividly indicated by a remark made in conversation by one of the officers: "I would gladly," said he, with emphatic sincerity, "*gladly* have preferred the horse-feed in my father's stable."

During the summer and the early part of the fall, the ration seems to have been less insufficient, and less repulsive than it afterwards became. At no period was it enough to support life, at least in health, for a length of time, but however inadequate, it was not so to such a remarkable degree as to produce the evils which afterward ensued.

It was about the middle of last autumn that this process of slow starvation become intolerable, injurious, and cruel to the extent referred to. The corn bread began to be of the roughest and coarsest description. Portions of the cob and husk were often found ground in with the meal. The crust was so thick and hard that the prisoners called it iron-clad. To render the bread eatable, they grated it, and made mush out of it, but the crust they could not grate.

Now and then, after long intervals, often of many weeks, a little meat was given them, perhaps two or three mouthfuls. At a later period, they received a pint of black peas, with some vinegar, every week. The peas were often full of worms, or maggots in a chrysalis state, which, when they made soup, floated on the surface.

DREAMS AND DELUSIONS OF FAMINE.

Those who were entirely dependent on the prison fare, and had no friends at the North to send them boxes of food, began to suffer the horrible agony of craving food, and feeling themselves day by day losing strength. Dreams and delusions began to distract their minds.*

* The very same phenomenon occurred during the

Although many were relieved through the generosity of their more favored fellow prisoners, yet the supply from this source was, of course, inadequate. Captain Calhoun speaks of suffering "a burning sensation on the inside, with a general failing in strength. "I grew so foolish in my mind that I used to blame myself for not eating more when at home." "The subject of food engrossed my entire thoughts." "Captain Stevens having received a box from home, sat down and ate to excess, and died a few hours afterward." "A man had a piece of ham which I looked at for hours, and would have stolen if had had a chance."

One day, by pulling up a plank in the floor, they gained access to the cellar, and found there an abundance of provisions: barrels of the finest wheat flour, potatoes and turnips. Of these they ate ravenously until the theft was discovered.

SUPPLIES SENT FROM THE NORTH WITHHELD.

But the most unaccountable and shameful act of all was yet to come. Shortly after this general diminution of rations, in the month of January last, the boxes, which before had been regularly delivered, and in good order, were withheld. No reason was given. Three hundred arrived every week, and were received by Col. Ould, Commissioner of Exchange, but instead of being distributed, were retained, and piled up in warehouses near by, and in full sight of the tantalized and hungry captives. Three thousand were there when Lieutenant Colonel Farnsworth came away.

There was some show of delivery, however, but in a manner especially heartless. Five or six of the boxes were given during the week. The eager prisoner, expectant perhaps of a wife's or mother's thoughtful provision for him, was called to the door and ordered to spread his blanket, when the open cans, whether containing preserved fruits, condensed milk, tobacco, vegetables, or meats, were thrown promiscuously together, and often ruined by the mingling.

THIEVING OF THE BOXES.

These boxes sometimes contained clothing, as well as food, and their contents were frequently appropriated by prison officials. Lieut. McGinnis recognized his own home-suit of citizen's clothes on one of them, pointing out his name on the watch-pocket.

The officers were permitted to send out and buy articles at extravagant prices, and would find the clothes, stationery, hams and butter which they had purchased, bearing the marks of the Sanitary Commission.

In one instance this constant thievery became an unexpected advantage to the inmates. After the famous "tunnelling out," by which so many effected their escape, the guards confessed that they had seen the fugitives, but supposed that they were their own men stealing the boxes! The tunnel, after running under the street, had its outlet near where the boxes were piled up.

All through the winter and late into the spring was this suffering, chiefly from hunger, prolonged. There is evidence of its continuance even so late as the month of May last. Surgeon Ferguson, who was confined there at that time, gives a most painful picture of what he saw:

"No one can appreciate, without experience, the condition of the officers in the prison during the twelve days of my stay; their faces were pinched with hunger. I have seen an officer, standing by the window, gnawing a bone like a dog. I asked him, 'What do you do it for?' His reply was, 'It will help fill up.'"

"They were constantly complaining of hunger; there was a sad and insatiable expression of face impossible to describe."

There is no suffering that can be mentioned greater than that of the slow and lingering pains of famine, except it be perhaps the agonies of absolute death from hunger—but of this no Libby evidence was collected. The description of Libby life might therefore end at this point so far as having reached the climax of all possible misery on the one hand and of all possible barbarity on the other. But the testimony developes still other instances of cruelty which may as well be introduced here, in order to show the animus of the Confederate authorities.

CRUEL PUNISHMENTS.

It is stated that for offences, whether trivial or serious, the prisoners were consigned to cells beneath the prison, the walls of which were damp, green and slimy. These apartments were never warmed, and often so crowded that some were obliged to stand up all night. It was in these dungeons that the hostages were placed.

DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD.

But the inhumanity was not confined to the living. It extended even to the disposal of the dead. The bodies were placed in the cellar, to which the animals of the street had access, and very often were partly devoured by hogs, dogs and rats. The officers had the curiosity to mark the coffins in which they were carried off, to find out whether they were buried in them. But they proved to be only vehicles for bearing them away, returning a score of times for others.

This must have been the case with privates only, who occupied part of the prison, as it is mentioned that the officers generally secured by contributions, made up among themselves, me-

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celebrated Darien Exploring Expedition, under Lieut. Strain, some years ago. The whole party suffered starvation; a number of them died, and the remainder were rescued when they had become emaciated and debilitated nearly to the point of death.

"From the time that food became scarce to the close, and just in proportion as famine increased, they revelled in gorgeous dinners. Truxton and Maury would pass hours in spreading tables loaded with every luxury. Over this imaginary feast they would gloat with the plea-ure of a gourmand."—*Darien Explor. Exped., Harp. Monthly*, vol. x., p. 613.

The party separated, Strain and Avery being the least exhausted, and going on before the others to obtain succor if possible.

"At length starvation produced the same singular effect on them that it did on Truxton and Maury, and they would spend hours in describing all the good dinners they had ever eaten. For the last two or three days, when most reduced, Strain said that he occupied almost the whole time in arranging a magnificent dinner. Every luxury or curious dish that he had ever seen or heard of composed it, and he wore away the hours in going round his imaginary table, arranging and changing the several dishes. He could not force his mind from the contemplation of this, so wholly had one-idea—food—taken possession of it."—*Darien Explor. Exped., Harp. Monthly*, vol. x., p. 750.

tallic coffins and a decent temporary deposit in a vault for those of their number who died, until they could be removed to the North.

One other incident may be noticed which is quite in keeping with all the rest, but without the foregoing catalogue of outrages to humanity would appear too shocking to be credible.

THE MINING OF LIBBY.

At the time Kilpatrick made his nearly successful raid on Richmond, the city was thrown into a panic by his approach, and the prison officials deliberately prepared—so the story runs—a more expeditious way of closing the career of their prisoners. It was somewhat more merciful than starvation, because it substituted instantaneous death for an endless agony of dying. The negroes gave the first intimation to the captives of what was going on.* Richard Turner took care to dash the hopes of his captives as well as add to their anxiety, by informing them that "Should Kilpatrick succeed in entering Richmond, it would not help them, as the prison authorities would blow up the prison and all its inmates." Lieutenant Latouche was overheard observing to a rebel officer with whom he had entered the cellar where the two hundred pounds of powder were said to be placed, "There is enough there to send every damned Yankee to hell." Turner himself said, in the presence of Colonel Farnsworth, in answer to the question, "Was the prison mined?" "Yes, and I would have blown you all to Hades before I would have suffered you to be rescued." The remark of Bishop Johns is corroborative as well as curious, in reply to the question, "Whether it was a Christian mode of warfare to blow up defenceless prisoners!" "I suppose the authorities are satisfied on that point, though I do not mean to justify it."

The idea is so monstrously shocking that the mind hesitates to grasp it, or believe it. Many will try to see in it only a menace to deter any further attempt to take Richmond by a raid. And yet the evidence, even if it does come by rebel admissions, has an air of diabolical sincerity. A remark of Turner's justifying the act, which was mentioned to one of the Commissioners, but accidentally omitted in the formal testimony, gives quite a decided turn to the very natural probability that the fiendish plan was resolved upon: "Suppose Kilpatrick should have got in here, what would my life have been worth after you all got loose. Yes, I would have blown you all to Hades before I would have suffered you to be rescued." This was his argument and self-justification in brief, though somewhat more at length at the time.

The act was altogether consistent with the characters of the three men who had authority over the prison—General Winder, the Commander of the Department, Major Turner, Commander of the Prison, whose brutality is fully illustrated by his management of it, and Richard Turner, Inspector of the Prison, by occupation a negro-whipper, (see the testimony of Colonel Farnsworth,) and whose savage nature vented itself in frequent acts of personal insult and physical violence toward the prisoners.

Be the story true or false, it is at any rate consummately befitting and consistent, inasmuch as the strongest reasons for its probability may be derived from the other facts that have now been narrated. If true, it is strongly corroborative of the vindictive purpose which animates the Confederate authorities. History may yet write it so, and therefore the Commissioners do not pass it over in silence because of any doubt that may cling to it.

Let the spectacle that probably came so near taking place, be at least the appropriate crown and close of this portion of the narrative; the Union raiders, bounding over the fortifications of Richmond, intent upon rescuing their companions from a captivity worse than death—and the three great brick buildings lifted bodily into the air and let down in one stupendous crush and ruin upon the living forms of twelve hundred helpless men.

* "Dug big hole down dar, massa. Torpedo in dar, *sure!*"

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The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 4th Street, Pittsburg, Penn.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, Ohio.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

General Superintendent, Rev. F. N. Knapp, Washington, D. C. Chief Assistant, J. B. Abbott.
Soldiers' Home, near Baltimore Railroad Depot, Washington, D. C.
Lodge No. 4, H Street, between 13th and 14th Streets.
Lodge No. 5, Maryland Avenue, near Railroad Station.
Nurses' Home, Washington, D. C.
Soldier's Lodge, 76 Kingston Street, Boston.
Soldiers' Home, Third Street, east of Broadway, Cincinnati, Ohio—Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill.—C. N. Shipman, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky.—James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn.—L. Crane, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio———, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio—Joseph Jerome, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn.—C.W. Christy, Sup't and Relief Agent.
Soldiers' Lodge, Vicksburg, Miss.—T. Way, Sup't.
Soldiers' Home, New Orleans, La.—C. F. Howes, Sup't.

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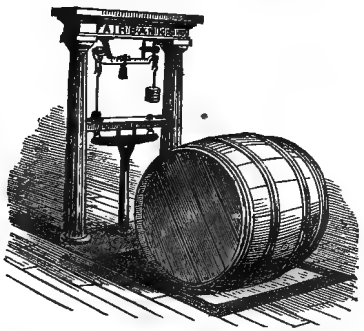
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Total Amount of Premiums	3,252,256 76
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Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies	441,206 49
Guaranteed Cash Dividend to Dealers, (holding certificates of same) on Paid Premiums Earned during the Year, whether Loss has Accrued or not	269,614 80
Scrip Dividend to Dealers, on Earned Premiums	15 per cent.
Dividend for the Year to Stockholders	26 per cent.

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DEALERS WITH THIS COMPANY will be allowed the option (to be signified at the time of application for insurance) of receiving in lieu of scrip, at the end of each year, RETURNS IN CASH, (guaranteed by certificate) of premiums paid and earned during the year, whether loss accrues or not, upon all new risks under the NEW YORK FORM OF POLICY, as follows:

1st. Upon all VOYAGE Risks upon CARGO, a return of TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT.

2d. Upon VOYAGE Risks upon FREIGHT, a return of TWENTY PER CENT.

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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER 15, 1864. No. 24.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

THE FUTURE.

HITHERTO the Bulletin has been issued from New York, and as it has gone out through the several "Branches" to the remoter constituencies of the Commission, has done a good work.

Hereafter it will be distributed from the office of the "Canvassing and Supply Department" in Philadelphia, and it is hoped that a work no less useful, will be accomplished by it in the future. The Standing Committee has decided to associate it more intimately with the department for canvassing and supplies, as a natural and needful adjunct to the great work of the Commission among the people at home.

It may be well enough to inquire here, what this home-work is, and what responsibilities it involves?

Our duty to the soldier in the field, cannot be accomplished, without the co-ordinate efforts of the people, and that these efforts may be made to harmonize more efficiently with the established machinery of the Government, and with the Sanitary Commission as a civil arm of the Government, we propose that the thorough and systematic co-operation which has done so much in the past, be re-animated and strengthened afresh, for the few remaining months of the conflict.

The Commission is a representative agent, standing between the people and the army; its proper function being to administer good *to* the soldier *from* his home, and in so far as may be, *from* the soldier *to* his home.

To aid it in this generous service, the

land is filled with relief associations under a variety of names, which co-operate with the central "Branches" in the several States, collecting among themselves, and distributing, through the field-agents of the Commission, whatever may be gathered from the thousands of tributaries, that are instituted and fostered by the benevolence and patriotism of the people.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

We have a little army of associate members—*men*—men of intelligence and power, each one of whom should consider himself a centre of information, and of financial interest in behalf of the soldiers, and should feel the responsibility of his position. It is designed that the Bulletin shall go to each one of these gentlemen every fortnight, and ask him the question, *Are you doing your duty?*

The responsibility that attaches to such *members* of the Commission, when it is realized, will stimulate to energy and successful effort.

LADIES' AID SOCIETIES.

We have a still a larger army of associates, who are *women*—women of intelligence and power, of whom it may be said, that none ever before did so much for their country, as have the women of America done for this country; and though the history of time may not write what they have done, and are continuing to do, they will have within themselves the compensating reflection, that their *record is on high.* The Bulletin will visit them every fortnight to cheer them in their labors—to tell them what is being done with their contributions—to invite them to perseverance, faith, and hope, and to ask them to report through its columns what they may, of good in the cause.

CHURCHES.

We have an army of churches, through which much good has been accomplished in this behalf. The Bulletin will go to them by their pastors, to thank them for what they are doing for the soldier; to thank them for sending so many good and true men to work through the Sanitary Commission, for the afflicted in hospitals, and the needy in trenches.

The history of the Commission, in all departments of the army, demonstrates the efficiency of scores of Christian students and ministers, as well as of devoted, religious laymen, who have, without ostentation and display, been doing a noble Christian service, the depth and purity of which can only be known to thousands of recipients. Continue in well-doing, will be the admonition of pastors, and good heed will be given to it by a liberal people.

Let us all shake hands—societies, churches, people, and agree to do our share to make the last winter of the war, the richest winter in good gifts to the soldiers, the noblest winter in good deeds by ourselves, the most glorious winter in the evidence of concentration and unity, power and victory.

DOLLARS AND LIVES.

In a recent letter from a friend of the soldier, in front of Petersburg, who asks for help, the following sentiment is expressed:

"*I hope I shall never set dollars against lives.*"

Some people complain of taxation, high prices, and scarcity of labor, and thus excuse themselves for not doing what they are prompted to do for the army by their better natures. They set dollars against lives. They might retrench in their personal expenses—they might avoid at least one half their luxurious pleasures; give up their follies, and become wise enough, not to count dollars worth anything, except so far as they contribute to benefit the race.

False views of economy lead many into practices which tend to poverty; while a liberal and generous expenditure for good, multiplies the good to the giver, which it bestows upon them that need.

"There is that scattereth and yet increaseth;
And there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty."

Let our friends throughout the country remember this lesson. They will be invited to continue their contributions as long as the war shall continue. The more they give, the more lives will be saved; the more men are saved, the sooner the war will end. When you are asked for dollars, or for what dollars represent in material, think of lives to be saved; if not saved—prolonged, if not prolonged—comforted. *Scatter* your dollars, and reap the increase. Withhold them not, that you may not be poor. If the Government is swept away, your dollars will all go too. If we save the Government by saving men to defend it, we keep our wealth, our honor and peace. Let us continue to clothe and comfort the sick and wounded with a generous hand, that in so doing, we may sustain the nation and ourselves.

TO THE LADIES.

County Councils.—It is respectfully suggested to the Associate Managers of the United States Sanitary Commission in the several local organizations throughout the States, to call councils of their co-laborers in each county where there is a Society, for the purpose of considering their work, and the best means of securing permanent efficiency.

These are times when men are meeting together in convention, to consider plans for serving the country and perpetuating the Government, and why not women add the influence of their joint council in behalf of the same cause, by pledging themselves anew to the soldier, who claims at their hands a support which he can receive from no other source.

The moral power of the Ladies's Aid Societies throughout the country, is but too little estimated. Their value as a means of increasing true patriotism, of harmonizing discordant sentiments, and of promoting unity and concord at home, is not sufficiently appreciated. The more frequently they meet, the more extensive their social intercourse, and the more fruitful their labors,—the more good will be done, not only to the sick and wounded, but to the cause of unity and liberty throughout the land. Already West Chester county in New York, and Susquehanna county in Pennsylvania, have moved in this direction, and we hope to see every county in all the loyal States, where societies exist, following in the same line of effort.

Call councils everywhere. Ask the co-operation of all Associate Members. Invite those who are not members to join with you. Bring together men, women and children, without respect to name or rank. Make offerings, great and small, not for veterans only, but for the new army of five hundred thousand men who have gone into the field, to endure hardships and exposures, to which they have been strangers hitherto.

A new army, and a new campaign, demand a re-organization at home, a fresh call for volunteers, and another *draft* upon the exhaustless patriotism and benevolence of our people.

Let it be made without delay.

LETTER FROM A CHAPLAIN.

The following is an extract of a letter from a Chaplain of the army, written while in hospital, where he is confined by illness:

Permit me also, through you, to thank the Sanitary Commission for the many favors received by me, both here and at Washington, while sick and needy. Had not this and kindred agencies, ministered to my necessities, the Lord only knows what I should have done.

I have not had an *extensive* acquaintance with this institution, but from what I have seen and experienced of its operations here, at Washington, and at White House Landing, Va., I know the U. S. Sanitary Commission is doing a great, and good, and noble work, and a work *indispensible* in the existing condition of our country. There is and must be, after all that is done to re-

lieve it, an immense amount of suffering; but oh! who can tell how much more there must have been but for this and other benevolent agencies through which the friends of our country, of God, and of humanity, are seeking to save life, relieve suffering, and bless our brave soldiers of the Army and sailors of the Navy. God bless the Sanitary Commission, and may its usefulness and its means of usefulness continue and increase, so long as this "cruel war" shall last, and until the thousands of suffering soldiers and sailors shall need it no longer.

LETTER FROM NEW JERSEY.

This week I have been in two churches, in one of which, they raised seventy-five dollars to be expended for flannels to make up into garments for the soldier. The ladies appear ready to go to work in good earnest. We have good congregations, and all appear resolved to aid in relieving the sick and wounded. One large gathering at a Sunday-school pic-nic, did a noble thing. There were eight or nine schools represented of different denominations, making an audience of about one thousand people. The parents and children of the whole surrounding country seemed to be on hand. The superintendents and officers, and teachers of each school, were organized into executive committees to take charge of the work in their respective localities. We had a very interesting time. * * * In another place, the people seemed prejudiced against the Sanitary Commission, but after presenting our cause, they resolved to get up a fair and festival, the avails of which have amounted to five hundred dollars, and will be equally divided between the Sanitary and Christian Commissions.

AN AMERICAN SCHOOL-BOY.

A contribution of five dollars to the Treasury of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, has recently been received from James B. Meier, an American School-boy in Dusseldorf, Russia, through the President of the United States.

CHEER TO THE LADIES.

(From a clergyman of this city, who has been several weeks visiting the hospitals in front of Atlanta and along Sherman's whole line from Louisville southward, we have these words of cheer.)

* * * * "I have now followed and carefully watched your supplies for the sick and wounded, from the time they leave your hands until they reach their destination. From close personal observation, I know their history in every particular, and I hope that I may be spared to return and report it.

"You need no exhortation, dear ladies, to perseverance in your blessed work. The Lord records it all, in his book of remembrance; and you will see, one day, how far you have been from over-estimating its practical benevolence. You are doing something, with God's blessing, to redeem war, even a necessary war, from utter barbarism."—*Cleveland Branch San. Com.*

HOSPITAL LETTER.

The following letter has been received at this office, and although it is but a repetition of testimony that is daily given, coming as it does from a hospital steward, who has peculiar opportunities for knowing what the soldiers get, it merits peculiar attention.

Having just been discharged from the service of the United States, where I have served for a period of three years and five months, I deem it my duty to make known the great benefit the Sanitary Commission has been to the army. It has to my own knowledge been the means of saving hundred of lives, by timely arrival of supplies for the sick and wounded.

I would particularly mention the first battle of Fredericksburg, fought in December, 1862, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and many others too numerous to mention. During General Grant's campaign in Virginia, the labors of this institution were unceasing, and with the necessary supplies furnished, when sorely needed, saved many lives. The Commission has also provided fresh vegetables for the army, which have done much during the past summer in preventing sickness. I would assure the Commission that the soldiers appreciate all that has been done. It would be out of my power to particularize all the many acts of kindness which the Commission has rendered to the soldiers in the field.

THE COMMISSION IN THE VALLEY.

The following extracts from letters indicate the care with which the interests of

the wounded in battle are guarded, by anticipating as far as possible their need. Dr. Jenkins, the General Secretary, and Mr. F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary for the East, with agents, who have been accustomed to such scenes, and others who are volunteers, are also present with ministrations of mercy to the brave men under the brave General Sheridan:

FROM G. A. MUHLECH.

HARPER'S FERRY,
September 28, 1864.

Our work in Winchester is fairly begun. The pressure on Sanitary Commission is truly immense. The Union Ladies' Association has commenced its noble task; the town has been divided in seven districts, and those ladies have selected their President for each ward. They *alone* draw from the Commission, and have commenced to do so yesterday. Miss Harris has been assigned to the Sheridan General Field Hospital (outside of the town); two fine large sents have been put at her disposal. I have sent her a small stock of such articles as the will mostly need in her *extra diet kitchen*. The surgeon in charge is profoundly thankful for her timely assistance. The intention of establishing a depot of supplies at Strasburg, for the convenience of our Field Agents, had to be given up. Mr. Smith is in charge of the storehouse, assisted by Col. Fach, who will relieve Mr. Blazier in the field. Messrs. Adams and Marsh are regular hospital visitors. Mr. Burdell, on a special and most pressing application of the Medical Director, has been appointed a temporary clerk to the vast Sheridan Hospital, where everything is yet in utter confusion.

MARTINSBURG, Va.,
Sept. 29, 1864.

Two heavy car loads of stores were forwarded by me to this point yesterday.

* * * * * *

We worked till late this night, unloading one of Adams' Express cars, and loading our own six wagons. As to forage, very little has come up yet, and with much difficulty I succeeded in drawing for 12 horses and 3 days. Captain May, Post Quartermaster, in this, showed me much kindness.

* * * * * *

A train for Winchester will leave Martinsburg to-morrow. I will try and have our train ready to start with it. Mr. Bannister informed me by telegraph that three more agents had reached the Ferry. I telegraphed back to have them sent up here with the first freight train. I expect them every moment. One of the gentlemen will be temporarily assigned by me to remain and take charge of this post until I can make the selection. The building I have in use requires some repairs, and locks and keys. I shall leave sufficient funds in the hands of the agent for this purpose. Thus, if nothing happens, I shall reach Winchester to-morrow night. Our stores will hold out till then, and the goods I bring up constitute a large and well selected stock.

* * * * * *

THE COMMISSION IN NORTH CAROLINA.

FROM GEORGE B. PAGE.

NEWBERN, N. C. DEPARTMENT,
September 10*th*, 1864.

* * * During the week I have received and stored a choice and timely invoice of stores shipped by Mr. Collins from New York.

Within this week we have issued thirty-eight requisitions, twelve to regular and general hospitals, one to naval hospitals, four to families and orphans of N. C. Union Volunteers, besides the disposition of an amount of green vegetables still furnished by the garden, consisting for the week of 10 bushels of tomatoes, 14 bushels potatoes, 12 melons, 6 bushels of beets, 1½ bushel gherkins, ⅛ bushel of green peas, ⅝ bushel okra, and 5,180 pounds marrowfat and Hubbard squash. The peas are the first fruit of a second crop from the same ground as the first, and matured for the table in forty-one days from the planting. The squash is not all issued, it seems a favorite vegetable on the fleet.

Mr. F. A. S. Perry, Relief Agent, arrived on the 8th, in good time for service on the new stores. There is an occasional demonstration of the enemy on our lines, but nothing serious. Refugees are coming into our lines in large numbers; some of them say they have been "in the bush" since '61, but are now hunted out by the severity of the rebel conscription. Some of them have made their way in from Wake and Chatham counties, and from beyond Raleigh. It is perhaps better to receive them thus, than to capture them after their willing

bullets have thinned our patriot ranks around Petersburg and Richmond.

The predictions of an unhealthy fall, seem to be realized. Some very malignant cases of bilious fever have occurred, mostly among refugees and poor natives in unfavorable locations in town.

I have the pleasure of enclosing a contribution from the gallant Captain Graham, of our North Carolina Rangers' Troop. The second contribution from the same magnanimous source.

NOTES FROM CITY POINT—T. C. PARRISH.

A FORGERY.

My travelling companion, a gentleman of considerable prominence in the Commission, met with a lady in the greatest distress on account of a letter she had received from a friend of her husband, informing her that he was very ill, and not expected to live. She had come all the way from Indiana, and here she was at City Point, among strangers, not knowing how to act, and in the greatest tribulation. What was she to do? Heaven only knows what she would have done, had not the Sanitary Commission found her; she was a stranger, and we took her in, gave her a tent to herself, and fed her with the best at our command. We hunted the hospital through to find her husband, and were just about taking steps to seek him at the front, when she met with an old acquaintance, who told her that her husband was well; and on the next day we had the husband all safe and sound with his wife, and found that the letter was a *forgery*.

ARRANGEMENT OF HOSPITALS.

The general hospital here is divided into corps hospitals, each having its own distinct officers. The corps hospitals are again sub-divided into wards, and the wards again into tents, each tent holding about twenty patients.

The Commission has a general storehouse in the shape of a barge, at City Point, and this storehouse is divided as the general hospital is, into corps storehouses, then again the stores are distributed through the different wards, by relief agents; and thus the supplies go from the loyal people of the North through these various avenues to the loyal soldiers of our Army. Then again, there are individual cases in hospital whom the light diet—light, in distinction from the heavy diet, or regular rations distributed to well men, does not agree with. For these men the Commission has established a "Special Diet Kitchen," and from this all the delicacies at our command are carefully prepared and given out.

INCIDENTS.

I have lately been acting as a relief agent, and in the course of my rounds met with a great many interesting items. A good many of my colored men were in that desperate charge at Petersburg, in which so many a noble soldier, (colored though he was,) fell, struggling for the future of his race. They tell some wonderful stories about it, and it was undoubtedly one of the fiercest charges of the war. One old grey-headed man, said, "Massa, when I went in dar, I jes had these thoughts, tinks I, I mus kill dem Jonnys; I mus die, and I mus go to de heben." If prayers can avail anything, the friends of the Union may feel sure of its safety. One of the boys here told me the other day, "dat if praying to de good Lord were any help, Massa Lincum would hab a heap on it."

TREATMENT OF REBELS.

We receive the Rebs and all, just as they come, believing that the golden rule "Do unto others as you would have them to do unto you," does more towards winning back such men than all the cruelties to which our brave soldiers are subjected by the Southern chivalry.

LETTER FROM CITY POINT.

CITY POINT, VA.,
September 25, 1864.

My mess here is with experienced surgeons of far more than ordinary character and professional ability, and conversation turns every day upon important matters touching their professional experience in the army; which, very often too, have direct or indirect reference to the work of the Sanitary Commission, in which my own interest is unabated. Though I hold no official relation with you, I cannot forbear recording and sending to you a fact, and an inquiry.

1. In a hospital, averaging over 500 patients for months past, there has been this season seen no case of scurvy; and very little, if anything, of scorbutic tendency and predisposition.

In the autumn of 1862, in the Shenandoah Valley, the same surgeons found, at one time, thirty men in a single regiment, suffering from well marked symptoms of

scurvy, and in five of them the disease fully developed; while in most of the numerous cases of sickness, the power of resistance to disease had been awakened and the controlling and restoring power of medicines greatly impaired by the scorbutic condition of the men generally. The men, they say, do not succumb to disease this year, as in other years, and they rally and recover more readily under proper medical treatment, and this after one of our hardest campaigns. I record only the spontaneous testimony of my medical friends here, when I tell you that they attribute much of this result to the large and constant supply of varied vegetable food supplied in the year past, both by the Government and the Sanitary Commission.

2. *Per contra.* The testimony of all observers here, as well as at the South and Southwest, is, that the mortality among the colored troops is, relatively to that among white soldiers (where both have the same shelter and equal medical attendance) alarmingly in excess.

These gentlemen, after making all proper (and very great allowance) for the morbid depression which always succeeds in the uneducated negro to the loss or suspension of physical health and enjoyment, yet suggest the inquiry—whether the same pains have been taken and the same success obtained, in supplying the prophylactic diet referred to above, to the colored as to the white men?

I am very authentically informed, too, to-day, on the testimony of a Virginian, long familiar with the region along the James and Appamatox, that the peculiar malaria of these farms has been proverbially fatal to black men. These hints suggest inquiries which all of us may further prosecute. I will do my part.

J. V. Van Ingen.

The greater mortality of colored troops, under similar circumstances of diet and exposure with white troops, is an interesting inquiry for physiologists and philanthropists. It is well known that the per centage of death among negroes in penitentiaries is in excess of white prisoners, with the same treatment.

We doubt very much if the difference in the army is accounted for by any lack of care of negro troops.

THE CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

The inquiry is sometimes made, "Why need there be two Commissions to do the same work?" This is a reasonable inquiry, demanding a fair consideration and a just answer. Coincident with the commencement of the war, the U. S. Sanitary Commission was organized, embracing in its various branches men and women of all political and religious creeds, of all professions and occupations in business, and assuming a broad, national, catholic character, went forth to its noble service. It had to do with an American army, collected from all parts of the loyal North, and representing every branch of industry, every phase of social life, and all forms of religious faith. It grew up, on this mixed idea, and has spread its influence into almost every family, asking the people to feel and to give, and to labor for the soldiers, as it is our privilege to labor for brothers standing between our hearthstones and fields of blood, to defend the institutions of civil and religious liberty, which have been the boast of our government from its natal day until now. In our brother soldiers it recognized human frailty that needed support, moral weakness that needed succor, spiritual life that needed quickening, and physical suffering that claimed our most earnest sympathy and faithful care; and, so far as the people have furnished means, the extended agencies of the Commission have employed them for the *entire* good of the army and navy. It has never made the teaching of religious doctrines, *as such*, a part of its system, because it is not a church organization, but it has made the *practical* illustration of Christian faith by Christian works its crowning glory. A soldier who is sick in hospital receives the ministration of kindness from a visitor who soothes his pains, calms his fears, writes to his home, supplies his present wants, and points him to future good, as the ministrations of Christian sympathy and fraternal interest. He need not be told that a Christian hand grasps his

own, or that the voice that speaks to him words of cheer, is a Christian's voice. He realizes *in* himself, and *for* himself, the influence and inspiration of kindness, whether it be in a touch, a look, a word, or the simplest effort to relieve. And so, the Sanitary Commission, as it has distributed food, clothing, and literature—by the ton and cargo—to the army and navy, for more than three years past, has not failed to make a record rich in Christian effort and fruit, unknown in other lands or in other periods of the world, and unequalled in this. *Why, then, should there be two Commissions?*

There need not be. There should not be. The cause of unity and fraternity would be benefitted it seems to us, by one grand, unbroken, and indivisible congress of men, women and children, all joined heart to heart, and hand to hand, in sustaining, by their example in benevolent effort, the common principle of union, for which our armies are battling.

But we are glad to chronicle the fact indicated by the little circular which is appended. It is a move in the right direction. We are glad to see that our friends of the Christian Commission are beginning to realize the wisdom and economy of a union arrangement. Besides being the cheapest and most efficient plan, it promotes concord and good fellowship. Let the example of the Brooklyn and Long Island Christian Commission be followed by others.

The following certificate is given to the delegates of Brooklyn and Long Island Christian Commission, and on another page of the same sheet, the order of the General Secretary of the Sanitary Commission appears:

TO ANY AGENT OF THE UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION.

Please honor the within if presented by

Delegate holding Commission No.

.....

President Brooklyn and Long Island Christian Commission.

Brooklyn, 186

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,
823 BROADWAY,
New York, Sept. 14, 1864.

To the Agents of this Commission: The President of the Brooklyn and Long Island Christian Commission is fully authorized to draw on you in favor of the Delegate named on the opposite page, for such Stores and Supplies as he may require to distribute to the Soldiers for whom he ministers, subject to your rules of supply as to quantity. You will honor his drafts, taking his acknowledgement for the articles supplied.

.....

General Secretary.

MASS. SURGEON-GENERAL AND THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

The following is taken from a report made to Wm. F. Dale, M.D., Surgeon-General of Massachusetts, by Geo. H. Gay, M.D., Chairman of a committee of surgeons sent to Washington to inquire into the condition and wants of Massachusetts troops in hospital there.

What I saw of the practical working of this association at Washington and its neighborhood, demands that a few words should be said in relation to it.

The operations of its different departments are on an immense scale. The officers, executive and others, seem to have fully comprehended the magnitude of the field for the labor. Systematized, disciplined and with a head, their movements proceed as with a knowledge of what is to be done, and of the material to do it with.

The amount of actual benefit and comfort to the wounded soldier, to the sick soldier, and to the destitute soldier, since the war commenced, would, if known, be truly enormous, and a thing unheard of in all previous wars. It was not an unusual thing to see surgeons, chaplains, and others, make application for the relief of whole regiments, companies, and individuals; and on making the requisition over to Mr. Knapp, he would immediately issue the various articles, and in frequent instances would transport them in their own wagons. By application of proper persons, at proper places, nearly all wants could be supplied. What they have, they give freely; what they have not, they will try to get.

The degree of suffering to our soldiers, if this Association were (?) contracted in its means, and limited in its facilities, would be wholly incalculable.

Willingly are its benefits bestowed upon all. The States, one and all, are therefore interested in its active continuance. Contributions constantly and freely will be needed, in money, and whatever may alleviate the hardships of a soldier's life, whether on the battle-field, in camp, or in hospital.

There was no way for me to get, without delay, transportation for the articles needed by the First Massachusetts Regiment. On talking with Mr. Knapp, he promptly and without hesitation sent them in two of their own wagons.

Is was a gratification to Drs. Buckingham, Thaxter, and myself, to witness the feelings of the soldiers as they saw the wagons come up. Many said, "God bless the ladies and all who remember us?"

With this knowledge of the doings of this body, I felt nothing better could be done with our goods, after we had drawn all we needed, and given an order to supply any wants of Dr. Ellis, than to divide the remainder between this Commission and the younger, but excellent Association for the Relief of Massachusetts Soldiers.

It is perfectly safe to say that the Sanitary Commission have been, and will be, good managers. Give largely to them, for our soldiers will need largely. Spread freely and widely the knowledge of this charity among our soldiers, so that they may feel that if they will only ask they will receive.

A CALL FROM BOSTON AND NEW ENGLAND WOMEN'S AUXILIARY ASSOCIATION.

No. 18 West Street,
Boston, Oct. 3d, 1864.

To the People of New England:—We have long desired to send through New England, agents, who, having had personal knowledge of the Sanitary Commission, should be able to speak of it to the people. Our own experience and judgment tell us how desirable this is, if we would understand the matter thoroughly; for the labors of the Commission extend from the humblest service a man can render to his brother, to the highest ministrations offered to the souls of the sick, suffering, dying men.

The testimony of our correspondents to the value of the Bulletin and other Commission publications is very strong, but many speak also of the need of the living voice to answer questions that the printed page has not sufficiently discussed, to meet uncertainties that must arise in reference to a work so far away; and in general to confirm and illustrate the records and reports which cannot cover half the ground. And in spite of the impossibility of bringing the scenes of the battle-field and hospital before our eyes, with their double lessons of suffering and relief we all crave, and shall as long as we are human, we seek as near an approach to this as may be possible.

We are, therefore, very glad to be able to inform the friends of the great cause, in New England, that a system of lecturing has just been organized, which promises to meet the needs partially, if not fully. And we beg all persons interested to help on the undertaking.

The agents will be furnished with credentials from the Central Office, and from this Branch. And they and we, cordially invite suggestions and criticism, as well as hearty co-operation.

Very respectfully, Abby W. May,
Chairman Executive Committee.

IN HOSPITAL.

Speaking of games and puzzles for hospitals, I am reminded of an incident which, having occurred some time ago, although in this Department, it will be no harm now to relate. But I will preface it by saying, that when a change of surgeons in charge of a hospital takes place, it sometimes happens that the new incumbent feels so strong a desire that *his* peculiar presence shall be felt, that he will make some changes, though they may not always be for the best. Now it happened that in a certain gangrene hospital a change occurred. The retiring surgeon was a man of large heart and cheerful disposition. He thought that one of the best means of improving the health of his patients was to interest and amuse their minds, and thus turn their thoughts from their own sufferings. To this end he obtained from the Sanitary Commission a quantity of checker-boards, and a quantity of soft, red cedar, leaving it to the ingenuity of the men to make the two acquainted. It was not long before every man was whittling and *whistling;* and soon not only checkers and chess-men were plentiful, but occasional exquisite specimens of each were

seen, as well as all kinds of wooden *bijouterie.*

Among other things a certain Lieutenant, who had been by profession a carver in wood, being desirous of showing his gratitude to the little daughter of his General, who had visited him with several acts of kindness, carved with his knife a most exquisite chain, one end of which was adorned with little charms or amulets, and the other with a cage, within which a bird sat perched upon his ring. This was sent by the surgeon's hand to the little girl. It was gratefully received, and handsomely acknowledged by the parents, as something which would be highly prized. Shortly after the surgeon referred to was relieved for another post, and a new one took his place, and *he* determined that *changes* must take place. He looked around, and his eye lighted on the checker-boards, and whittling, (every man having been provided with a newspaper, whereon to whittle). "Take these things away," he said, "he was not going to have his hospital littered up with such things," and "he did not believe in them." A few weeks had passed away, when the General met and made inquiries of the former surgeon, who was still in the room, if he knew how his young friend, the Lieutenant, was getting on? "Very badly, sir." "Why what is the matter?" "He is pining away for something to do!" "Why, cannot he amuse himself any longer with his carving and whittling?" "That is forbidden and taken away from them all, sir." "Taken away! For what?" "I do not know, sir." The General elevated his eyebrows, and turning his head toward the door of the next room, where his Medical Director sat, he called out, "Dr. P——!" The Doctor appeared. "Dr. P——, tell that —— fool at No.— to let his men have all the checkers and the whittling that they want." The order was given, and the men began at once to improve, although they probably never knew that they were indebted in any way to my friend Dr. W., or to the momentary indignation of General Rosecrans.—*Sanitary Reporter.*

A HOSPITAL VISITOR'S FAREWELL.

Rev. Mr. Ingraham, who has served the Sanitary Commission for a year past, as Hospital Visitor, thus closes his last letter regarding his work in Nashville. We take the extract from the *Sanitary Reporter* of October 1st:

And this week closes a full year of service in the U. S. Sanitary Commission, a Commission which stamps this age and generation of civil war and bloodshed with mercy's seal. In this great fratricidal war, the pure stream of benevolence and love has flowed beside, and mingled its life-giving waters with the nation's mighty waves of treasure and of blood.

And if a cup of cold water given on behalf of Christ shall be rewarded, what showers of blessings must this country yet receive for the countless gifts of mercy and of love which have been devoted with earnest prayers to God. Not one of them is lost. Every one may not have reached its destination. Some few here and there may have been altogether directed from their course, but each one has, nevertheless, fulfilled a blind mission, for it left the hands of its donor—the soldier's mother, brother, sister, wife, or friend, warm with love and prayers to *Him* who will answer them in blessings on our land—"on ourselves, and on our children."

This past year will be an oasis in my life, a year of blessings to my own heart, in being privileged to convey blessings from hearts at home to those around me here. There have been indeed all about me clouds of sorrow and of suffering, but in this work the sunshine of home, which has come into hospital surrounding like a halo every gift of love, has intermingled with them all. Aside from this, the many warm true hearts, who, have been engaged around me in these "Sanitary" labors, have enriched my own "treasury of friends" whose names will always remind me, that the field of suffering is also mercy's harvest-field, where sometimes both men and angels work together, and where one's heart must realize the truth, *that it is more blessed to give than to receive.*

TESTIMONIAL FROM LIEUT. COL. SUMMERS, MEDICAL INSPECTOR, U. S. A.

MEMPHIS, TENN., *Aug.* 24, 1864.

Dr. L. Lewis Coxe, U. S. Sanitary Inspector for the Valley of the Mississippi:

DEAR SIR—In reply to your request, asking what my observations had been in my tours of inspection regarding the distribution and use made of the "people's" gifts through the Sanitary Commission, I take

pleasure in stating, that I have almost always found more or less, and generally a liberal supply of them in the General Hospitals in this city, and in those at Vicksburg and Natchez, as well as the regimental hospitals (in the camps) at the two latter places.

With the occasional exception, which occurs in camps, they invariably reach their *proper* destination, and are consumed by those for whom they are intended. I take pleasure in making this statement, for the reason that the impression has been made to a very considerable extent, that the medical officers, on duty in general hospitals, get and consume the lion's share of them. *I know* that this is not the case where I have inspected, for the officers board out in the cities, and the exception is only where the hospital is isolated and at a distance from such accommodations.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE RELIEF SOCIETIES OF WESTCHESTER AND PUTNAM COUNTIES, N. Y.

The second Council of the Soldier's Relief Societies of the counties of Westchester and Putnam, convened pursuant to adjournment at Sing Sing on the 4th day of October, at half-past twelve o'clock, P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Pierre Van Cortlandt, and Mrs. G. Hilton Scribner was appointed Secretary. The Roll of the Societies was then called, when it was found that the Societies of the following places were represented by delegates in the Council, viz:

Garrison, 3 delegates, Mrs. H. W. Belcher, Mrs. J. M. Knox, and Mrs. W. S. Livingstone.

Peekskill, 6 delegates, Mrs. Stewart, Mrs. Mills, Miss Taylor, Mrs. Hussey, Mrs. Ferris, and Mrs. Abbot.

Tarrytown Union Relief Society, 3 delegates, Mrs. Wilsey, Mrs. Wilson, and Miss Wilson.

Soldier's Aid Society, 2 delegates, Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Dodd.

Yorktown, 1 delegate, Mrs. White.

Pylis Bridge, 5 delegates, Mrs. E. Reynolds, Mrs. Ira Purdy, Mrs. Lawrence Bostwick, Mrs. Horace Baker, and Mrs. J. Reynolds.

Yonkers, 5 delegates, Mrs. Cleveland, Mrs. Walsh, Mrs. Scribner, Mrs. Davidson, and Miss Walsh.

Irvington, 5 delegates, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Woodford, Mrs. Cusby, Miss Irving, and Mrs. Sturgis.

White Plains, 4 delegates, Mrs. J. J. Clapp, Mrs. John Miller, Miss Silliman, and Mrs. Underhill.

Harrison, 3 delegates, Mrs. David Haviland, Mrs. Joseph Park, and Miss Emily Carpenter.

The Societies of Dobb's Ferry and Somers were represented by delegates, but did not give a list of their names to the Secretary. The Society of Sing Sing did not send delegates, but attended en masse. The Societies of Cold Spring, Mamaronick, and Bedford, were represented by report, but not by delegation. The Societies generally seem to be working with renewed energy; some of them have accomplished much more during this quarter than any other of their existence. The Council feels assured of the salutary influence of their meetings. One of the Societies has a valuable auxiliary, in a class of district school scholars, who meet with them, and learn the art of sewing, as well as contributing their work to the parent society.

After the reading of the reports, the President introduced Dr. Parrish, of Philadelphia, who stated that he had seen the working of the Commission both at home and in the field. He knew something of the wants of the army, and wished to say to the Council first, that many of the Societies were suffering for the want of proper organization; that concentrated action was much more efficient than desultory efforts. He stated among other things that *our* supplies go mostly to the Shenandoah Valley and City Point. He then explained to the Council from a diagram he had drawn on the black board, the complete workings of the Commission on the field, and marked out the channel in which the stores are carried forward until they reach the needy soldiers. He wished most emphatically to contradict the reckless assertion that Stewards and Surgeons appropriate the stores; there had been isolated cases of this kind, but they were exceptional, and the parties were, as soon as discovered, subjected to examination and discipline. The Dr. was interrogated as to whether the Government did not supply the needed stores, to which he replied, that their regulations were made before there was any such pressing demand as now; that they did not issue flannel garments, and that the delicacies so needful for the sick were not administered in field hospitals in quantities com-

mensurate with the demand. He believed that the ladies were doing more towards cementing our divided country, than was being accomplished through other instrumentalities; and that if we should stop the supplies we should lose our hold upon the soldier's hearts, our influence over them, and sever the tie between the liberty-loving sisters at home and their brothers on the field. He wished there might be no factions, but that in a benevolent enterprise all differences of opinion might be forgotten, and a perfect unity of labor and feeling maintained in this grand work of humanity and Christian love. The Dr. in answer to an inquiry, assured the Council that laundries had been established in the army, that the clothing of the men might not be wasted. He then gave the Council some details of the deleterious influence of the State agencies, sent out to find their own State soldiers to the neglect of others. He encouraged the members of the various Societies to stand by each other, and to renew their exertions, and alluded to the fact that there were now five hundred thousand more fresh troops to work for, and that we, and not they, were the recipients of the greater good.

Mr. Hepburn was then introduced. He said he had just returned from the front, and was glad to have an opportunity to give the Council a glimpse of his experience. He had visited many soldiers, conversed with them personally, and had never known but few cases of ingratitude, and those had been where, for instance, the soldiers would not accept one lemon unless they could have three, and sugar enough to make them palatable. In most cases, however, they expressed much gratitude, and in one instance, a destitute soldier sent by him a donation of one dollar to the Sanitary Commission. He was gratified to see the better side of human nature manifested among the soldiers, and also, that they appreciated what was being done for them.

The President then offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

"*Resolved*, That we hereby renew our pledges to our country, our army and navy, and to each other, by agreeing to renew our exertions in their behalf through the Aid Societies which we severally represent.

"*Resolved*, That we recommend all the organizations now existing in Westchester and Putnam counties to double their diligence, and secure during the coming winter larger returns from our patriotic people than ever before, which we will send to soldiers so much in need of them."

A discussion then ensued relative to our next place of meeting. It was thought advisable to meet with some Society on the eastern side of the county, after an interval of six months instead of three months, as formerly. The Council then adjourned, to meet on the first Tuesday of April next, with the Society at White Plains. After the adjournment, the President informed us that Miss Collins and Miss Schuyler, of the Women's Central Relief Association, of New York, as well as the other two Associate Managers were present, and would most willingly give the ladies any information pertaining to the work that they might desire. She next invited the Council to partake of an ample collation spread for their benefit in a room below, consisting of all the delicacies of the season, and so tastefully arranged as to tempt the most fastidious epicure. The ladies of Sing Sing did themselves great credit in preparing this repast, and deserve the cordial thanks of every one present for the manner in which the Council was entertained. After many words of cheer, of comfort, and plans for future usefulness the Council dispersed, feeling that the day's experience had been to their patriotism a fresh baptism, and that they were severally pledged and consecrated anew to the great good work until "grim visaged war hath smoothed his wrinkled front," and there are no more wan, emaciated faces calling to us from a thousand couches, but all our brave boys are gathered to their hearthstones; and peace—an honorable peace, without taint or blemish hovers over our land.

MRS. PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT,
President.

MRS. G. HILTON SCRIBNER,
Secretary.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY INCIDENT.

Among the interesting incidents that have transpired in the history of aid societies, we extract the following from the report of the late Council held at Sing Sing, N. Y.:

A woman sat busily plying her needle at one of the society meetings, when she heard for the first and only time in her life, an article read from the *Bulletin*. It was an article in reference to the Hospital

Directory. She immediately thought of a poor suffering friend who had not heard from her husband in many long months, and who knew of no way to get information concerning him. She communicated with her friend who immediately wrote to Washington and learned that her husband had sickened, died, and been buried a month. It was sad intelligence; but for the consolation of knowing where and how he died, she will ever feel deeply indebted to the Sanitary Commission.

"SUFFER MOST—LOVE MOST."

In a quiet neighborhood, where there was more latent than practical patriotism, one earnest woman succeeded, by her energy, in awakening an interest in behalf of the country and our soldiers. The clergyman of the village opened his house to this patriot woman, and all the people vied with each other in the service of preparing comforts for the soldiers. They started on blackberry brandy and cordial, and succeeded in making 76 gallons. One night after the clergyman and family had retired, they were aroused by some one trying to gain admittance; they found upon opening the door, a humble man who was not willing to give his name, but said that his children had picked some berries for the soldiers, and that he had brought them after his day's work was done, a distance of six miles. It was subsequently ascertained that this man had been drafted while the three hundred dollar exemption clause was in force. With him there was no alternative. His family must starve if he left them. He therefore sacrificed everything, save the bare necessities of life to raise the three hundred dollars. His children were stripped of every article of clothing save one suit each, and when during this time of rigid economy and trial, another child was born, it had literally "nothing to wear." Still this family have grown strong through suffering, and learned that they who for their country's sake suffer most, love her most.

VOICES FROM THE COUNTRY.

MADISON Co., N. Y.—The ladies are desirous to work, only waiting to know what to do and how to do it. Under the auspices of Mrs. Charles Mason, newly appointed Associate Manager for this county, Madison will render a favorable account of itself hereafter.

HERKIMER Co., N. Y.—The rural districts of Herkimer are ready for organization. The patriotism of the people is alive. They will be at work soon.

CHENANGO Co., N. Y.—Ladies greatly interested in the work. Twenty-one new Aid Societies have been formed, from whom most encouraging results will be seen. Everywhere there is a willingness to act. Meetings are large. Families go together in large wagons five and six miles to attend, notwithstanding the busy season among the farmers.

OTSEGO Co., N. Y.—In every town visited there is the most hearty response to the claims of the Commission, and the assurance is given that the labors of the societies shall be continued while the war lasts.

WOODBURY, N. J.—Little Jersey is full of vigor. The court house in Woodbury was crowded to excess a few nights since, and a new spirit infused into the societies.

BLACKWOODTOWN, N. J.—Here the work is reviving. The ladies are active, energetic and true. The cause is alive in the hearts of the people, and hearts give activity to hands. Both together will do a good work.

BEVERLY, N. J.—Beverly is awake. The ladies have done generous things for the hospital that is located in that thriving town, and from it will go out an influence that will find its place in the hospitals on the Appomattox and in the valley.

SUSQUEHANNA Co., PA.—A grand reanimation is going on in this county. You will hear greater things from the hills and hamlets of Susquehanna for the future, than you have heard in the past.

EVERYWHERE the work is going on, and a new life is being infused into the Societies. Let all be encouraged and continue to work in *faith*.

LETTERS FROM THE WEST.

LEAVENWORTH,
Sept. 10, 1864.

Dr. J. S. Newberry, Associate Secretary, Western Department, U. S. Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR:—I am happy to be able to say that your prediction that the Freedmen's Aid Societies would come forward and take the work as soon as the Sanitary agents should by necessity commence it, proves to be so, and I have already some help, and soon hope to be relieved from everything but my regular Sanitary work. Our hospitals are well filled, but we have not had so much hard sickness as we anticipated from the most intense heat I have ever experienced. The thermometer has stood at 110 in the shade, with hot winds, for several days. Our soldiers have been on hard scouting duty, and many have been taken sick and left in the country at private houses. Colonel Ford was at Leavenworth last week, and I fitted him out with supplies for his sick, to be disbursed by his wife.

Yours truly,

J. A. BROWN.
Relief Agent.

BROWNSVILLE, Ark.,
Sept. 13, 1864.

H. M. Way, Esq., Agent Sanitary Commission, Memphis, Tenn.

DEAR SIR:—Yours of the 23d ult. was received several days ago, but incessant labors have prevented its acknowledgment before. Everything billed has been received, except the 150 pounds dried fruit—a serious loss. The supplies were very acceptable indeed. We have still on hand a large part of the bedding, under-clothing, and some other things. As we are under marching orders, I expect to turn over what is left to General Hospital at the Bluffs—this will depend somewhat upon the disposition we make of our sick. Nothing shall be lost if I can prevent it. But it is a very difficult matter to appropriate judiciously and economically such supplies while we are moving from post to post at short intervals. I wish I had time to express to you in a deliberate and proper manner how much I think the service owes in gratitude, life, health, and comfort, to this stupendous charity. This word "Sanitary" has a world of significance to the sick soldier. "If I only had a can of tomatoes," or "some dried fruit," or "a cotton shirt," or "a pair of drawers," or "a bottle of blackberry wine," or "some soda crackers, I should be *so* glad!" Poor fellows! their wants are often supplied, and they are often made glad by the almost omnipresence of the Sanitary Agent. And it is no random remark, to say that thousands of lives are annually saved to the army through this instrumentality.

De Falls Bluffs is an important point. The Little Rock railroad taps White River here. Most of the army supplies shipped to this department are here transferred from steamers to cars. A general hospital of large proportions must be established, and many invalids will here be congregated. St. Charles, eighty miles below, and on the river, is also a point that will require a constant garrison, though on White River, it is quite isolated, and liable to be overlooked. Brownsville is a station on the railroad midway between De Falls Bluffs and Little Rock, some twenty-five miles from either place. It is also a point of importance in the protection of the road, and as a base of supplies to a considerable scope of country between the Arkansas and White Rivers. But I write in great haste and amid much confusion, and will therefore conclude by thanking you for your promptness in responding to my application for supplies in behalf of the sick of this command. I am, very respectfully,

L. DYN,
Surgeon 81st Illinois Vols., and Surgeon in Chief Division 17th A. C.

SOLDIER'S HOME,
Camp Nelson, Ky., Oct. 1, 1864.

Dr. J. S. Newberry, Secretary, Western Department U. S. Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR:—I have much pleasure in forwarding the following report of the labors of the past month at the Home:

Meals, . . . 12,807 Lodgings, . . 5,995

During the first three weeks of the month we were by no means crowded—still, in such an establishment, there is always plenty of work; for the past ten days we have been exceedingly busy, and from present prospects we shall be fully employed during this month. The Home has now been in full operation seven months, and thousands of soldiers who have enjoyed the comforts and cleanliness of the sleeping arrangements, and the ample and well prepared meals, continually write to me that they will always remember the Soldier's Home at Camp Nelson with pleasure.

At this period of the history of the Home, it is very gratifying to the hearts of all who

are concerned, to know that such a multitude of needy soldiers have found a "home indeed" within the walls of the most inviting scene of Camp Nelson. We are now thoroughly renovating the inside and outside of the Home. The Post Commandant has ordered and the Quartermaster has furnished a very important service in that direction, and I doubt not we shall receive still further the requisites for the preservation of the building and the comfort of the inmates. During the summer the "Home" has been visited by people from "near and far,"—and has been the greenest "oasis" to citizen and soldier in the now almost grassless waste of the camp. We have endeavored—with great labor,—to make the Home picturesque as well as comfortable in every particular, so that hundreds of attachments for the place have arisen in the hearts of soldiers who have sojourned here, and will possibly continue long after the war has ceased. We are now replenishing the beds, and in a few days will commence renewing the whitewashing. Captain Hall has had a new roof put on every building, and will, undoubtedly, continue to us his valuable interest and assistance in our work. We are now prepared for the necessities of the winter. Since the Home was opened, at the end of September, we have furnished Meals, . . 154,776 Lodgings, . 50,775 The foregoing facts are sufficient to establish among the friends of the soldier the reputation which he takes with him to, and establishes, in the front of the army.

There is a chapter in the history of this Home, which I have reason to believe is already recorded in the office of the Adjutant General of the United States,—and which, although it cost much that was arduous and disagreeable, will redound to the honor of the country, and prove that the work of the Commission has not been in vain in Camp Nelson. A home was here furnished to hundreds of the colored recruits which they could not obtain elsewhere, likewise protection against the force employed daily to return them to bondage. This Home was not assuredly erected in vain. In the department of stores, we have done our utmost to supply the wants of the hospitals, regiments, and individual soldiers. There is a school here for colored soldiers, under the superintendence of the Rev. J. G. Fee, which from its commencement three months ago, to the present time, has been supplied by us with nearly everything which it required. From the Kentucky branch U. S. Sanitary Commission, I obtained for it a good assortment of school requisites, and have freely supplied it with stationery, and sundry other stores. The wants of the hospitals and entire camp are still urging us to ask for *"more stores"*—vegetables especially. Yours truly,

THOMAS BUTLER.

GOOD NEWS FROM ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

It having been currently stated that General Sherman would not permit civilians, (even Agents of the Sanitary Commission,) to go beyond Nashville, and that in consequence, supplies could not be forwarded to supplement the govermental issues, all will be glad to know that whatever obstructions may have been in the way hitherto, the road to Atlanta is now open, the stores of the Commission are going forward in large quantities, and the work is progressing finely. General Sherman is not the man to allow his troops to suffer.

THE CLAIM AGENCY IN THE WEST.

Some months ago the Commission established a Claim Agency in Louisville, the aim of which has been to give gratuitous aid to Soldiers, Soldier's widows and orphan children in the prosecution of claims against the Government.

The Agency is intended for just those who cannot help themselves, who do not know how to reach the hand of the Government, which only waits to recognize them in order to do them justice.

Annexed is a statement of the business transacted there during August, and an estimate of the amount it would have cost if transacted by individual claim agents:

34	claims for arrears	pay and bounty at	$20 each	$680
27	"	"	Pension, "	540
2	"	"	Prize Money, "	40
1	"	"	Bounty, "	10
1	"	"	Horses lost in Service,	15
			Total,	$1,285

YOUNG VETERAN HEROES.

That the good people at home may know the character of some of the boys who wear the shirts sent by the Sanitary Commission, allow me to give a short history of two of

them who came to the Nashville office yesterday, each to ask for a shirt.

James M. Anderson, of Company D, 39th Ohio Veteran Infantry, lived in Miami Town, Hamilton county, Ohio. He enlisted as a private in February 1862, and has served with his regiment in nine pitched battles. When he enlisted he was fourteen years and four months old. He re-enlisted as a veteran in December, 1863, was shot through the right arm at Ross' Mills, Georgia, July 4th, 1864, and his arm amputated above the elbow the next day. He went home on furlough, and is now on his way back to join his regiment. His knapsack has been stolen, and he asks the Sanitary Commission for a shirt and a pair of socks, which are given him. He says, "if I have lost my arm I can cook or do some other service for a man who can carry a musket, and I don't want to be discharged till the war is over."

Robert Zinc, drummer, Company C, 18th Regiment, Missouri Veteran Volunteer Infantry, has his home in Edgewood, Effingham County, Illinois. He enlisted in September, 1861, being then ten years and six months old. At the battle of Shiloh, April 7, 1862, he was shot through the right leg above the ankle, was in the hospital for nine weeks, and then returned to duty. He has been in seven battles. He enlisted as a veteran in March, 1864, and came from Marietta, Georgia, to Nashville a few days since in charge of wounded men. He has been at home but once since his first enlistment.

Both of these boys wear the star of honor, and one of them, a medal given him by his regiment for good conduct. Robert had but one shirt, and that was in rags, and wanted another, which was furnished him. Although he is recovered from the wound of the leg, the scars are plain, and he says that sometimes on the march the left leg pains him so that he is obliged to ride in a wagon.

Both of these young heroes are at the Soldiers' Home, where their good conduct and quiet behavior, are marked by every one. Such are some of "Our Boys!"

B. W.

NASHVILLE, *September* 6, 1864.

OUR SOLDIERS.

The following communication was made to one of the New York city religious papers, by a physician, L. P. Brockett, M.D., not connected with either the Sanitary or Christian Commissions, but who, visiting the West on private business, was led both by professional taste and a desire to see for himself the condition of the soldiers and their needs, to visit the hospitals and Soldiers' Homes of the principal Western cities.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—You ask me to give you some incidents which came under my observation during a late visit to the hospitals and "Soldiers' Homes" of the West. It gives me great pleasure to comply with this request. It was my good fortune to be brought into contact with about four thousand five hundred of these noble fellows, a part of them in the hospitals, and many others who were on their way home on furlough, or discharged from severe wounds. Some of them were undoubtedly suffering severely (one died upon a train on the Jeffersonville road, on which I was journeying), but from none of them did I ever hear a word of complaint or a groan. Their fortitude was wondeful.

A MOTHER AND SON.

One poor fellow, apparently not more than eighteen years of age, was at the Soldiers' Home in Louisville, where his mother had brought him from the front after the terrible battle of the 22d of July, near Atlanta. He was terribly wounded, and was evidently dying. The poor mother, whose heart seemed bound up in her son, had succeeded in getting him thus far over that long five hundred miles of railroad, and with all a woman's courage and fortitude, she was striving, evidently against her own convictions, to encourage him. "Come, sonny," she said, "take a little of this cordial; it will help to strengthen you, so that you can get home to-night, and then we'll cure you up." The eye was fast glazing, the jaw had begun to fall, and the dark shadow had come over brow and cheek; he could not swallow, but with great effort, looking up to her, he whispered, "Dear mother." An hour later he was dead, and that loving, heroic mother, did bring her boy home that night, but it was in a coffin.

ANOTHER.

Another, whom I found on the Jeffersonville cars, wounded through the lungs, and who had fainted from the heat and closeness of the locked cars, was brought to consciousness after considerable effort, but was evi-

dently fast sinking. As he lay with his head on my breast, having learned how severe and complicated were his wounds, I said to him: "You should not have left the Soldiers' Home at Louisville. You were not able to take this journey." "I know it," he whispered; "but I did want to see my mother so." Poor fellow! that privilege was denied him, for he died before reaching Indianapolis.

INTEMPERANCE AND PROFANITY.

I found far less of intemperance or profanity among the soldiers than I had expected. In traveling in the cars with them for four days, and mingling freely among them, I heard but a single oath from a soldier's lips, and in that case the swearer was an officer. In the case referred to above of the wounded soldier on the Jeffersonville road, I sent the nurse through the train—five of the cars being filled with soldiers—to endeavor to get some stimulant or cordial to administer to the poor sufferer, but not a drop could be found on board. I saw but one drunken soldier, and he was in St. Louis, and the conductor said was a deserter.

TESTIMONY OF SOLDIERS.

I found abundant evidence that the Sanitary Commission was doing a world of good among the soldiers, and that its labors are highly appreciated by them. Its officers and agents have been most indefatigable in their work in the Western army, and it is the testimony of soldiers, officers, and surgeons, that they have saved thousands of lives and an untold amount of suffering. I had the opportunity of an extended acquaintance with Dr. Newberry, the Western Secretary of the Commission, and with Dr. A. N. Read, their Medical Director with Sherman's army, and both noble, devoted, Christian men, who have left large and lucrative practices, one in Cleveland, and the other in Norwalk, Ohio, to devote themselves to this work, and have seriously impaired their health by their zealous labors; and I can say with truth that the services of such men are invaluable, and that our army at the West have good reason to bless God for the Sanitary Commission and its agents

But for its exertions Sherman's army must have perished, after their terrible privations last autumn, from scurvy. They have kept up a supply of fresh vegetable food for the men by dint of the most superhuman efforts; have ministered to the wounded, often under fire; and these heroic female agents, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Bickerdyke and others, have, amid the scorching rays of the summer sun, in the open air, prepared for the wounded such nourishment and delicacies as are usually obtained only in the hospitals; while clothing, pillows, blankets, and other articles, have been bestowed upon all who needed. Their trains of hospital cars, fitted up with cots suspended by rubber bands, and with a surgeon and special diet-kitchen, cordials, etc., have traversed the weary route from Louisville to Marietta daily, and brought the wounded on as gently as if they had been children in arms.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

Their Hospital Directory, most admirably arranged, and posted every day from the returns of ninety hospitals, has furnished to distressed friends information of the whereabouts, condition, and often of the death of those whom they loved.

CHAPEL AND HOSPITAL VISITORS.

Nor have they been wanting in their attention to the spiritual needs of the soldier. Their hospital visitors, many of whom are clergymen, often officiate as chaplains, and administer religious instruction and counsel as they have opportunity. At Nashville, they have contributed $2,000 toward the erection of a chapel for the convalescent soldiers, and at the great hospital at Jeffersonville, Ind., $2,500, besides smaller sums at other points. The chaplains in both these are devout, Christian men, admirably adapted to their work. The Christian Commission are undoubtedly doing a good work also, though it did not come under my observation to the same extent as the labors of the Sanitary Commission; but after what I have seen, I can only bid a hearty God-speed to the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

IN MEMORIAM

The Rev. Israel Williams, a young man of great promise, and one of the most indefatigable and valued members of our Auxiliary Relief Corps, has died from the effects of over-work and exposure in the service of the Commission before Petersburg. We cannot do honor to his memory better than by one or two extracts from the address delivered at his funeral by Rev. Mr. Brigham, at Taunton, Mass.:

A few weeks since, the battles near Petersburg, and the new hospitals filled

with wounded, called for an immediate increase in the number employed in distributing stores for the Sanitary Commission. Our friend remembered his promise. In the hottest time of the summer, he left at once for the front of the army, and there, for four weeks, was indefatigable night and day, in the difficult duty he had undertaken. It is not surprising that he was prostrated so soon. The prolonged exposures to heat and dampness; the excessive muscular exertion, so different from his usual habit of life; the unwholesome air and the painful scenes he was compelled to witness, all told powerfully upon his nervous constitution and his sensitive spirit.

The account which he gave to me of what he saw and did in those four weeks was exciting as any description of battles that we now read. On one occasion he was very close to death by the sudden fire from the bank of the river upon the boat in which he was a passenger. The man with whom he was conversing fell dead upon his body, and he was sprinkled with blood. He was present at the great explosion of the barges at City Point, and was able to succor some of the sufferers on that ground of destruction and horror. He was in the trenches at the extreme front, close to the mine which was sprung, and so near that he could hear the voices of the enemy. In a great number of cases he brought to dying men the comfort for their last hours and their failing strength. Perhaps from the patience, the courage, the cheerfulness of these dying men, so painfully strickened, he learned how to bear more serenely the pain of his own departure.

From this service of patriotism and conscientious fidelity he came home to die. No soldier has fallen on the field of battle who is more truly a martyr than this good soldier in the cause of Christ. He has given up all that was most precious, his training, his attainments, his hope—just near to its fruition—his life, in a work of Christian patriotism and Christian humanity. Shall we say that a life closed so nobly is a lost life, even if it be ended before its chosen work is fairly begun? Could long service, even in the pastoral walk, more finely found its record?

What better blessing for the parting could there be than the blessing of those ready to perish, to whom these hands brought relief? Not for a moment did our friend regret that he had gone on such a mission, even when he might forbode its fatal issues. "I am not sorry that I went," said he to me, "for I have learned a great deal that will be of service to me if I am permitted to enter upon my work." We may wish that he had not chosen such a hazardous duty, but he had no misgivings about it. He had done what was right, what mercy called him to do, what his conscience approved; had done what his Master had done before, and his mind was at rest.

* * * * *

"THE RECORD OF A DAY."

Such is the title of a little extemporaneous sheet, bearing date October 6, 1864, which, nestled in the folds of several of our religious weeklies, has found its way into hundreds of families. It tells an interesting story of a day's work done for the Christian Commission. Much good *was* done. One hundred and twenty-five dollars in money, and a box full of berries, and sugar, and shirts, and towels, and sheets, and quilts, and blankets, with tracts and books, was packed at midnight, and we trust is by this time safely lodged where it may reach the soldiers. We trust, too, that the simple story of the good uncles and aunts and squires and deacons, as they are represented to have opened their hearts and hands so freely, may have its influence upon others, who shall determine to go, and do likewise. We enjoy to witness any evidence of patriotic fervor and Christian zeal in the people, and when they are illustrated in acts of kindness to our soldiers, they are certainly now, in these perilous times, worthy of special commendation. But we have noticed one thing in this otherwise attractive narrative to which we hesitate to refer, but which demands, for the truth's sake, a passing notice. A certain deacon is made to say a certain thing, which has a certain meaning, that damages the whole sheet. Hear him—"I would not disparage the Sanitary Commission. It is doing a great and noble work. But the Christian Commission has taken a long stride in advance of it, inasmuch as the soul is of more im-

portance than the body." Again:—"The Commission (Christian) is carrying out the true idea of Christian charity. Its foundation is a precious stone that other organizations did not dig deep enough to find."

We do regard it as remarkable that our friends of the Christian Commission should insist in placing themselves in an opposing attitude to us, when there should be no other than a cordial fellowship and unity. If the Sanitary Commission's work *is* a "great and noble work" as the deacon and everybody else says it is, why attempt to create the impression that it is not a Christian work? From whence comes its greatness and nobility? Our Christianity teaches that nobility and greatness, emanate from the Gospel of Christ; that no good comes but from the Infinite Source of *all* good. If the precious stone that the deacon builds upon is better than the Gospel through which comes words of Christian kindness, and deeds of Christian love, why let us know it, and we may try to dig deeper; but while we are children of the same family, having the same Father, the same inheritance, and the same hope, we take it as our right and duty to care for our sick and wounded brethren, in the spirit of Him who went about doing good, without feeling that we are any the less Christians, because we do not wear the outside badge of the Christian Commission. We solicit the attention of the deacon and of the good lady who did the day's work, and of all others, to the injunction, "Judge not, lest ye be judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged, and with what measure you mete it shall be measured to you again."

WHAT THEY SAY IN ENGLAND.

Though the following extract from the *English Leader*, a paper published in London, is rather lengthy, we copy it as an English view of our work, which will interest our readers.

But a righteous war is now being waged on the American Continent, and surely if war be still a sad necessity, it should in our civilized era be shorn as far as practicable of all its most debasing and poignant features; and when once a contest is fairly decided, it is not too much to urge that the labors of the benevolent, succoring the sick, wounded, exhausted, famishing and dying, may well be expended to soften, in some degree, the sufferings of their trying condition.

We hear little of the good that is being done in America; the slaughter is purposely dwelt on, but the labors of loving women and noble men on behalf of suffering humany on both sides is scarcely alluded to, and yet the Sanitary Commission has now labored for three years in the United States on a wondrous scale, working on a neutral ground in which politics have no place, and as is stated, "we must be lost to every sense of benevolence if we do not admire the courage with which women have surmounted every difficulty, nor should we refuse to wish them God-speed in their mission of mercy and love." For it was by women this movement was initiated, and it is by them that it is being chiefly carried on. Clergymen too, with the Rev. Dr. Bellows at their head, and backed by the principal physicians, have not been behind hand in seconding this noble work. Their objects being first to find out what Government would do and *could* do, and then seeking to help it by working *with it*, doing what it could not. The operations of this association have extended over an area nearly as large as the continent of Europe; and in less than three years' time, the voluntary contributions to suffering humanity have reached the enormous sum of two million pounds sterling in value.

* * * * * *

The terrible condition of affairs at the commencement of the war, was worse than our condition at the beginning of the Crimean Campaign. The disaffection, and the great strain put upon the existing order of things afforded no dependence for many months; and it was at a crisis of want and destitution that this volunteer association offered its services. But at last it finally got to work, and having elected the celebrated Frederick Law Olmstead as its Secretary, its labors became systematized, and isolated efforts in every part of the Union were rendered more effectual by working directly in harmony with the Central Association. Its departments, no longer recog-

nizing the existing division of States, had to take into consideration the best means of transporting its officers and goods to the theatre of war; and so the great rivers, railways, and roads marked its domains, and served as its main arteries. The inspection of camps and hospitals is one of its chief features, and many most valuable and statistical reports have been elicited on this subject, since each inspector has to give written answers to one hundred and eighty printed questions "on every possible detail affecting the health and effectiveness of the soldier, at every season of the year, and in widely distant latitudes."

The existing medical authorities were scarcely favorable to the Association, but on the appointment of the now celebrated Surgeon-General, Dr. W. A. Hammond, all their difficulties were smoothed over, and every facility given for it to do its work well. In the catalogue of its efficient labors may be mentioned the issuing of suitable medical works, especially for the camp, such as those by Dr. Mott on Pain and Anæsthetics, Hemorrhage from Wounds, &c., and many works on amputations, dysentery, &c., disseminated aforetime by Miss Nightingale, and which now makes her regarded by the American soldier as the beneficent genius of their hospitals and sick chambers.

A close inquiry into the diseases peculiar to the different sections of so vast a country was also instituted, and each department of the Potomac, Mississippi, Cumberland, Tennessee, &c., has to send in their information on these topics, and also the treatment usually adopted, and advice as to the best means of forwarding supplies. Hospital transports, consisting for the most part of large and well-ventilated steamers, were also sent, following the army from point to point, and always being at hand to take on board those whose necessities required their protection. Field cooking, too, so necessasy to the too careless American as well as British soldier was taught and practiced, and the best was sought to be made of the supplies that might be at hand. Inspection of troops, hospitals, and camps, attention to the tents, bedding, cleanliness of the soldier were likewise insisted on, and the multifarious labors of the Association were further augmented by endeavors to provide for the amusement, instruction, and attention to the *morale* of the soldier, as well as to enhance his bodily comforts in every way.

A momentous question, too, has engaged its attention, viz.: "What is to become of the tens of thousands of disabled soldiers after peace is restored?" so that Mr. Perkins, of New York, came over here to study the military pension and invalid system of Europe in order that its good features might be made available in America. The enormous quantity of articles and stores already given away by this Commission would, if duly enumerated, astound an English reader; and the disposition to give, either in money or goods, was so great when the writer hereof was in the cities of the Union, that he has often seen diamond rings and other valuable personal ornaments dropped into the Society's collection boxes when other things were wanting wherewith to contribute. Can we not aid, too, in this good secular work which helps both Federal and Confederate, asking only if they be suffering human beings? Indeed, the author of the pamphlet under notice says he often saw the rebels rather favored by the Commission than otherwise. Our hour of trouble may not be far off, we have watchful enemies on every side; our natural allies are the good Republicans of the United States; what we do now for Columbia will be returned to us tenfold, and we, who have so many brothers, sisters, and cousins over there, shall we not contribute of our great resources to so philanthropic a body as this Sanitary Commission has proved itself to be? Widely extended and innumerable as are the labors of this Society, the immense sum readily sent to its coffers must still be insufficient to enable it to carry out fully its humane efforts, which embrace far more than space will allow to be recorded here. For humanity's sake let not such an undertaking want for means. English nurses are employed in its service, let English funds be supplied to augment its good endeavors; and, as our author reminds us, can we, who have benefited by America's beneficence to Ireland and Lancashire, refuse to lend a helping hand to a work so nobly instituted, and so ably carried on?

We have said that this tribute to Florence Nightingale appears anonymously, but we have reason to know that its author is a gentleman well and favorably known to English literature. He is one that does good by stealth, and blushes to find it fame; but as he has long and zealously labored entirely at his own cost, and without other hope of reward than an approving conscience, to make Britons and Americans properly un-

derstand each other, we must venture to bring his honored name before our readers. Mr. Frederick Milnes Edge is the only English correspondent of the press who has really been on the field in the recent American battles. As representative of the *Morning Star*, he accompanied McClellan all through the Peninsular campaign, and was present altogether at not less than twenty-three battles. In 1860, he published his "Slavery Doomed," which contains observations that events have proved to be prophetic. His letters to Lord John Russell on American affairs have very much influenced the debates in our Houses of Parliament, and his recent publication on the Alabama and Kearsarge deserves to be in every one's hands, for its fairness and clear account of so celebrated an occurrence, who wishes to have a full and impartial acquaintance with the most celebrated sea encounter of modern times. It may, too, serve to stimulate other ladies, if they be told that the amiable wife of Mr. Edge is as great an enthusiast in the cause of humanity and of the Sanitary Commission as could well be wished, and that their benevolence of action has only been limited by the extent of their means. We may well learn a lesson from them, and imitate as far as we can, by bestowing aid and attention on the humanitarian efforts of the United States Sanitary Commission.

THE VALLEY.

From T. M. Blazier, at Harrisonburg, Va., Sept. 27.

On Monday, the 19th of Sept., inst., we we were in line of march across the river from our old camps, and by the middle of the forenoon we were again introduced to the horrid sights attendant on such an occasion. The battle was most vividly described by a correspondent, and my duties will only be mentioned.

In the morning, still the wounded came in in crowds, I was up at the Brigade Hospitals, and in sight of the rear of my corps, while the few wounded on skirmish line were coming in, (corps hospital not yet established,) but when shells came tumbling over the crest, I went to the side of the only road to the rear (viz: the pike) and there gave stimulant to wounded passing to the rear, both on stretcher and on foot.

Soon the hospital was established, and I had my wagon drawn near, and as wounded came by companies, there was work enough for all, and I took hold at general assisting and issued only diet during the day. The corps had a very large quantity of dressing with them in the morning, but their supply was very low at night.

By the middle of the afternoon, I started for the battle-field with stimulant, as I learned we were in possession of that of the morning, thinking I could do more good there. I remained on the field till dark, using all the stimulant with me, and covering up the sufferers, most of whom were very cold, and many of them in the most intense suffering. Many expressions of thanks cannot be forgotten, that were uttered on that occasion amidst groans indescribable. The most that were left on the field at that time were the Confederate wounded, and a majority of them were wounded in the back—the ball passing directly through.

In the evening I returned to my wagon, and the train with which my wagon has permission to travel, and is warranted protection, was already in motion, and I therefore went with it to Winchester and encamped for the night. By daylight Tuesday morning, we were marching toward Strausburg, and arrived some time after noon, where the army took up position in front of Fisher's Mill.

Wednesday we lay quiet with the trains. There was quite an excitement at the front, but no heavy charging, and our loss was small. Thursday afternoon and evening decided our stay at that point, and by late evening we were in rapid motion up the Valley and took breakfast near Woodstock on Friday morning. In the afternoon we moved on to Edensburg and encamped for the night.

Saturday we moved on below New Market about two miles, fighting almost all the way, and on Sunday reached Harrisonburg, where the army, except the cavalry, are quiet, enjoying that which they most need. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, I found it necessary to issue, while marching, all my shoes. In every case the men were entirely without, and several of them so sore that it was impossible for them to get shoes on. Such cases I put into my wagon.

Sunday night I heard from the rear for the first time, when I received orders to return to Winchester with my wagon, which will be done with the first train and escort, as it would be the height of imprudence to

attempt a passage alone. I have already disposed of some of my remaining supplies, and will hand over to the hospital the remainder.

Notes from Berryville, Va., by J. V. Hammer.

Was busy making out my report when I was informed that a reconnoissance was going out. Went out with them; placed two bottles of stimulant in saddle-bags for use of wounded; found the enemy and drove them back on their main force. Our casualties were two killed and five wounded—issues comparatively small. Issued bottle of stimulant to sick and wounded, and some minor articles to individual relief.

* * * It rained all day; was very busy—more so than on any day since I have been in the corps. Furnished hospital with all necessary articles, also, a great deal of individual relief. To men with chills stimulants and some clothing were issued, they being destitute, and no possible way of obtaining any.

* * * Mr. Knowlton, agent from the Ferry, arrived the evening before with mail and invoice of goods at the Ferry, and to see what the field agents needed. Made out my requisition, and then piloted him to the agent's headquarters of the Sixth and Eighth Corps.

* * * Was very busy all day issuing to Surgeon's orders. Supplies arrived from the Ferry. Transferred the supplies to my wagon and team.

* * * Overhauled and repacked goods in wagon; then visited the new hospital of 1st Division 19th Army Corps, just established a day or so Issued to them all they needed. Everything works well in this corps in regard to the Commission. All are loud in their praise of it, and all facilities that can be are afforded me, by order of Major General Emery, Commanding Corps, and Dr. Brownell, Medical Director.

Notes from Winchester by F. A. Adams.

Sept. 26.—Goods arrived from Harper's Ferry. A large lot of them. Helped issue some of them, and visited two hospitals.

Tuesday, Sept. 27.—This morning we held a meeting with seven of the Union ladies of this city, who are each to have a district assigned them, consisting of one or two hospitals, which they are to visit and draw the supplies they need from the Commission. This afternoon I made some milk punch and carried it around, with some tobacco, to ward 4, hospital of the 19th corps. The boys were very grateful for it.

Wednesday, Sept. 28.—Early this morning the Medical Purveyor offered us an extra wagon, which we loaded and sent to the front. I visited three Confederate hospitals; they seemed as well supplied as our own. The surgeons were very gentlemanly, and glad to receive our aid.

Sept. 29.—* * * Visited the Taylor House hospital; they look much better than they did a few days ago. Went to see a soldier, wounded, in a private house. He had almost no clothing at all, and suffering severely from his wound. I sent him what he needed most.

* * * Saw some of the ladies who are visiting hospitals (according to instructions) and made out requisitions of articles they were in need of for the wounded. The rest of the day spent in duties about the storeroom.

* * * Saw the surgeons in charge of the 6th and cavalry corps hospitals and ascertained the number of their sick and wounded, amounting to about 450 in all. Visited the cavalry corps hospital, in a church. It looked very well indeed, clean and well ventilated. They all had beds and a fair supply of clothing.

Notes from Harper's Ferry, by George Knowlton.

Friday morning, I was ordered to visit the hospital at Sandy Hook, Md., in company with Mr. Marks. The wards visited were those containing the amputated cases. We found the poor fellows suffering from all kinds of wounds, but bearing most nobly their suffering for the cause of liberty and justice. We found them also very much in need of stimulants, particularly wines. One case in particular I noticed in Ward No. 1, of a young man who had undergone a very severe operation, and, as I was told by the ward master, could not live. I asked him if I could bring him anything to eat or drink. He said he had no appetite to eat anything, but should like a bottle of sherry wine; he thought it would strengthen him and give him an appetite.

Cases like the above are to be met with every day, and were it not for the stimulants issued by the Sanitary Commission the suffering would be much greater. In the afternoon I visited the hospital in charge

of Dr. Ditts, on Bolivar Heights, but found the men receiving such good care and attention from their excellent surgeon and matron that there was very little we could do for them—about the only articles called for by the men were tobacco and some reading matter. Sunday morning I was ordered to take charge of a load of stores for the hospitals at Hagerstown, Md., which were left destitute by the rebels in the late raids in Maryland. I arrived in Hagerstown Sunday evening, and found them destitute indeed; the poor fellows were laying in common bunks filled with loose straw. The surgeon, Dr. Lees, was very thankful for the articles sent, and pleased at the promptness with which his requisition had been filled, and in a handsome letter sent to Col. Müleck, expressed his thanks to the Commission for their kindness to him and his men.

Friday morning, Mr. Hammer kindly offered to accompany me to the different corps I had to visit. We found Mr. Blazier, of the 6th corps, in the woods, about a quarter of a mile from the Summit Point Pike, between the 19th and 8th corps, and Mr. Evans, of the 8th, about five miles farther on the same road. The corps having made an advance the day before, made it rather difficult to find them. I found all the wagons very much in need of more stimulants and many other necessary articles, such as shirts, drawers, crackers, &c., and trust they may be re-supplied by the next train.

Notes from Crook's Division, Va., by D. W. Evans.

I find every facility for working, always welcomed among officers of every grade and department, and so it is comparatively easy to find out who the needy are, among the men. This corps especially, by its marches and counter-marches, is so much reduced and worn that it calls for a liberal supply of all kinds of stores, especially light diet and warm clothing for the hospitals, whose patients number an average of one hundred during this week. Among the comforts afforded them, has been blankets, which have been of inestimable service. Men are often to blame for not having their blankets with them. But when sick they should have them. I ask a liberal supply of them for this fall weather and cold nights. I have supplied these hospitals for several days. Being further removed from the base of supplies than previous weeks, the supply trains are not as punctual as formerly, hence the reason for falling back exclusively on *our* supplies. In addition to furnishing personally and visiting the hospitals, I have supplied the surgeons of many regiments with the articles, as per requisitions inclosed, but generally I have distributed directly to the men in the several regiments, oftentimes carrying it to them in my saddle bags and straps.

I have distributed stimulants in greater quantities than I shall hope to do in future, for the sick men have been wet and chilly, and we have moved three times during the week. Everything that can be, is done for the comfort of the field hospitals by those in charge of them. There is a great demand for stimulating medicines, such as cayene pepper, Jamaica ginger (essence), blackberry brandy and cherry cordial.

A. G. Muhlech.

Martinsburg,
October 9, 1864.

Since my last report, two trains, consisting each of six four-horse teams, heavily loaded with an assorted cargo of Sanitary goods have been forwarded from Martinsburg to Winchester. Bedding, clothing, and farinaceous food have been in pressing demand. We have supplied the different corps hospitals to a large extent; in fact, some of these hospitals in town have been provided with almost everything they needed in that line. Less complete has been our supply of delicacies, and these we mostly entrusted to the noble women who so generously volunteered to cook and prepare articles of extra diet. Soft crackers, chocolate, tea, jellies, milk, eggs, and sherry wine have been dealt out generously, and most properly and judiciously applied. Surgeons as well as the patients themselves and our hopital visitors, all coincide in this welcome report. Before I left for Washington, I had an interview with most of the surgeons in charge, and ascertained what articles were greatly wanted, viz: feeding-cups, bed-pans, oil silk, adhesive plaster, etc.; also, a further supply of quilts, blankets and pillows. On my arrival at Martinsburg, I ordered to the front all those articles on hand; the same thing I did at Harper's Ferry. Dr. Harris, who doubtless postpones his departure from Winchester until I can reach that point, will give you more definite statements as to

the management of the hospitals and the condition of their inmates.

I hasten to add here, that the flying visit I was enabled to-day to pay to our several temporary hospitals, at Martinsburg, has impressed me with the conviction, that,—if not more pressingly needed at Winchester—Miss Harris' presence and labor in *this* town would result in infinite good. Large numbers of wounded pass frequently through town, and there is nobody to look after them, further than to show them into the cars. Some warm food, tea and coffee, prepared by a woman's hand, would be a great relief to the poor sufferers, who very often, hungry as they are, do not get anything before they reach their final destination. I shall duly report to you, without delay, the result of my consultation with the medical authorities, and the impressions of my own mind and judgment in regard to the further sphere of usefulness of Miss Harris, outside of Harper's Ferry. The hospitals temporarily established in this town contain at this moment several hundred sick and wounded. They are *not* yet in good condition, and demand the continued care and vigilance of our agency here. Larger or smaller detachments of sick and wounded are coming in daily, without previous information being given to the medical officers in charge, and some confusion is necessary. Quite a heavy draft for bedding and under-clothing has thus been made on our stores here; however, this is easily explained by the fact, that most of these articles go further East with those transient patients. Two or three excellent Union ladies, for whose character and devotion I may personally vouch, declare themselves willing to assist us in our mission, and ready to prepare food for those in want.

Finally, I would respectfully suggest to send henceforward only *such* stores and in *such* quantities as immediate need may justify. The number of wounded at Winchester has been largely reduced since I left the town. I hardly think more than twelve hundred remain there now, and a further decrease may be expected immediately on the opening of the Manassas road.

WANTED.—The cold weather approaches, and our men in the field will need mittens. Let the long evenings at home be occupied in knitting soldiers' mittens.

WANTED FOR MEN IN THE ARMY.

"Housewives" or "Comfort Bags."

Small bags, each containing one-half dozen assorted needles, one skein white cotton, one skein black linen thread, one-half dozen horn or porcelain shirt buttons, (large size), one-half dozen pantaloon buttons, a small ball of yarn, (any color), a darning needle and a few pins. With this material men can repair clothing that would otherwise be thrown away.

SHIPMENTS IN SEPTEMBER.

From the 3d to the 29th of this month, beside many other articles in greater or less amount, there have been shipped to Sherman's army from the depot in Louisville, the following supplies:

704 pillow cases,	4,201 shirts,
2,666 pairs drawers,	1,679 cans fruit,
3,825 lbs. concentrated beef,	9,456 pounds crackers,
2,739 pounds dried fruit.	16,589 gallons pickles,
864 bushels potatoes.	10,637 bushels onions,
30,000 pounds ice,	5,172 bottles lime-juice,
835 pounds tobacco,	
3,474 towels and handkerchiefs,	
3,565 pounds of rags and bandages,	
1,727 bottles of wine and spirits.	

The Dunleith likewise was loaded to the utmost, here and at Cairo, about the 20th, with valuable stores for New Orleans, Vicksburg, and Memphis. Her cargo consisted of the following articles:

4,798 bushels onions,	48 dozen catsup,
5,510 gallons pickles,	15 dozen ginger wine,
350 bushels potatoes,	3 pounds sponges,
600 gallons krout,	20 pounds herbs,
12,100 pounds crackers,	60 fans,
4,200 pounds dried apples,	2,712 shirts,
1,740 lbs. concentrated beef,	1,114 pairs drawers,
22 doz canned tomatoes,	192 sheets,
12 doz. Catawba wine,	880 pillow cases,
3 doz raspb'y vinegar,	274 handkerchiefs,
1 doz. whisky,	94 comforts and quilts,
576 cans blackberry,	396 towels,
100 pairs gloves,	18 dressing gowns.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Of Dr. J. S. Newberry, Secretary Western Department, U. S. Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky. From September 1, 1861, *to July* 1, 1864.

From September 1, 1861, *to January* 1, 1862.

Expenses—		
Stationery & office print'g,	$14 25	
Freight (not for supply department,) . . .	15 00	
Petty expenses in office, .	11 00	
Office salaries, . .	945 06	
		985 31
Supply Department—		
Transportat'n of supplies,	48 40	
Miscellaneous, . .	469 55	
		517 95
Total, ...		$1,503 26

For the Year 1862.

Expenses—		
Advertising,	$133 30	
Stationery and office printing,	191 83	
Freight (not for supply department),	27 53	
Postage,	18 48	
Telegrams,	61 08	
Rent,	345 00	
Petty expenses in office,	237 83	
Office salaries,	2,756 35	
		3,771 40
General Inspection—		
Compensation,	$3,816 97	
Expenses,	2,059 01	
		5,875 98
Directory—		
Compensation,	$597 63	
Expenses,	43 00	
		640 63
Relief Department—		
Expenses of Relief Corps	$ 45 00	
Home at Louisville,	1,132 75	
Hospital Cars,	158 68	
Hospital Boats,	1,864 12	
		3,200 55
Supply Department—		
Storehouse wages and expenses,	$ 40 00	
Purchase of supplies,	4,519 29	
Distribution of supplies,	2,874 47	
Transpor'n of supplies,	638 54	
Canvassing,	198 50	
		8,270 80
Miscellaneous,		1,669 23
Total,		$23,418 59

For the Year 1863.

Expenses—		
Advertising,	$288 23	
Stationery and office printing,	2,007 91	
Freight (not for supply department),	115 58	
Postage,	403 12	
Telegrams,	42 67	
Rent,	1,359 66	
Petty expenses in office,	1,802 40	
Office salaries,	8,147 61	
		14,167 18
Publication—		
Sanitary Reporter,	$2,622 14	
Documents, Monographs, &c.,	731 80	
		3,353 94
General Inspection—		
Compensation,	$9,116 99	
Expenses,	3,987 02	
		13,104 01
Directory—		
Compensation,	$8,017 74	
Expenses,	1,519 66	
		9,537 40
Carried forward,		$40,162 53

Brought forward,		$40,162 53
Relief Department—		
Compensation,	$4,609 03	
Expenses,	2,270 91	
Home at Cairo,	1,606 87	
" Memphis,	1,098 80	
" Nashville,	1,068 40	
" Louisville,	1,147 10	
Hospital Cars,	2,171 01	
Hospital Boats,	10,000 00	
		23,972 12
Supply Department—		
Storehouse wages and expenses,	$2,810 19	
Purchase of supplies,	34,430 68	
Distribution "	17,194 49	
Transportation "	28,933 54	
Canvassing,	5,539 04	
		88,907 99
Miscellaneous,		2,281 28
Total,		$155,323 84

From January 1 *to July* 1, 1864.

Expenses—		
Stationery and office printing,	$486 00	
Postage,	208 42	
Rent,	515 00	
Petty expenses in office,	1,861 08	
Office salaries,	5,453 33	
		8,523 83
General Inspection—		
Compensation,	$4,190 32	
Expenses,	898 84	
		5,089 16
Directory—		
Compensation,	$4,456 16	
Expenses,	1,041 34	
		5,497 50
Publication—		
Sanitary Reporter,		1,929 94
Relief Department—		
Compensation,	$8,615 47	
Expenses,	3,971 31	
Home at Cairo,	4,860 89	
" Memphis,	1,177 11	
" Nashville,	1,452 88	
" Louisville,	35 00	
" Camp Nelson,	2,065 95	
" Knoxville,	139 50	
" Stevenson,	629 60	
" Chattanooga,	279 82	
Hospital Cars,	984 71	
Hospital Boats,	1,063 22	
		25,275 46
Supply Department—		
Storehouse expenses,	$1,173 64	
Local expenses,	60 00	
Purchase of supplies,	54,642 59	
Distribution "	27,941 72	
Transportation, "	6,648 28	
Canvassing,	3,231 05	
		93,697 28
Miscellaneous,		802 52
Total,		$140,819 69

Summary.

Expenses—		
Advertising,	$421 53	
Stationery and office printing,	2,699 99	
Freight (not for supply department),	158 11	
Postage,	630 02	
Rent,	2,219 66	
Office expenses,	3,912 31	
Telegrams,	103 75	
Office salaries,	17,302 35	
		27,447 72
Publications—		
Sanitary Reporter,	$4,552 08	
Documents, Monographs, &c.,	731 80	
		5,283 88
General Inspection—		
Compensation,	$17,124 28	
Expenses,	6,944 87	
		24,069 15
Directory—		
Compensation,	$13,071 53	
Expenses,	2,604 00	
		15,675 53
Relief Department—		
Compensation,	$13,224 50	
Expenses,	6,287 22	
Home at Cairo,	6,467 76	
" Memphis,	2,275 91	
" Nashville,	2,521 28	
" Louisville,	2,314 85	
" Camp Nelson,	2,065 95	
" Knoxville,	139 50	
" Stevenson,	629 60	
" Chattanooga,	279 82	
Hospital Cars,	3,314 40	
Hospital Boats,	12,297 34	
		52,448 13
Supply Department—		
Storehouse wages, &c.,	$3,823 83	
Local expenses,	260 00	
Purchase of supplies,	93,592 56	
Distribution "	48,010 68	
Transportation "	36,268 76	
Canvassing, "	8,968 59	
		190,924 42
Miscellaneous,		5,216 59
Total,		$321,065 42

THE SANITARY COMMISSION AND OUR BRAVE SOLDIERS.

The United States Sanitary Commission steamer Elizabeth left Philadelphia on Saturday morning for City Point, with a full cargo of clothing and sanitary stores for the use of our brave soldiers in the army operating before Richmond, at a cost of $44,383 74.

The public will see that their generous contributions to our late "Great Fair" are being put to a good use.

The following named articles comprise the Elizabeth's cargo.

5,000 wool shirts.
744 pairs wool drawers.
433 dozen wool socks.
200 quilts.
799 bed sacks.
210 sheets.
500 towels.
528 pairs leather slippers.
14,565 pounds crackers.
10,168 pounds tobacco.
350 barrels onions.
75 barrels sweet potatoes.
50 barrels white potatoes.
50 barrels beets.
5,000 heads cabbage.
50 boxes peaches.
20 barrels family flour.
415 pounds tea.
60 dozen Sherry wine.
40 dozen ale.
50 dozen Monongahela whisky.
100 dozen old cherry brandy.
2,376 pounds crushed sugar.
821 pounds butter.
883 pounds dried beef.
30 kitts mackerel.
2,000 pounds codfish.
4,800 pounds condensed milk.
6,360 pounds canned roast beef.
4,530 pounds beef and vegetable soup.
2,400 pounds corn starch.
2,400 pounds farina.
50 boxes lemons.
25 dozen lemon syrup.
100 dozen canned peaches.
258 dozen canned tomatoes.
5 dozen tomato catsup.
60 dozen apple butter.
20 kegs tripe.
26 dozen Julienne soup.
122 dozen flavoring extract.
10 gross essence ginger.
40 dozen pickled onions.
50 dozen half pickles.
1 case salt.
10 dozen egg nogg.
749 pounds dried peaches.
3,425 pounds dried apples.
43 gallons coal oil.
600 pounds corned beef.
3 dozen bay rum.
331 arm slings.
1 box reading matter.
839 books.
10,000 envelopes.
27 gross pens.
10 gross lead pencils.
10 gross inkstands.
2,000 tin cups.
10 gross pie plates.
4 dozen box graters.
16 gross iron table spoons.
18 pounds patent thread.
20 gross matches.
140 dozen combs.
10 dozen pails.
10 dozen spirits camphor.
2,000 paper bags,

Philada. Evening Bulletin, Sept. 21, 1864.

Issues from Philadelphia Agency U. S. Sanitary Commission for month of September, 1864.

Sept. 1.—*To Louisville.*		
263 cases, 12 boxes, each, lime juice,	$1,483 25.	
Sept. 6.—*To City Point, Va.*		
130 barrels onions.		
28 barrels beets.		
47 barrels sweet potatoes.		
20 boxes peaches.		
35 tons coal.		
150 newspapers.	1,881 65	
Sept. 30.—*To Baltimore, Md.*		
257 bed-sacks.		
224 wrappers.		
89 wool shirts.		
515 wool drawers.		
276 cotton flannel shirts.		
684 pads.		
639 pillows.		
236 dozen bandages.		
176 pairs slippers.		
480 towels.		
1,119 pairs wool socks.		
1 pair mittens.		
78 slings.		
380 finger stalls.		
24 eye shades.		
2,630 combs (fine and coarse).		
9 pieces mosquito netting.		
6 pieces oil silk.		
34 cans fruit.		
21 cans apple butter.		
162 pounds farina.		
38 bottles raspberry vinegar.		
38 pounds corn starch.		
153 bottles blackberry brandy.		
408 bottles Sherry wine.		
102 fans.		
1 barrel dried fruit.		
100 games.		
180 gallons vinegar.		
106 pounds tobacco.		
48 bottles Cayenne pepper.		
25 pounds Cayenne pepper.		
15 bottles blackberry cordial.	6,262 86	
500 ounces bromine.	330 00	
	9,957 76	
Cargo steamer Elizabeth,	44,383 74	
	$54,341 50	

PROTECTIVE War-Claim Association

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Apply in person or by letter, to

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OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.

2d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.

3d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.

4th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
A. E. Shiras, U. S. A.
R. C. Wood, Assistant Surgeon-Gen'l U. S. A
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., New York.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clarke, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, jr., Philadelphia, Penna.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Prof. Fairman Rogers, Philadelphia, Penna.
C. J. Stillé, Philadelphia, Penna.
Ezra B. McCagg, Chicago, Ill.

OFFICERS.

H. W. Bellows, D.D., President.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Vice-President.
George T. Strong, Treasurer.
J. Foster Jenkins, M.D., General Secretary.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Associate Secretary.
J. H. Douglas, M.D., Associate Secretary.
F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary.

STANDING COMMITTEE.

Henry W. Bellows, D.D.
George T. Strong.
William H. Van Buren, M.D.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D.
C. R. Agnew, M.D.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, N. Y.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 Fourth Street, Pittsburgh, Penna.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, O.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

General Superintendent, Rev. F. N. Knapp, Washington, D. C. Chief Assistant, J. B. Abbott.

Soldiers' Home, near Baltimore Railroad Depot, Washington, D. C.

Lodge No. 4, H Street, between Thirteenth and and Fourteenth Streets.

Lodge No. 5, Maryland Avenue, near Railroad Station.

Nurses' Home, Washington, D. C.

Soldiers' Lodge, 76 Kingston Street, Boston.

Soldiers' Home, Third Street, east of Broadway, Cincinnati, O.—Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill.—C. N. Shipman, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky.—James Malona, Superintendent. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn.—L. Crane, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Columbus, O.——, Superin't.

Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, O.—Joseph Jerome, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn.—C. W. Christy, Superintend't and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Lodge, Vicksburg, Miss.—T. Way, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, New Orleans, La.—C. F. Howes, Superintendent.

AGENCY FOR PENSIONS.

William F. Bascom, Pension Agent, Washington, D. C.

HOSPITAL CARS.

Between Washington and New York—Sol. Andrews, M.D., Surgeon in charge.

Between New York and Boston, via Springfield.

Between Louisville and Chattanooga—Dr. J. P. Barnum, Surgeon in charge.

SANITARY STEAMER.

James River—Elizabeth.

DURYEA'S MAIZENA

RECEIVED

TWO PRIZE MEDALS





(FROM JURIES 3 AND 4)

AT THE

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION,

LONDON, 1862.

Being Sole Awards gained by anything of the kind. It also received Superlative Report of

"EXCEEDING EXCELLENT FOR FOOD."

MAIZENA,

At the GREAT INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION at HAMBURG, July, 1863, received the highest Prize Medal for its great delicacy as an article of food.

MAIZENA,

At the FAIR of the NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, at Utica, N.Y., September, 1863, received both DIPLOMA and MEDAL.

MAIZENA,

At the Pennsylvania State Fair at Norristown,

OCTOBER 3, 1863, TOOK GOLD MEDAL.

"MAIZENA" has also taken the first premium at the AMERICAN INSTITUTE, New York City; NEW JERSEY STATE FAIR at Trenton, and at other places—in every instance where it has been exhibited.

"MAIZENA" has never failed to receive the highest award when placed in competition with Corn Starch and all articles of like character, after a thorough Microscopical and Analytical Examination of disinterested judges. It therefore stands commended to the public as the best article of its kind in the world without any comments of the manufacturer.

MAIZENA,

For Puddings, Cakes, Custards, Blanc Mange, &c., without isinglass, with few or no eggs, at a cost astonishing the most economical. It is also excellent for thickening sweet sauces, gravies for fish and meat, soups, &c. For Ice Cream, nothing can compare with it. A little boiled in milk will produce rich cream for Coffee, Chocolate, Tea, &c.

Put up in one pound packages, under the trade mark "Maizena," with directions for use.

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Important Information for Soldiers and Sailors who have lost Limbs.

The "PALMER" ARM and LEG are now furnished for the mutilated heroes of the Army and Navy, and I have the pleasure of presenting extracts from official letters from the Surgeon-General, which will gratify numerous applicants, who, in the past, have been led to believe that they must accept an inferior limb, or have no aid from Government.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * *
IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.
By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.
C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20. 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.
Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

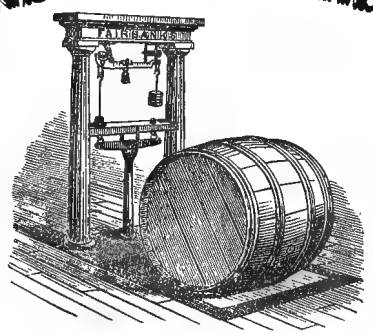
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From Statement for the Sixth Fiscal Year, ending December 31, 1863.

Total Amount of Assets, January 1, 1864	$3,140,930 80
Total Amount of Premiums	3,252,256 76
Excess of Earned Premiums over Losses, &c	1,137,063 33
Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies	441,206 49
Guaranteed Cash Dividend to Dealers, (holding certificates of same) on Paid Premiums Earned during the Year, whether Loss has Accrued or not	269,614 80
Scrip Dividend to Dealers, on Earned Premiums	15 per cent.
Dividend for the Year to Stockholders	26 per cent.

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DEALERS WITH THIS COMPANY will be allowed the option (to be signified at the time of application for insurance) of receiving in lieu of scrip, at the end of each year, RETURNS IN CASH (guaranteed by certificate) of premiums paid and earned during the year, whether loss accrues or not, upon all new risks under the NEW YORK FORM OF POLICY, as follows:

1st. Upon all VOYAGE Risks upon CARGO, a return of TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT.

2d. Upon VOYAGE Risks upon FREIGHT, a return of TWENTY PER CENT.

3d. Upon TIME Risks upon FREIGHT, and upon VOYAGE and TIME Risks upon HULLS, a return of TEN PER CENT.

Such privilege, however, being confined to persons and firms, the aggregate of whose premiums upon such policies earned and paid during the year, shall amount to the sum of one hundred dollars.

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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

VOL. I. PHILADELPHIA, NOVEMBER 1, 1864. No. 25.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

CORRECTION.

In the report of County Council for West Chester and Putnam counties, N. Y., which appeared in the last number of BULLETIN, the following names of delegates were omitted. We take pleasure in completing the report by noticing them here.

Delegation from Dobbs Ferry, Mrs. Ackerman, Miss Hotchkiss, Miss Lent.

Delegation from Somers, Miss Brown.

LETTER FROM VERMONT.

The following letter is so full of patriotism, that we must take the liberty of printing it for the encouragement of others. Let all read it.

VICTORY, VT., *Oct.* 1864.

DEAR SIR:—Enclosed please find one dollar as partial remuneration for your very interesting and useful work, which we have received nearly a year. It has been an efficient stimulus to keep up a lively interest in the hearts of the few, in this place, who are striving to aid a little in rendering relief to our suffering soldiers. This section of the country is very thinly settled, no villages or towns, and the people generally poor. At the commencement of the war some three or four ladies, most of them in indigent circumstances, made an effort to form a society for the relief of our sick and wounded soldiers. Being unable to obtain any assistance from other parts of the town, they felt obliged to abandon the project. But their patriotism could not long be restrained, and they resolved to do what little they could. They were at length joined by others and a few dollars were contributed. By untiring effort they have succeded in filling four boxes. Our offerings are few and meagre compared with those other societies, but we hope they may be of some use where so much is needed. The zeal that for a time moved others to activity seems to have died away, and the few are again left to labor alone. Though they can do but little, I trust their efforts will not cease while this dreadful war continues.

This is simply to let you know that your papers are received and appreciated, for which receive our warmest thanks.

Very truly yours,
MRS. C. W. KNEELAND.

THREE MONTHS CAMPAIGN IN THE SERVICE OF THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

As humanity is pretty much the same everywhere, and as I am human, I am certain that any facts or incidents which came

under my observation; and that interested me during my days of service in the Sanitary Commission, is likely to interest those of your readers whose hearts, and hands, and pockets are consecrated to the same noble and christian enterprise. I will occasionally occupy a small space in your columns, and endeavour to present such features of this work, which, though often treated upon, will still bear reiteration.

SUPPLIES.

I recollect well that my first wonder on getting an inside view of the workings of the Sanitary Commission, was at the immense amount of supplies required to meet the demands of each recurring day. I had frequently read in the newspapers manifests of the cargoes of propellers, and steamers, and barges employed by the Sanitary Commission to convey supplies to the water base of the Army of the Potomac, and had been both astonished and gratified; but figures on paper convey only a very remote approximation to the realization of the fact stated.

The first steamboat of the U. S. Sanitary Commission I was ever upon, was the Mary F. Rapley, and she was filled from stem to stern with sanitary stores, not a square foot of available space but had its load. When she left Washington, her manifest, containing a long list of articles, was published in the papers of that city; and to a person uninitiated, it seemed so long and so varied a list that he would think there was enough to supply the sick and wounded of a whole campaign. And yet two days' work at Port Royal exhausted the entire stock. And here let it be understood that these stores were not given out with a prodigal hand, for had they been, the stores on the "Kennedy" and "Hoboken," two Sanitary Commission barges, would also have been well nigh exhausted. No! but rather they were distributed in a manner which, if not parsimonious, was very economical. Every requisition for stores was duly examined, and all the particulars under which the requisition was framed were ascertained, and the articles granted with a due regard to the wants of the case and the condition of our supplies. In this connection it may not be improper to state that Mr. John A. Anderson, in charge of the Rapley, on arriving at Belle Plain on Monday evening, May 23, 1864, found our forces evacuating that place; and having learned the whereabouts of the next military base, he immediately headed his vessel for the place, which was Port Royal, on the Rappahannock. At that place our steamer arrived with its valuable supplies and large corps of nurses. With the exception of two gunboats ours was the third vessel there. Immediately after arrival the relief corps went ashore, pitched tents, built fires, and began at once to succor the wounded; seven hundred of whom had just arrived. The good work was prosecuted until every soldier who could, had taken refreshments; it was 3 A. M. of the 26th before the corps had finished their work.

I conclude this paper with the statement, that if the United States Sanitary Commission had never performed a good deed other than what it accomplished at Port Royal, its mission would have been a noble one. *For twenty-four hours at that point there were no supplies for the sick and wounded other than those furnished by this Commission*, and to get to that place the poor sufferers had ridden in springless army wagons, on corduroy roads, for thirty miles, without food; and had been three days in transit. At the expiration of twenty-four hours, government supplies were on hand in abundance, and were used in common with our own by our relief agents. *During our stay at Port Royal the United States Sanitary Commission was the only benevolent association represented there.* J. J. B.

LETTER FROM CITY POINT, REV. A. CATHER.

I wish to record my gratitude to God for the privilege of taking a trip to the region occupied by the armies operating against Richmond, and of seeing the great field of usefulness there opened up to a benevolent public. Please allow me to give a brief account of my visit, with familiarity, and of my impressions with freedom.

I noticed before reaching City Point that the name of the Sanitary Commission commands great respect among Government officials. My first evening spent at City Point impressed me with the magnitude of the work of the Commission from that stand-point as a base of supplies, and I began to feel impressed that there were influences at work for our brave soldiers of which I had never dreamed. The next day after reaching the Point, Dr. McDonald recommended me to go to the corps hospitals and see the working of the Auxiliary Relief Corps, under the superintendency of Mr. Fay. Thus each hour of that new day new

wonders opened to my view, and at its close I felt thankful to acknowledge it as one of the happiest days of my life. As I went from ward to ward through the hospitals with the agents, and saw the pleasure it afforded sick and wounded heroes to see us pass among them, I felt that each agent occupies an envious position among his fellow-men. Several incidents illustrate.

AN INDIAN SHARPSHOOTER.

Joy thrilled my heart as I bathed the broad breast of an Indian sharpshooter from Michigan, as I saw the expression of relief and gratitude that played upon his countenance, though he could scarcely speak a word of English. O how small a compensation is the utmost kindness to that son of the forest, be he sick or well, who goes forth to fight the battles of liberty.

AN IRISHMAN.

An Irishman, who seemed very much revived and refreshed by a little cologne poured upon his handkerchief, exclaimed, "O glory be to God." "Thanks be to the Son of God." It seemed to him a sort of climax of the kindness of the Sanitary Commission.

A GERMAN AND OTHERS.

A German, to whom the same little attention was paid, said, with great zest, "Dis like de faderland." Another man who was expressing earnest gratitude for some attention paid to him, was exhorted to render thanks to God, as the thanks did not belong to us, said: "Yes, all good gifts come from God," and seemed happy in the remembrance. One young man said, "Oh, if my mother could only do this for me," and we replied, we wish it could be so, but as it cannot, the Sanitary Commission was aiming to make up for the absence from home and friends. Again and again we heard the invitation, when leaving, the wards "Come again," "come soon again," &c.

The next morn Dr. McD. rode up in haste, saying to Mr. Fay that there had been a battle on the right, and that there were a large number of wounded at Deep Bottom without sufficient supplies and requesting him to be ready as soon as possible with as many agents as he could spare. The tug was soon at the wharf, and in a few minutes afterwards we were under way. The tug itself seemed almost under the inspiration of the hour, as she compelled the waters that a short time before swept by the rebellious city to bear devoted hearts and full supplies for our wounded brave. The scene that presented itself to us when we reached

DEEP BOTTOM.

beggars description. "The garments rolled in blood," "the groans and dying strife," filled the heart with horror for the moment. Three sets of shelter-tents were filled with double rows of wounded white and black men, who laid indiscriminately side by side. Together they fought and fell, and were laid side by side to receive equal attention from surgeon and nurse and agent of Commission. At once the agents went to work dressing wounds and distributing delicacies of food and drink, brought by the tug, as far as possible, according to the wants of each suffering man. The scenes presented at those amputating tables and tents, through those weary days and nights of suffering and storm and cold, can never be forgotten. How thankful were hundreds that the Sanitary Commission was represented by abundant supplies for those most pressing necessities and willing hands to distribute them day and night. Shirts torn and clotted with blood were exchanged for others new and warm, and other under-clothing as it was needed. Men shivering with pain did not forget to express earnest thanks for the well-timed provision. "A thousand thanks," cries one, "O thank you kind friends," cries another. O could the kind donors of these comforts have passed through those tents during those days of pain, and heard the expressions, how abundantly would they have been compensated for their donations, and how inspired would they have felt for new effort in this glorious cause!

Many scenes and incidents presented themselves during those several days, of a deeply interesting and impressive character.

A NEW YORKER.

One young man from New York City, about seventeen years of age was mortally wounded in the abdomen. He frequently exclaimed, "O, I am so sick!" He dictated a letter to his mother, stating that he was wounded the day before, but that he hoped to get along nicely. I inquired if he had anything in his pockets to send to his mother. He replied: "No, I have nothing to send her but my best love." Poor boy! it was his last message. As I told him to trust in God and remember that "Jesus died that he might live," he clasped his hand de-

voutly. The death agony and sickness came upon him, and in about half an hour after he dictated his last letter the mortal struggle ended. In his pockets were found a likeness of his sister and a few pieces of postage currency, which were sent to his mother.

HAPPY MAN.

Another brave man lay on a stretcher waiting to be laid upon the amputating table. We had done what we could for his comfort. I tried to speak cheering words and words of comfort to his soul. It was feared his wound would prove mortal. He presented a sublime spectacle as he lay suspended between time and eternity. He said, "I would love to live and see my wife and children, but I have peace with God and am not afraid to die, and I am resigned to the will of God." Happy man! Many wounded expressed gratitude that it was not worse with them. Others said they did not regret going into the army, and hoped they would get well so as to go back and see the thing through. Here are our patriots who know the issue in this contest and are willing to meet it, even unto death. Many other cases, equally interesting, I must pass.

THE FRONT.

My visit to the front, both right and left, was full of interest. I found the men cheerful to the utmost, though the men of the right had been suffering from exposure to the drenching rains, without their tents and without full supplies of food. They were confident of success. They say we will trust God and Grant, and will take care of the Johnnies. They requested the people at home not to forget them. Intelligent officers, as well as men, say with emphasis, if the men had more vegetables, &c., they would save many from sickness. Some say send plenty of saurkraut, pickles, and dried fruit, and they will go right to the spot. All along these bristling lines there is intelligence, and courage, and patriotism, and piety that will challenge the admiration of all good men. As I came away from those most interesting and exciting scenes my soul was all a-glow. A man may live a long period in a few days in that great army. Time would fail me to detail all the evidences of Christian heroism that presented itself.

The magnitude of the work and usefulness of the Sanitary Commission, to the souls and bodies of our soldiers, no one can fully know, who is not acquainted with the working of the entire system in all its details. I might speak particularly of the diligence and fidelity, the hard work and long hours at it, and love for it, on the part of those who work the vast and complicated machinery of the Commission with whom I was brought in contact, but cannot now. God bless them all in their great calling.

Of the work of the Commission in Washington I will not dare to give a description. It is so vast and complicated, and yet so systematically done, that the ablest pen would be required to do it justice.

VALUABLE TESTIMONY.

HOSPITAL 3D DIVISION 2D CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., Oct. 10, 1864.

DR. MCDONALD,
Chief of Sanitary Commission, Army of the Potomac.

DEAR SIR:—In behalf of the many sick and wounded soldiers of our army who have been in hospitals of the 2d Division 3d Corps, at Fitzhugh House, of the 3d Corps at Potomac Creek, and of the 2d Division 3d Corps at Brandy Station, under my charge, as well as the one where I am now writing, permit me to give my testimony to the usefulness of the United States Sanitary Commission — representing as it does, the expressions of the masses at home, it opens its storehouses to every soldier and gives him freely from its bounteous supplies; and being ever ready, it does not fail to do good wherever there is opportunity. The money so liberally given by the people at home is by no means given in vain — it reaches in a substantial way the tent and the hospital—to the well in the trenches, and to the sick and wounded ones in hospital. The agents of this Commission are always esteemed as gentlemen, and the true friends of the soldier. It has become a fixed institution, and whoever may write the history of this war cannot fail to give a conspicuous place in its pages to the United States Sanitary Commission.

I am, doctor, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
EDWARD LIVINGSTON WELLING,
Surgeon in Chief 3d Brigade 3d Division 2d Corps.

UNION PRISONERS IN TEXAS.

Dr. G. A. Blake, agent of the United States Sanitary Commission at New Orleans, under date of September 28, 1864, writes: "General Canby has ordered the quarter-

masters to forward to our prisoners in Texas clothing and medicines. Our commissioner has arranged with Major Ignatius Szymanski, Commissioner of Exchange for the rebels in the Trans-Mississippi Department, an exchange for three thousand four hundred and fifty of our soldiers now in Camp Ford, including naval prisoners. Possibly the number may be reduced, and the naval prisoners be obliged to remain at Camp Ford. Instances of cruelty at Camp Ford have been few, and at the last interview of the commissioner, 13th inst., the rebel commissioner informed ours that he had caused the removal of the captain formerly in command of the camp, as unsuitable to command a camp of prisoners, and better things may be hoped for. The prisoners that have come in from rebeldom west of the Mississippi river present a rugged as well as ragged appearance, and no great amount of sickness among them is reported. Last week the stores ordered by General Canby were forwarded, consisting of a complete outfit for twelve hundred men, including blankets and haversacks. Four hundred canteens, sixty axes and axe-helves, and medicines were also forwarded."—*N. Y. Even. Post, Oct.* 12.

SPECIAL RELIEF.

From Dr. Nichol's Report, Washington.

I have had during past week:

Applicants for pensions, . . .	99
Sick soldiers prescribed for and furnished medicines, Lodge 4, . .	48
Patients treated at Home Hospital, (men,)	104
Patient's treated at Women's Home, (women,)	12

FROM MISS S. L. PHILLIPS.

CAMP PAROLE HOSPITAL,
October 7, 1864.

I have but little to report to you with regard to affairs in this hospital during the past week. There is very little variety in my work, though I take great pleasure in doing all in my power for the comfort of the soldiers.

THREE SOLDIERS.

During the week three of our sick soldiers have died; one after a protracted sickness. He had long been a Christian, was aware he must die, and went willingly, though for the sake of his family, life was desirable. The other two were suddenly called away. One died of diphtheria, and the other of typoid malarial fever. Disease quickly did its work, and they were gone. Both expressed their dependence on the Saviour. Nineteen years was the age of each of these interesting boys. They were truly sacrifices to their country, and when I witness the decline and death of so many young men, whose hopes are as bright, and whose hold on life is as strong as our own, I feel that all *we can give* or *do* for them, is perfectly *paltry* in comparison with the fresh, young lives (their all on earth) that they have given for us.

CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

We learn from a friend who has been engaged for months past in the relief work in the Military Department of Tennessee, that the relations of the two Commissions are entirely harmonious in that department.

By common consent all the stores are turned over to the Sanitary Commission, and all the literature to the Christian Commission, and the agents of each draw from both alike, as they may need for the men.

The advantage of this arrangement is seen in the economy by which goods are distributed, and the benefit done to soldiers in not duplicating to the same men the issues of stores. In addition to this, the moral effect that is produced upon the army and the people who contribute is manifest. The tract and newspaper distributors draw for physical comforts from the Sanitary Commission. The agents of the Sanitary, in addition to giving physical comfort, draw for religious and other literature upon the Christian Commission for aid in that department of the service. Thus, unity of purpose and harmony of effort are combined for the common good, and the impression upon all who realize it, is favorable to the common cause of our government.

OUR PRISONERS AND REFUGEES.

Extract of a letter from City Point, by Alex. McDonald, M.D.

I have but little time to write, yet there are one or two things which may be of

interest to you. First, the enclosed letter, which accompanied a towel sent to the Sanitary Commission and issued to a man at the front.

Second, a short notice of our trips to Aiken's Landing, yesterday. At 8 30 A.M. an officer of the navy appeared, and informed us that about one hundred and fifty prisoners, just released from Richmond, were at Aiken's Landing, in want of everything to make them comfortable. Of course we prepared clothing and food for them, and started from this point at 9 30, with stores and relief agents; reached the Landing at 10 30, where we found the flag of truce steamer Mary Washington, loading naval prisoners, who were flocking across the neck from Cox's Landing; and who, on reaching her upper deck and catching sight of our gunboats and the dear old flag, sent up cheer after cheer, which was responded to by manning the rigging of our gunboats, and answering as only sailors can cheer.

The steamer New York was lying in the stream with several hundred released prisoners, soldiers. Most of them were seemingly well, but all showed the marks of confinement and hard fare.

There were about two hundred sick, many of them men wounded in the recent battles before Richmond. Some, sick from disease and long confinement, who can hardly recover, but the greater number were able to walk on board the boats and to keep about after arriving.

Major Mulford was having food prepared for all, and only needed a few stores from our stock; we provided all he wanted and returned to City Point, feeling thankful that there was no greater need of help. The beaming countenances of the men showed their inward feeling, and no one can tell what that feeling is even after having experienced it, and some of these men experienced it to the fullest extent, having just received their liberty after a captivity of fourteen months.

The "New York" passed down the river to-day. I am not sure if the Mary Washington followed her.

We have of late been doing an extensive business in the care of refugee families from the rebel country travelling to civilization. We have on board to-night four women and five children, some of whom have been three weeks on the road. Among the number is a woman seventy-four years of age, who came in almost exhausted by fatigue. They have all been fed, and are now stowed away on the upper deck looking quite comfortable, and evidently much pleased with their quarters.

We have a full house to-night as usual; the bunks are all full and the decks covered with soldiers, who are glad to find a resting place for their feeble, tired bodies, till the morning mail boat takes them North to a more bracing atmosphere and the tender care of home and friends.

October 19, 1864.

HISTORY OF A TOWEL.

It is now June 1st, 1864. The writer of this sits within her quiet and peaceful home, with kind friends to care for and love.

Yet we do not forget those who are laboring and suffering for us. I have had a soldier brother, but he is now at home disabled.

This towel is given by Capt. A. P. Nelson, Co. B, 52d Massachusetts Volunteer Militia.

He carried it through a nine months' campaign. It was with him at Donaldsonville, Port Hudson, &c., &c., and he now presents it to the *needy* soldier. May he who receives it be worthy. May God's blessing attend you ever while in the path of duty, is the wish of M. B.

Coleraine, Mass.

RELIEF WORK.

Extract from a report of one of the Auxiliary Relief Corps at City Point.

For the faithful conscientious Relief Agent there is no interval of rest, as long as he holds his position, and the war lasts. He fills his hands and empties them again; he gives sympathy that is his own, and yet the vast ocean of suffering is seemingly as overflowing as before. He grasps his arms *full* of labor, and looking ahead sees an unreached multitude, for whom he can only yearn and beseech Omnipotence. A gentleman, well known at the North, and who has interested himself largely in behalf of the soldiers, said to me but a few days ago, "I fear that many of the people at home think that there is no further need of supplies," and said that he would try to destroy that impression. If any have ceased their efforts while they can do more, they are making an error for which soldiers will suffer, but not atone. In the last fierce struggles which, though they are the last, may

be prolonged, it is but just that those who may be called upon to suffer should be as well cared for as those who suffered in the earlier of these sad days.

THE COMMISSION IN THE VALLEY.

FROM G. A. MUHLECH.

WINCHESTER, Va., *October* 13, 1864.

You are doubtless in possession of my letter dated Martinsburg, 11th inst. On my arrival here I found, I am happy to say, everything going on smoothly. Large issues have continued to be made to the many hospitals. The early season of frost and bad weather brought on a heavy and sudden pressure for blankets, quilts, underclothing and shoes. As to the hospitals, a further supply of quilts would be most welcome. Most of those cases now remaining at Winchester, are of the most serious nature, and quilts are by far preferable to the rough woolen blankets.

WORTH OF A PAIR OF SHOES.

I continue to send, almost exclusively, all our shoes to the front, knowing that each pair reinforces Sheridan's army by one man, who other wisewould be unfit for active duty. Our inmates of hospitals here, as well as the forces constituting the garrison, can better do without them, because they are sheltered, and are more within reach of the Quarter-Master's supplies. Our woolen socks have given out. There remains a large case at Martinsburg, which I ordered up with the first train. It would be well to forward a further supply, say a thousand pairs. * * *

PACKING HOSPITAL DELICACIES.

As to hospital delicacies, I must renew my old and constant complaint about the miserable mode of package. A large box of jellies, recently forwarded, reached here with almost every jar broken, and the contents entirely lost. This is so much the more to be regretted, as the article is very scarce, and constitutes almost the only kind of food for men shot through the mouth. Please give to it your earnest attention. * * *

FOOD TO ACCOMPANY THE WOUNDED.

Dr. Harris has ordered ten barrels of ale. It will be greeted with delight by our wounded. However, I fear that its transportation will prove difficult on account of its heavy weight. We have also made arrangements to send one team, loaded with food, along with every train of wounded; which, henceforward, will leave Winchester. I will detail two competent agents to care for the proper distribution along the road.

In regard to the hay or straw, recommended by yourself and Dr. Harris to be furnished to ambulances, wagons, and cars destined to transport sick and wounded men, I have seen Medical Director Dr. Hayes at Martinsburg, and put at his disposal the hay you forwarded to me sometime ago, and which I have saved for emergency. I sent instructions to Mr. Bannister to have it shipped by railroad. If this supply is not sufficient, we will either draw or buy at Martinsburg, as it is altogether out of the question to get it *here*, the valley being completely stripped of all food for beasts.

HOSPITAL VISITING.

To the Rev. Mr. Seaver I have entrusted the special superintendence of the hospital visiting. He has done admirably. Messrs. Corbin and Burdell are assigned to the same duty. They all work faithfully, and much to the credit of the Commission. Mr. C. is permanently stationed at the Sheridan field hospital. He has a stock of supplies with him, and comes every morning to our store-rooms to get whatever may be needed. * * *

UNION LADIES' ASSOCIATION.

With great satisfaction do I report to you that our Union Ladies' Association has worked, thus far, with admirable success. All these noble women have been unremitting in their efforts to help and relieve. Their visits are regular and long; their dispensations well adapted to the wants of the patients, while their presence at the sick-bed cheers up the hearts of these brave fellows, and reminds them of the far home and of a mother's or sister's loving care and devotion. They are well supplied by us with delicacies, and the use made by them above suspicion.

A train of four wagons came up last Monday night. I returned them to Martinsburg, yesterday. They will be joined there by the two wagons now under repairs, and will come up again to-morrow with an assortment of stores, which I selected myself before leaving Martinsburg. At the same time I will send, if ready, the two

teams now here, with to-night's train to bring up forage. * * * *

Our mess has been established, and has been in operation about a week. Of course marketing here is difficult and dear, butter at from sixty to seventy cents, meat from seventeen to twenty cents per pound. We have bought the most necessary cooking utensils and table furniture; at any rate it will prove a considerable saving to the Commission. * * *

If at all possible, I will leave for the front (Middletown) early to-morrow morning. Word just now reaches me from Col. Fach that supplies are badly needed. The army is within my reach, and I must see for myself how things look up there. On my return I will start for Martinsburg and Cumberland, unless otherwise directed. Please hurry up *blankets and shoes* and woolen underclothing, principally SHIRTS. * * *

WINCHESTER, VA.
October 16, 1864.

Since my last report nothing of particular interest has to be recorded. The work goes bravely on. A large train, consisting of eleven wagons, heavily loaded, reached us this afternoon. We have had our hands full of work, and at the late hour at which I write you now, we have just finished unloading, counting, repacking and reloading three teams which to-morrow morning will start for the front. I will accompany them myself and look into the condition of affairs there. I take out a liberal supply of underclothing, crackers and farinaceous food. * *

Four empty wagons will return to Martinsburg to-morrow morning to move stores. Please order a further supply of *shoes*, they are badly needed; 500 sheets and 1000 more towels will prove also very welcome. As one of the most important *items* I have to mention, *postage stamps*. There is an immense pressure for them. We are conducting and constitute, *de facto*, the whole post department, and our daily number of letters does not fall much short of 2,000. Besides the surgeons in charge of hospitals and even the Medical Director's office had to fall back on the Commission for this, here so rare an article. * * *

Mr. C., our agent at the "Sheridan" gives great satisfaction. He is agent, storekeeper, hospital visitor, post-master, soldier, adviser—in reality a *fac-totum*, whose services are of immense value, and I am happy to add, fully appreciated by the medical officers, as well as by the poor sufferers. The arrival of our large train has prevented our corps of agents from terminating their reports. I will collect them to-morrow, and after perusal, forward them, together with the tabular statement of all issues (at Winchester) thus far.

On Thursday a train of wounded left for Martinsburg. As I mentioned already in a previous report, I had made arrangements to provide the poor fellows with food on the road. Mr. B. was detailed by me to accompany this train with one of our own teams, loaded with fresh soft bread, chocolate, stimulants, &c. All has been distributed wisely, and received gratefully by the brave boys. This arrangement will continue with each successive train of sick and wounded; while on their arrival at Martinsburg they will find hot coffee, tea or milk punch, with soft crackers, prepared by our agents there, and such help as they can find among our many true union ladies. * * *

The humane and generous work of the Commission, in behalf of the Confederate wounded, has not failed to deeply impress the population of this town; so justly noted down as the abode of the most bitter secesclivities. Respect and gratitude meet us everywhere.

The work of our "Hospital Visitors" will be more fully explained by Mr. Seaver's report, which will be forwarded to you by the first mail train. * * *

FROM NATHANIEL SEAVER, JR.

In the number of patients, the Sheridan stands first, containing as it does one-third of all and one-half of the Union patients in Winchester. Being a field hospital, its claims upon us for comfortable clothing, blankets, &c., are naturally greater than those of hospitals in town, where in most cases comfortable rooms, and in all cases stoves or fire-places, atone in a measure for the want of garments and bed-clothes. Sheridan is the receiving hospital also, for the greater part of those wounded in the more recent engagements. The *first needs* of these men, which are always greater than after they have been for some time in hospital, must of course be supplied at Sheridan. Taking these, as well as other facts, which I will not at present mention, into consideration, it is apparent that this hospital demands much of our attention. At the suggestion therefore, and with the valuable co-operation of Dr. Elisha Harris,

it was considered expedient to keep a permanent stock of goods upon the ground, and to establish an agent there to attend to their proper distribution, as well as to acquaint himself with the condition and needs of the patients. This plan met with the hearty approval of Dr. Hayden, the surgeon in charge, to whom we are under great obligations for his assistance in providing us with a tent, and with the means of transporting goods. His steward and other officers, have also been ready to aid us in every particular. Our stock of goods has been enlarged by requisitions made upon the local store-house. As agent, I have appointed Mr. Thomas J. Corbin, a gentleman whose experience, renders him peculiarly fitted for such a position.

In other hospitals, it has been customary to fill at the store-houses, general requisitions made by the surgeons in charge of the five hospital departments, viz: 6th, 8th, 19th, cavalry corps and insurgent hospitals. By this means each receives its fair proportion of goods. In my hospital visiting, however, I have found it also expedient to issue requisitions for individuals, such as nurses, ward-masters, assistant surgeons, friends or visitors, as the case might be, in order the better to meet the varying wants of wards and individuals. By this means cases which would by a general requisition be neglected, are reached, and persons of known benevolent intentions aided in their labors. The things most needed appear to be articles of clothing. There is a constant demand for tobacco, stimulants, shoes, woolen stockings and blankets.

I would suggest that wines, liquors and cordials, be packed in smaller bottles, (say two gills,) or some arrangement made by which they can be dealt out in smaller quantities, in order to provide against fraud, and secure a more even distribution. In addition to my visits, and assistance in the establishment and supply of the tent at Sheridan, I have also partly developed a plan for the safe delivery of letters which come to Winchester in care of the Commission. I am also engaged in drawing up maps of the localities of hospitals for the use of visitors and agents of the Commission, concerning which matters I hope to speak more at large in my next report.

FROM JOHN S. BLATCHFORD.

Having had an opportunity to observe, with great interest and gratification, the operations of the U. S. Sanitary Commission in the Shenandoah Valley, since the battle of Opiquan and Winchester, on the 19th ult., which inaugurated with so signal a victory Gen. Sheridan's successful advance through the valley—a brief relation of its work may afford interest to the many friends of the Commission in this vicinity.

Until the opening of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad on the 30th ult., to Martinsburg, the Commission's depot of supplies for the army in Western Virginia, was at Harper's Ferry, a little more than thirty miles from Winchester, in the immediate vicinity of which the battle of the 19th was fought, and which became the depot for all our wounded in the valley, including the Confederate wounded left in our hands, and consequently the scene of the active work of the Commission. Martinsburg, its present base of supplies, is twenty-two miles from Winchester.

From these two points its supplies have been steadily sent forward to Winchester, and thence on to the front through a country dangerously infested with guerillas, who hover about all trains watching their opportunity of attack. It employs in this service an independent field train of ten four-horse army wagons, which move with the government trains under escort.

With each Army Corps the Commission has its permanent Relief Service, comprising at least one four-horse army wagon with supplies, and a relief Agent for each wagon. These move always with the advance of the Corps to which they are attached, and are constantly replenished by communication with the base of supplies. Upon the occurrence of the battle on the 19th, each Corps engaged, viz., the 6th, 8th, 19th, and Cavalry Corps, was accompanied by its Sanitary Relief Agent, whose supplies were immediately available and speedily exhausted among the more than four thousand wounded that were gathered into Winchester from an area of some ten square miles fought over.

Col. Muhlech, the efficient official in charge of the Commission's work in the Department of Western Virginia, immediately upon receiving intelligence of the battle, proceeded to Winchester with two wagon loads of supplies from the store-house at Harper's Ferry, which had been well equipped in anticipation of the emergency. He arrived at three o'clock on Tuesday morning—the 20th—the day after the bat-

tle, and at once established a depot of supplies, taking possession of a building placed at his disposal for the purpose by the military authorities. Dr. Jenkins, the General Secretary of the Commission, with Mr. Knapp, Associate Secretary, arrived on Thursday, the 22d, having first made provision for sending forward additional supplies from its store-houses at Baltimore and Washington, and at once entered upon the work of organizing the service of the Commission, with the view to secure the most careful use and efficient application of its resources. This was especially necessary in view of the inadequate provision of the Medical Department to meet the emergency, the consequent destitution and suffering among the wounded, and the difficulties it experienced, owing to the lack of transportation, in getting forward its supplies. General Sheridan's rapid pursuit of Early's retreating army imposed the heaviest tax upon the entire transportation service in his department in order to move forward his own supplies upon a continually advancing line. It was consequently apparent that the Commission having its own independent transportation, being able to communicate directly with its base of supplies by every opportunity of escort, would have to meet a large demand upon its resources. The organization of its work was so far accomplished, that upon the arrival of the next consignment of supplies on Monday of fourteen wagon loads, a very complete and admirable system of succor was in operation, and their distribution was effected in accordance with a distinct and equitable plan of division so as to reach as far as possible with directness and precision the most needy ones among the multitude of sufferers scattered among some forty different buildings, occupied for hospital use, throughout the town.

The plan of distribution was briefly, as follows: One-fourth of all supplies received was reserved to be sent forward to the front, to replenish the Relief Service with each corps. Another portion—about thirteen-twentieths—were issued directly to the corps hospitals in bulk, according to their ascertained necessities and the relative number of wounded in each. These issues were made to the surgeons in charge of each corps, and by them distributed among their several wards. A certain proportion was also appropriated for the Sheridan General Hospital, designed as the permanent post hospital, to which the severest cases are removed, as they are able, from the temporary depots in the town. The rapid preparation of this hospital, constituting as it did the principal provision for the better care and condition of the wounded, reflects the highest credit upon Dr. Brinton, the Medical Director, and Dr. McKay, the Medical Inspector, under whose immediate supervision it was constructed. Within a little more than four days, between 300 and 400 hospital tents rose into view on one of the beautiful elevations upon the southwestern edge of the town—a village in itself of no mean dimensions, with its broad and regular streets, and offering in comparison with the wretchedly comfortless and foul quarters in the town, a really attractive abiding place for eighteen hundred patients.

The remainder of each consignment of supplies was reserved for the Special Relief service of the Commission. This was organized with the aid of a few uncompromising Union women, residents of the town, who have each of them signally proved their claim to the title. They were without resources, and lacked all proper materials with which to minister to the comfort of the men, such effort as they could make having been directed to the relief of the wounded in one or two of the principal buildings. In order to secure systematic effort over the whole field, the Commission had a map of the town prepared showing every building occupied for hospital purposes, with the number of wounded in each. The whole area was then divided into seven districts, and one representative woman assigned to each, who became responsible for certain Relief work in her district, and to whom the Commission issued daily such articles suitable for the preparation of extra diet, as it was able with regard to the wants of the whole service. Each of the seven called to her aid such additional assistance as she found necessary to perform the service. The supplies issued to these ladies consisted of crackers, farina, condensed milk, beef juice, dessicated egg, stimulants, tea, sugar, &c. Another lady was designated for the same service on behalf of the Confederates wounded.

In addition to this Relief Service the Commission had its regularly organized corps of Hospital Visitors, whose duty it was to visit the wounded and report in detail upon their condition, wants, &c.—to supply such minor wants as writing paper,

envelopes, tobacco, &c.—to write letters for the disabled, and to perform such other personal service as they could for the comfort of the men. In the Sheridan General Hospital a large tent was assigned for the use of the Commission, and a Special Diet Kitchen established under the direction of Miss Harris, who superintends this service for all the wounded gathered there.

It would be difficult to relate in detail the many opportunities afforded for the peculiar work of the Commission, and the appreciative spirit with which its service was received and acknowledged on all sides. The whole work was organized and, with its minutest details, most ably and faithfully administered under the immediate direction of the General Secretary of the Commission It involved a daily visitation of the hospitals, consultation with the medical officers, as to the most efficient manner in which the Commission could bestow its aid, the character and quantity of the supplies most needed, the daily movement in the population of the hospitals under their charge, and all such information in relation to the disposition of the wounded as would affect its preparations. It received and transported for delivery to the post a daily average of one thousand letters. It was the recipient for transportation to their friends, of the personal effects of deceased soldiers. It was the channel of inquiry and communication by distant friends as to the condition of their wounded. It took steps to secure a more careful system of marking the graves of deceased soldiers, so as to secure with more certainty their future identification, and all these details were performed with a method and thoroughness that might characterize the ordinary transactions of a business establishment.

It worked in thorough harmony and cordial co-operation with the military authorities and the medical officers, whose untiring attention to the wounded, and unceasing efforts to remedy the defects of the situation, deserves a tribute of the highest praise. Each day witnessed an improvement in the condition of the men, and, as a fact that unrecorded, would leave any relation of the scene imperfect, it was stated by more than one surgeon that amid all the discomfort and suffering among our own men, they had not heard *one* utterance of complaint. Its distribution of supplies may be partially indicated by the following list, being those forwarded from Baltimore up to September 28th, and not including heavy consignments from Washington, nor the goods in store at Harper's Ferry, (estimated at about five wagon loads) at the beginning of the battle.

3,242 wool shirts, 3,336 wool drawers, 4,606 handkerchiefs, 3,832 pairs wool socks, 300 blankets, 500 quilts, 896 bed sacks, 2,062 cushions, 618 pillow ticks, 628 pillows, 1,024 pillow cases, 703 cotton drawers, 516 cotton shirts, 480 pairs slippers, 263 sheets, 996 pairs cotton socks, 20 pieces Mosquito netting, 15 pieces oil silk, 36 barrels crackers, 540 lbs. dessicated eggs, 960 lbs. roast beef, 3,264 lbs. condensed milk, 1,196 lbs. beef stock, 2,196 lbs. coffee, 1,832 lbs. sugar, 176 lbs. tea, 384 lbs. peaches, 10 barrels eggs, 20 boxes lemons, 50 boxes chocolate, 8 barrels potatoes, 1 barrel vinegar, 157 barrels dried apples, 120 lbs. corn starch, 288 lbs. Farina, 60 lbs. canned chicken, 47 lbs. butter, 1,678 bottles whiskey, 600 bottles sherry wine, 78 gallons pickles, 112 bottles blackberry brandy, 838 bottles Jamaica ginger, 12 bottles alcohol, 12 bottles Jamaica rum, 150 lbs. candles, 430 lbs. soap, 1,104 tin cups, 260 bed pans, 50 feeding cups, 240 spit cups, 509 tin plates, 144 basins, 108 lanterns, 12 doz. candlesticks, 120 head-rests, 12 bed tables, 41,000 envelopes, 25 reams note paper, 179 doz. chewing tobacco, 179 doz. smoking tobacco, 10 hogsheads ice, 750 pairs of crutches, linen bandages, pails, spoons, knives and forks, brooms, washboards, washtubs, baskets, chisels, tacks, hatchets, axes, saws, hammers, corkscrews, can-openers, lamps, kettles, stoves, oil pans, boilers, blank-books, mucilage, penholders, pens, lead pencils, ink, corn meal, lint, sponges, adhesive plaster, table salt, shoes, oats, hay, reading matter, &c.

These supplies were all issued with due form—a requisition and receipt accompanying each issue—and each night the account of stock in store-house made to correspond with the recorded issues of the day.

Such is a very brief and partial relation of what a few days gave opportunity to observe of the work of the Commission upon one of the many occasions when it carries the bounty and kindly ministrations of our peaceful homes to the suffering heroes of our battle-fields; and I would fain impart something of the satisfaction the observation has afforded to at least a few of the many untiring workers and supporters of the Commission, who do not look upon the

scenes of its most active and beneficent work.—*Boston Transcript, October 17th,* 1864.

From Thomas J. Corbin.

Sheridan U. S. A. Gen'l. Hospital,
Winchester, Va., October 16, 1864.

The calvary corps hospitals I found in excellent condition, especially the one in the Methodist Church on Market street. The patients in the hospitals of both corps (8th and cavalry) appeared cheerful and contented, and seemed to me to be as comfortable as could be expected, under then existing circumstances. Such supplies as had been drawn from the Sanitary Commission appeared to me, on looking over the requisitions and comparing the quantities drawn, with what I saw in the hospitals in use, to have been faithfully and judiciously applied. In addition I supplied several patients with blankets, under clothing, &c.

The condition of patients in the Sheridan hospital is daily improving. Although they yet lack some of the comforts which could be supplied them further north, yet, upon the whole, they appear to me to be more comfortable than could be hoped. A supply of warm under clothing and shoes is much needed.

The post-office for the camp has been established in the Commission's tent, and promises to become quite a convenience to the men.

The articles enumerated in this statement have gone, as I believe, directly to the patients that they were intended for, and I have heard the highest praise awarded, by both officers and men, to the Commission for the energy and forethought shown in furnishing supplies of all kinds, without which the sick and wounded must have suffered severely. On one occasion I furnished stimulants for one hundred and fifty wounded en route to Martinsburg, there not being any in the dispensary of the hospital. But for the Commission, these men would have been sent without any stimulants whatever.

From Wm. J. Brindell.

* * Met no difficulties until within three quarters of a mile of Woodstock. Here the left flankers were fired upon by guerillas, concealed in the woods, causing only a momentary delay and doing no injury, henceforward we went on more cautiously. Every eye was strained to its utmost capacity—in woods, over hills, first to the left, then to the right, to catch the first sight of Moseby's men. At length we reached New Market. All was in readiness to park, when an unwelcome sound set every nerve to twitching. "Zip, zip," was heard, and we knew so well the meaning of that unspoken language, that it was not a long while before non-combatants got under cover. We were again attacked. Quietness prevailed in a short time, and we retired to rest only to be awakened out of a sleep, in time to hear the command, "Men, rally around the wagons." * * *

Presently the monotony of our ride was broken in upon by the crack of a rifle. This wakened us very soon. We heard three shots fired but could see no one. The reports came from the rear of the train, and we were distant six miles from Harrisonburg. A halt was ordered and the firing ceased; after which we moved on and reached Harrisonburg without molestation. It was only then I found that my travelling companion was missing, together with several others. I went directly to Sheridan's headquarters, and through the kindness of Dr. Geisallen, Medical Director, ascertained the situation of the 8th and 19th corps. The goods were then distributed according to their respective necessities. During my stay in town I visited by request of the Director, the different hospitals, and found that they had already received the benefit of sanitary stores through the promptness of Mr. Hammer, agent for the 19th corps. The round trip occupied eight days.

On my return to Winchester I commenced visiting the sick and wounded scattered in private houses, to the number of fifty-two, the majority of whom were badly wounded, and in great need of delicacies and stimulants; many of the families with whom they were staying had not means sufficient to sustain themselves, much less to provide delicacies for others. Many are lodged in families whose predilections and sympathies are strongly southern, and consequently bitterly opposed to everything northern, yet they are caring for our sick and wounded. Always have I asked particularly, in these latter cases, "Are you being well cared for by the family?" and the answer is given in the affirmative. I have yet to hear the first case of complaint. All the men are improving and in good spirits.

EXTRACT of a graphic letter from Colonel Muhlech to F. N. Knapp, written after the retreat of our forces from Cedar Creek, Va., on the 18th of October:—

The musketry was perfectly awful for about ten minutes, but the enemy were bloodily repulsed, and at nightfall we held our ground everywhere. All trains had been ordered to the rear, and the capture of every wagon at one time seemed almost inevitable. I had just one day before, sent out three wagons loaded with supplies for our field agents. To hunt up these six corps wagons, was an awful task. However, I succeeded, got them into line, and then a retreat commenced as I never had seen before. Over hills and rocks, through ditches and ravines, the trains went to the rear at a furious speed. The pioneer corps had in some places to cut us a road through the woods, as the pike could not be used on account of the enemy's artillery fire, which was very heavy. However, the whole army train reached Winchester in safety. My wagons and every particle of stores are safe. Near Newtown, about seven miles south of Winchester, one of our loaded wagons broke down. By dint of hard work and strong exertion, we had the goods rapidly unloaded, and put in one of the empty wagons, losing nothing but a barrel of dried apples, which was knocked to pieces, and had to be abandoned. Reaching a point about two miles south of Winchester, the trains awaiting further orders parked on both sides of the road, I ordered our own wagons out of the line, and had them brought into town in charge of Col. Fach, with instructions to keep the loaded wagons untouched, and to have all our empty ones (five) ready at a moment's notice, with the horses harnessed. To the store-house I sent instructions, to quietly pack away all valuable articles, and to keep delicacies on hand, to be hurried over to the hospitals and lady visitors, in case it should have to be evacuated. Seeing all my train safe, (the broken wagon included,) I returned at once to the front, falling in very soon with General Fessenden, and we both, without even an orderly, pushed forward again to the line of battle. My object was to ascertain exactly the condition of our army, and the probabilities for an evacuation, or for a renewed battle to-morrow morning. I am inclined to believe in the latter, as the bulk of the stragglers were driven out of Winchester by the provost guard, and returned to their corps, and as up to this late hour (midnight,) no indication of a retreat has appeared as yet. Whatever may happen, the circumstance shall not find me wanting.

At day-break to-morrow morning, I shall return to the field with one or two loads of such stores as are most needed on the battle-ground. * * *

I have furnished to the hospitals, a daily and quite large supply of poultry, butter, eggs, apple-butter, honey, buttermilk, &c. Besides, the Commission furnishes to the wounded on their way to Martinsburg food and stimulants, as these poor fellows very often are hurried away without a proper supply, and would arrive in Martinsburg in a starving condition. *Soft bread, ham, dried beef, chocolate, etc.*, constitute those supplies.

Four of our teams with wagon-master Clarke, are at Martinsburg. If the army does *not* fall back I shall expect them up to-morrow, with some of the needed goods.

We have no reliable information as yet, as to the total number of our wounded in to-day's battle, however it must be large; we keep there a sufficient stock of stores at my disposition. * * *

Please do not forget the *postage stamps*. We are conducting here the post-office for this whole army, and the number of letters forwarded daily averages between two or three thousand. * * *

FROM G. A. MUHLECH.

HARPER'S FERRY, Va.,
October 23, 1864.

Returning late in the evening from the field of battle, I ascertained that but the *slightly* wounded men would be brought to Winchester, while all the severe cases had to be left at Newtown, where a large field hospital was established in great haste. As in almost every case, so here again the government supplies were scanty and entirely inadequate. Long lines of ambulances were coming in every quarter of an hour, until the hastily erected hospital tents and every house of the village were crowded with wounded men. Large numbers were stretched out along the sidewalks, without straw, and many, even without a blanket to cover them. Giving the spur to my horse, I hurried back to Winchester and ordered a wagon to be ready at daylight, to start for Newtown with such stores

as were most immediately needed. Early next morning Mr. Knowlton (a very excellent young man) left in charge of a very heavy load of assorted goods. He had instructions to ascertain more fully the wants at Newtown by conferring with the surgeon in charge; also to stay and assist in the distribution of these goods. He was expected back in the evening next day; had, however, not arrived yet when I left for Martinsburg. I trust he may not have met with any accident.

Friday last (21st inst.) will be long remembered by our whole Sanitary household. Early in the morning I received information that about two thousand of our brave, bleeding boys were expected to pass through Winchester, on their way to Baltimore. I proceeded at once to the Medical Director's Office, for the purpose of inquiring whether all the necessary arrangements had been made for feeding and providing these men on their long journey. Though assured that orders had been given to have 2,000 rations cooked for them, I felt strongly inclined to think that there might be some delay. Accordingly, I had a large number of wash-boilers brought to our mess room, with a sufficient quantity of sugar and coffee, and our cooks went to work at once. Medical Purveyor Dr. Shields, our friendly neighbor, gladly put his own store at my disposal, and another large quantity of coffee was prepared by us there, too; finally I made an appeal to Mrs. Brittain for the same purpose, and that lady, also, willingly lent a helping hand. I next went to the baker shop, securing there one thousand loaves of *soft* bread. In the meanwhile I had ordered up the whole force of my corps, and given them instructions for a systematic distribution among the different division trains of ambulances. Every hand was now busy. Some looking to the coffee, which had to be carried, boiling, several squares; others carrying large armsful of bread; others again cutting ham and dried beef in large quantity. It was about 5 o'clock when the head of the endless line of ambulances came in through the main street. Those of the 6th Corps stopped right in front of the Taylor Hotel and of our store rooms, while the different divisions of the 8th and 19th Corps filed into the steeets of their respective hospital head quarters. And now the work of charity commenced. Darkness had meanwhile set in; the streets were entirely blocked up with double lines of ambulances. Hundreds of lanterns and flickering lights were passing to and fro; men were rushing into houses and stores for assistance, or demanding some article pressingly needed. Our own room presented the spectacle of a motley living mass. Officers of all ranks, surgeons, nurses, well men and wounded, all crowded the limited space, anxious to reach the Commission's help either for themselves or for some comrade and dear friend. It was indeed, a task more difficult and trying than I had yet met with, to help and direct on all sides; however, thanks to the noble behavior of our own agents, of some true citizens, (who offered me their assistance,) and of half a dozen of brave boys of the 37th Mass., (in garrison at Newtown,) the Commission's great and sole object—to brighten this dark hour was attained and well fulfilled. Not an ambulance was slipped. Two detachments of agents with assistants passed along each line of ambulances, some distributing coffee, others soft bread, others again ham, dried beef, chocolate, etc. When our coffee had given out we fell back on milk punch which was exceedingly relished. Thus we worked, one and all, until ten (10) o'clock at night. By that time all the poor sufferers were fed, their wounds dressed, and then this immense train, loaded with maimed soldiers, took up again its long and dreary march towards the Potomac. The night was bitter cold and rainy. Many wounded were shivering with cold; as far as any means reached I distributed blankets, quilts, towels, handkerchiefs, etc., etc. At a late hour Dr. Blaney again called on me for stimulants. The Medical Department had whiskey, but only in barrels, and distribution in such a form and under such circumstances was impracticable. Again the Commission proved a saviour.

Never shall I forget the ghastly sights of that October night! never the groans and moanings of that living mass of mutilated soldiers, fighting, no longer the foe, but agony and death. Many, very many, I grieve to say it, were in no condition to bear transportation to such distant points and over such rough and broken roads.

What did I find on my arrival at Martinsburg? No cooked rations, no stimulants, no covering for these shivering, half-dead men! Helpless, Dr. Hayes ran about, not knowing *how* or *where*, to find assistance. Information of the arrival of this

immense train only reached him, when the head of the column was almost on the outskirts of the town. Be it said to his honor, all that was within human power, was done by this officer, to help and alleviate. He was faithfully assisted by Mr. Westcott and myself. I am happy to state that he received the assistance of the Commission with profound gratitude. Every drop of stimulant, every cracker, the last quilt or blanket, were put at his disposal. Large numbers of wounded were carried into private houses, fed, dressed and tenderly cared for. Well may the Union feel proud of Martinsburg—well may feel proud her noble daughters! Nor do I draw a line between Union people and their political foes—they all did nobly, and their conduct will be forever recorded in the grateful hearts of thousands.

The hay previously forwarded by Mr. Bannister to Martinsburg, proved truly a God-send; however, the quantity was altogether insufficient. Not an armful of hay or straw were obtainable in all the town. I would gladly have paid any price, had it only laid in our power to get it.

A letter from Dr. Harris reached me on the very day when I left Winchester. It was the pressing, absolute necessity of getting supplies *at once and in large quantities*, which directed me to hasten to Martinsburg personally, in order to get telegraphic communication with you. * * *

I accompanied the sad "cortege," and after a gloomy, mournful ride on horseback, lasting all night, we reached Martinsburg yesterday morning at 8 o'clock. * * *

From S. Bradley Westcott.

Martinsburg, *October* 15, 1864.

We arrived at this place on Friday, September 30, and found that we had been assigned a store-house, which upon examination proved to be inadequate to our need, but upon application to Capt. Wray, Quartermaster, we were through his kindness assigned a very finely situated and commodious store, in Granatham Hall building on King street, which we now occupy as office and supply depot, retaining the other as a store-house.

We are greatly indebted to the officers in charge at this post, and their assistants for many acts of kindness and courtesy, since we have been stationed here. * * *

We forwarded to Winchester, October 4, six wagon loads; October 10, four wagon loads; October 15, eleven wagon loads. Seven of the latter were our own, and four were government wagons.

We have also distributed a very large quantity of goods, both clothing and food, for the use of the sick and wounded, who pass through here from the front. We have also issued a limited quantity of clothing to individual soldiers, who were away from their commands and destitute of clothing. * * *

The hospitals are visited by us on the arrival of the trains, and such aid rendered as lays in our power, such as the administering of stimulants, and to their wants as the case may demand, and our facilities allow. * * *

List of articles issued by the U. S. Sanitary Commission at Winchester, Va., to hospitals and wounded men quartered in private houses, from September 21 to October 21, inclusive.

Bed sacks	1022	Crackers, lbs.	3240
Blankets (woolen)	516	Corn Starch, lbs.	810
Candlesticks	54	Corn meal, barrel	1
Combs, fine	844	Ext. Jamiaca ginger, bts.	718
" coarse		Farina, lbs.	619
Cushions	790	Jellies and preserves, lbs.	26
Head-rests	46	Lemons	4730
Knives and Forks	24	Maizena, lbs.	1015
Medicine cups	22	Nutmegs, lbs.	3
Musquito netting, pieces	26	Pickles, gallons	8½
Oil silk, pieces	27	Pepper, lbs.	22
Pails, wooden	41	Porter, bottles	432
Pillows	495	Potatoes, barrels	3
" cases	466	Rum, Jamaica, bottles	48
" ticks	293	Salt Fish, lbs.	40
Quilts	369	Sugar, white, lbs.	625
Sheets	228	" brown, lbs.	925
Spit cups	19	Tamarinds, kegs	2
Spoons, doz.	22	Tea, black, lbs.	165
Towels	1147	" green, lbs.	76
Tin cups	998	Tobacco, smoking, lbs.	306
" basins	56	" chewing, lbs.	200
" plates	500	Tomatoes, lbs.	64
Brooms	23	Raspberry vinegar, bot.	12
Candles, lbs.	40	Sherry wine, bottles	496
Kerosene stoves, with furniture	7	Whiskey, bottles	618
Drawers, cotton	824	Alcohol, bottles	4
" woolen	1118	Bandages, barrels	3
Handkerchiefs	2740	Bay rum, bottles	37
Shirts, cotton	862	Cologne, bottles	24
" woolen	1016	Crutches, pairs	243
Shoes	334	Fans	132
Slippers	260	Games	29
Socks, cotton, pairs	2210	Lint, lbs.	240
" woolen, "		Magazines	quantity
Dried apples, lbs.	400	Old Linen, barrels	3
Beef stock, lbs.	682	Reading matter	quantity
Blackberry wine or brandy, bottles	70	Slings	89
Canned meats, lbs.	206	Soap, lbs.	282
" fruits, lbs.	364	Splints	366
Fresh eggs, barrels	10	Sponges, lbs.	2
Dessicated eggs, lbs.	382	Tracts, boxes	3
Liquorice, lbs.	5	Adhesive plaster, rolls	5
Extract of Vanilla, bot.	12	Envelopes	14355
Bromine, oz.	47	Ink bottles	22
Chocolate, lbs.	837½	Note paper, reams	49
Coffee, ground, barrels	2½	Pencils, dozens	28
Condensed milk, lbs.	3482	Pen holders, dozens	53
		Pens	quantity
		Mucilage, bottles	9

G. A. Muhlech,

Supt. U. S. San. Com. Dept. W. Va.

LETTER FROM AN OBSERVER.

FIELD HOSPITAL, 3D DIVISION, 2D CORP,
Before Petersburg, Va. Oct. 21, 1864.

A tour of inspection of some weeks in the armies operating against Richmond, with special reference to the *religious* and *sanitary* efforts made for our soldiery has impressed upon my mind some thoughts I wish to express.

Reserving for another occasion my remarks upon the religious work, please note for the present the sanitary work of the Commission. The question whether such an institution is needed at all, has been settled long ago, and unanswerably. The blessings of thousands now living and actively serving their country, is upon it, and in the firm conviction that they could not have lived, except for the sanitary stores, and kind and timely aid received through this organization. While the government makes a liberal and considerate provision for its soldiery, above what any other nation has made, and perhaps all that should be expected of it, there are yet many stores—delicacies for the sick, cordials for the fainting, clothing for the wounded, which government cannot furnish, or not in sufficient quantities, especially in the frequent emergencies of so terrible a campaign as this one has been. These thousand things, which our citizen soldiery had when at home, the Sanitary Commission furnishes to them in the field, and thus brings back to their memories and hearts, the sweet ministries of wife, mother, sister, in the old homestead. This of itself doubles the probability of their recovery if sick, and increases their value in the field, for it keeps bright and strong, the chain which binds them to their homes, and ever presents the dear ones for whom they are doing battle.

FIELD HOSPITALS.

The Commission is of untold value in the *field hospitals.* The hospital is the saddest place in an army; it is also the place where you see the best side of our poor humanity. Take, as an illustration of what the Sanitary Commission does for our men in hospital, a simple statement of the facts in one case.

In the 3d Division Hospital of the 2d Corps, where all the government appointments are admirable—Dr. Everts, Medical Director; Dr. Welling, Surgeon-in-charge, with able assistants; Chaplain Porter, caring for the sanitary and religious interests, experienced and kind nurses, and all other provisions for the sick which government can make—there is still a wide field of action, blessed and greatly needed action—for this beneficent society. There are brought a dozen of wounded men, into the hospital whose clothing has been cut to pieces, to get at their wounds for dressing. Here is needed immediately a dozen shirts and drawers, and some slippers, a half dozen hospital gowns, some caps for the head, paper, pens, envelopes, and a ready hand to speed a letter home, and tell the friends the facts in each case—All these the Sanitary Commission furnish. As soon as the poor fellows are washed, their wounds dressed, and their clean garments on, they want some cordial, tea, farina, or some other delicacy furnished by the Commission. And when about to return to the field of action after recovery, they are destitute of needles, thread, buttons, kerchiefs, socks, &c. These the Commission provides. Now suppose, as is the fact, that there has passed through one Division hospital since this campaign commenced, four thousand wounded, and three thousand sick men, and that the great mass of them needed and received more or less aid of this kind, and language cannot express the amount of suffering relieved, comfort afforded, encouragement given, and hope infused in hearts which greatly appreciate human sympathy. I am informed that above ten thousand dollars worth of sanitary stores have been furnished to those seven thousand sufferers mentioned above. A thousand blessings on the donors! And this only one specimen of its wide work.

INDIVIDUAL RELIEF.

A still more interesting, if not more important part of the Commission's work, consists in its *personal ministrations not only to the wounded and the sick but to the weary, worn, exhausted men in the trenches, on picket, on march, and especially in battle.*

Go for one day with Rev. John E. Vassar, who labors with the Commission in the 3d Division of the 2d Corps, and note his labor of love. Early in the morning he fills his haversack with paper, envelopes, tea, needles, buttons, ginger, tobacco, and some tracts and papers, or testaments, and is off upon a tramp of six, eight or ten miles through camps, artillery parks, forts, trenches, and even into the picket lines, in

front of the enemy. Here he asks for a cup of water, and gives in return paper and envelope, and a word of exhortation that the soldiers may drink of the waters of eternal life. There he leaves tobacco, and tells the men not to be satisfied with earthly things. Here he writes a letter for a poor fellow who cannot write, all the while praying that his name may be written above. There he whispers to a dying man of Jesus and his love—all the while pressing on, doing good in every way opened up, and winning upon himself and those who send him, grateful blessings. And now suppose a battle is imminent—an advance about to be made, Vassar hurries back to the station; the sanitary wagon is loaded with an assortment of all things needed for the fearful emergency—horses are in readiness, and with the command "march," he is off, and close up to the marching, fighting men, and when the wounded begin to be borne back by tens or fifties, or hundreds, here oftentimes among the first in the temporory hospital are found the sanitary stores and their prompt agents. And a thousand dollars worth of needed stores administered at such a time, and by men of such large sympathies, and cheering, hopeful words—as is Vassar, and many other laborers—is worth ten times its cost, to the donors at home, and to the men who are succored. But my paper is filled.

I am aware that some say that the Commission has received enough. Enough! Enough perhaps for this stupendous campaign so far, but without a constant and liberal income, it is impossible to carry forward so vast and beneficent a work. No, no, not enough, till the rebellion is put down and every sufferer has been relieved as far as possible by the sympathies and benefactions of the loyal North. Nor will it do to say, that the supplies are not all placed in the hands of those for whom provided. There must be some expense in the distribution, and there may occasionally be some misuse. What human work is immaculate? Take it all in all, I doubt if ever so large a benefaction was so well administered. Only let active, earnest men, to go personally to the needy, and give with their own hands be increased, and the system will be near perfection.

J. M. Stevenson.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE CONCERNING EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

Washington,
October 6, 1864.

Col. Hoffman, U. S. A.
Com Gen. of Paroled Prisoners.

Sir:—The Sanitary Commission desires, with the approval of the Medical Department, to place an agent or agents with sanitary supplies on board such boats as may be sent south to bring back our exchanged or paroled prisoners. The object would be to minister to the well being and comfort of our returning men, acting of course under the direction of the surgeon in charge.

I would, therefore, respectfully request of you permission to place such agent or agents and supplies on board such boats.

Respectfully, your ob't serv't,
Fred. N. Knapp,
Associate Sec.

Office of the Com. Gen. of Prisoners,
Washington, D. C., October 10, 1864.

Fred. N. Knapp,
Asso. Sec. U. S. San. Com., Washington, D. C.

Sir:—Your application on behalf of the U. S. Sanitary Commission of the 6th inst. requesting authority to send an agent or agents with sanitary supplies, on board the steamers which are about to be despatched to Charleston or Savannah, to receive invalid paroled prisoners, the object being to minister to the necessities and comfort of the returning men, has been laid before the Secretary of War, and I am directed to inform you that the application is granted.

The steamers, four or five probably, are expected to leave Fort Monroe the latter part of this week, under the orders of Maj. Gen. Butler, Commissioner for Exchanges, who will be informed of the permission granted to you, and will, no doubt, afford you every facility for carrying out your benevolent design.

Very respectfully, your obd't serv't
W. Hoffman,
Col. 3d Inf'ty, Com. Gen. Prisoners.

OUR PRISONERS.

The following extract of report to Mr. F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary, on supplies to our prisoners, made by Dr. M. M. Marsh, Agent, will be read with peculiar interest:

In June last, the authorities in Charleston, allowed us to send such supplies as

individuals desired. The facilities for transportation were limited, but I think, allowed to the extent the enemy could afford. Having no memoranda with me, an exact statement of the number of times and quantities sent, cannot be given; but through the month of July and to the 18th of August, supplies were forwarded to individual prisoners who distributed them at discretion, and returned receipts for the same through the Confederate authorities.

About this time a regular system of intercourse was instituted by the appointment of Commissioners of Exchange. Col. Woodford by Major General Foster, and Col. Lay, by Major General Samuel Jones, on the part of the enemy. Both are honorable and high-minded men, who have accomplished all that the embarrassing circumstances always attending exchanges, and so little comprehended by the public, would permit.

Col. Woodford's zeal to relieve the necessities of our unfortunate men, has abundantly testified to the discretion of the Major General commanding in his appointment, while Col. Lay, has done all his position would permit to second the efforts of our own commissioner.

Our method has been to take receipts for supplies from the Confederate commissioner, having invoiced them to some prisoner personally known to us, requesting him to distribute to those most needy, and by letter acknowledge to us the receipt of the goods. Acknowledgments of these issues have usually been promptly returned, and for the satisfaction of the donors, we are happy to state that in all probability, a very large per cent. of supplies, have reached our men so sadly needing them.

ARTICLES ISSUED TO PRISONERS.

The aggregate amount forwarded to officers and privates in Confederate prisons, irrespective of issues to those exchanged, stands thus —3,500 pairs woolen socks, 4,370 woolen shirts, 3,250 pairs woolen drawers, 4,500 handkerchiefs, 4,500 towels, 190 coats, 123 vests, 1,000 pairs pants, 1,000 do. shoes, 1,000 hats, 2,000 blankets, 733 bed ticks, 1,000 pillow ticks, a quantity of needle books, pin cushions, soap, combs, stationery, games, abdominal bandages, stimulants and tin ware. 20 bbls. soft crackers, 1,000 lbs. corn starch, 1,000 lbs. farina, 75 lbs. arrow root, 1,000 lbs. beef steak, 1,000 lbs. canned tomatoes, 500 lbs. chocolate, 200 lbs. cocoa, 1,000 lbs. coffee, 140 lbs. tea, 180 gallons pickles, 250 lbs. jellies, 11 bbls. dried fruit, 144 lbs. lemon juice, 10 lbs. pepper, 10 lbs. mustard, 6 dozen bottles extract of ginger.

Since the above issues, we have received 3,000 blankets, 2,000 shirts, 2,000 pairs drawers, 2,000 pairs socks, 1,000 pairs shoes, 2,000 pairs pants and 1,000 blouses, a large portion of which, if not all, has previous to date, been issued and received by our unfortunate men at different places within the Confederate lines.

The cash value of these supplies will exceed $65,000.

The above list is irrespective of the extensive and valuable invoice selected by the Associate Secretary, Mr. F. N. Knapp, and forwarded to the Department of the South, in anticipation of a general exchange of prisoners.

Thus can be seen at a glance the amount of relief work performed in this Department in a brief space of time. The manner of doing this work has already been detailed.

The assistance received from the military authorities, I gratefully acknowledge. From the Major General commanding to the laborer on the wharf, all have lent a willing hand.

Were evidence needed of the soldiers active sympathy with suffering, here it is overwhelming. Brother could not do more for brother, than officer and private, have done each in his place, in all our undertakings.

From our first coming here, the Quartermaster's Department, has furnished all needed transportation, and often to its own manifest inconvenience, and has now added to the obligations previously imposed upon the Commission.

When these tens of thousands of sufferers were thrown upon the Commission, and our large stock of supplies was rapidly being exhausted, Capt. Lamb, A. Q. M., at a reduced valuation, supplemented us from his own stores, and in preparing and urging forward supplies, evinced a benevolence of heart and energy of action, that should be known to all whose privations he assisted to lessen.

THE following from Dr. Blake, concerns Prisoners in Texas:

FROM DR. GEORGE A. BLAKE.

NEW ORLEANS, *October* 14, 1864.

Mr. Stevens arrived last Saturday. An exchange of prisoners will occur within a few days near the mouth of the Red River, and he will accompany the Commissioner of exchange on the trip. As some of our prisoners will be obliged to march from Camp Ford, in Tyler, Texas, to Alexandria, La., about one hundred miles, and others, crowded on transports, to come down Red River, more or less of them will become used up, and require attention. He will take with him stimulants, milk, beef-stock, crackers, &c., articles easily prepared and easily dispensed. * * *

I had an interview this A. M., with Col. Vollum, Medical Inspector, on Gen. Canby's staff, by his request. He expressed himself very favorably towards the Commission, and wished me to report to him at the end of the month, the amount of vegetables issued from our store-house. I asked him if he had visited our "Home" in the city, he replied, "Oh, yes, I have been all over it, spent many a day there, because I heard some complaints against it, but I found it an *excellent institution.*" In view of a concentration of troops in the region of Mobile, there must be considerable passing of troops to and fro, between here and there, via the Lake. The boats will land at Lakeport, and as there is no accommodation there for rest or provision, I have concluded to establish a "Lodge" at that place. I consulted with Col. Vollum about it, and he endorsed that it be done at once. I shall go there to-morrow, and secure a building if possible.

I have opened a correspondence with a Confederate chaplain, with a view of establishing an agency in Texas, for the relief of our prisoners there. * * *

AN OFFICER'S TRIBUTE TO THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

The following is an extract from a private letter of a Rhode Island cavalry officer:

The Sanitary Commission is doing wonders. Volumes could be written in its praise, and fall short of justice. Its agents are everywhere at all times; none seem tired, none rude, none impatient. No call goes unheeded, no suffering unalleviated within their means. They are amply provided with everything. Every dollar expended by them is returned an hundred fold. And of the female nurses who have so nobly sacrificed every comfort of home for the stern duties they are fulfilling, what can be said? Exposed daily, hourly, to the most disgusting, abhorrent scenes, shocking to the senses, revolting in the last degree under any other circumstances, these angels of mercy go about their duties as quietly and steadily as about common household affairs. Oh, if you could see the wistful, longing faces upturned, as these nurses come along, loaded with nutritious soups, chicken broth, nice soft bread and butter, jellies, preserves, &c. wine, brandy, lemonade, milk-punch, egg nog, each given to the proper case, and the silent grateful look of those too weak to speak, the heartfelt thanks of those who can, your heart would melt with pity and love, and you would say to your sisters and brethren at the North, *send* money, *send money*, send *anything* to the Sanitary Commission.

SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, PA.

The official report of the late Council of women for this county, is not yet received. We hope to have it for the next number of the *Bulletin*. The following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, we clip from the *Independent Republican*, of Montrose, for October 25:

Resolved, That we regard the labors of the Sanitary Commission, as second in importance only to the actual service of the soldiers in the field, and that our confidence in its efficiency increases more and more, as we become thoroughly acquainted with its operations.

Resolved, That sympathy, encouragement and substantial aid, are due from every one who loves his country, to the *noble* women of our Soldier's Aid Societies, who, with great toil and sacrifice, are engaged in the glorious work of relieving the sufferings of our beloved brethren, the soldiers who have gone to fight for us, the battles of freedom and civil liberty.

Resolved, That we tender to the gentlemen and ladies from Philadelphia, who have addressed us this afternoon and evening, our sincere thanks for the valuable information which they have communicated to us, and the encouragement they have given us, which shall only stimulate us to greater efforts in this good work in the fu-

ture, and until a righteous peace shall be established in our beloved land.

The assembly then sang the L. M. Doxology and dispersed.

C. C. HALSEY,
T. NICHOLSON,
G. A. JESSUP,
} *Secretaries.*

OBJECTIONS.

Our friends sometimes write to ask how they shall answer certain objections that are made to the Sanitary Commission, by persons who claim to be entitled to credit in their respective neighborhoods; and while we invariably answer such communications promptly, we think a notice here, of two or three objections that have come to our knowledge within a day or two, may be well.

A friend sends us from Chautauqua county in New York, a note, with a slip from the *Fredonia Censor*, which contains the following statement:

In looking over the Censor *of the 24th ult. I see you advise the people of Chautaqua to pick, dry and send all the berries to our men down here, through the Sanitary Commission. This, I would six months ago have approved, and joined with you in recommending, but now, seeing how things go at the very headquarters of the whole establishment, I would, and will use every means in my power to keep it from them, especially the part of country where my own friends live. It is now a regular cheating place. Honesty and patriotism are known by their men here no more. An easy life with a plenty of money in their pockets, is thought much more of, than the poor soldiers who are suffering. This same Sanitary Commission was once a noble thing, and a great amount of good was derived from it, but it is now as bad, as it was then good.*

The only authority for these statements is a certain J. C. B. If J. C. B. will make his complaints over his own proper signature, and give us the evidence to prove the *cheating* of which he complains, and show how the *honesty and patriotism* of all the *men* at *headquarters* has vanished within he past six months, and tell who the men are, he will be doing a service to the cause. If, however, he makes these assertions without being frank enough to avow himself, the good people of his own county will not give credit to his accusations. Our friends need never concern themselves about charges or complaints against the Commission that are not substantiated by proper authority. True men who have the interest of the cause at heart, who love the soldier and desire to see his wants supplied, are never afraid to be seen and known, in any attempt to correct or remove evils, which they may honestly think stand in the way of the cause.

Another letter comes from Bradford county, Pa., complaining that a *chaplain* from the army had publicly opposed the Sanitary Commission in his county, and had discouraged the Ladies Aid Society from contributing any more to the soldiers through that channel. His complaint was, that the "*contributions of the people rarely reach the suffering soldier, but that the officers of the army who control these sanitary stores, appropriate them to their own use, and leave the private soldier to suffer in his destitution and want.*"

We assure the Society at Leraysville, in Bradford, that they may continue in their noble work without discouragement, if they will trust to their own good impulses, and their past experience.

When officers return from the army and say, that they—the officers—use the supplies that are given to them for the soldiers by the Commission, there need be no blame attached to the Commission. We are confident however, that the chaplain is in error about the supplies to soldiers not reaching them. In his own regiment it may have been the case, and there may be other regiments where officers are willing to misappropriate stores, but we believe from large observation and experience, that officers as a rule, do not so mis-apply what may be placed within their reach.

The Commission has its own agents, who

distribute to the men personally, when surgeons approve; and it would be absurd to suppose that all the vast stores which the people have sent to the army, could have been used by the officers, had every effort been made to induce them to do so. Our army is not composed of such men, as many persons would have us believe. The private soldiers are such as the world has never before seen, for valor, endurance, patience and confidence in the cause, and in their leaders.

Our army surgeons are men taken from our families and communities—men whom we have formerly entrusted with our own lives, and the lives of our kindred; they have been strictly examined before they entered the service, both as to professional attainment and moral character, and are as a class, valuable men.

The Generals and subordinate officers, are such as have won the esteem and confidence of the people, and we are satisfied that no unfounded complaints—be they made by whom they may, will shake the confidence of the people in our army officers, in our valiant men of the rank and file, or in the means that are being used by the Sanitary Commission to serve them.

The good women of the land will work on, and in answer to such accusations as we have noticed, they will furnish such facts as they may find in the present number of the *Bulletin*. Read the correspondence from the army, and you will learn how the supplies are distributed.

COUNCIL OF SOLDIER'S AID SOCIETIES.

NEW YORK, *October* 26, 1864.

DEAR SIR: Will you be kind enough to publish the enclosed Circular of Invitation in the BULLETIN of November 1. The invitation is extended to all who are interested in the care of the sick and wounded, and may, through the BULLETIN reach some persons who might not otherwise receive it.

Very respectfully yours,

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER,
Chairman Com. on Correspondence.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

WOMAN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF,
10 and 11 Cooper Union, Third Avenue.

NEW YORK, *October* 25, 1864.

MADAM: A meeting of delegates from the Soldier's Aid Societies of New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and parts of Massachusetts, Vermont and New Jersey, will be held in the Hall of the Cooper Union, on WEDNESDAY, THE 16TH DAY OF NOVEMBER NEXT, at 7½ o'clock, P.M. We hope that the Soldier's Aid Societies of Canada will be also represented.

Prof. HITCHCOCK, of this Association, will preside, and present our Semi-Annual Report. Dr. BELLOWS, recently returned from California, will narrate his experiences among the workers for the Soldiers there. Other gentlemen are expected to address the meeting.

This invitation is extended to the members of Soldier's Aid Societies, working not only through the Sanitary Commission, but through every other agency, and to all persons interested in the welfare of our sick and wounded soldiers. We earnestly hope to have the pleasure of seeing you on this occasion, as well as the members of the Society you represent. Be kind enough to present this invitation to them as soon as you conveniently can, and also to give it a widely extended notice in your community. Please let us have an answer from you by November 10.

Delegates are requested to wear a badge of narrow blue ribbon, on the left shoulder. Associate Managers will wear a red badge, and the ladies of the Board a white one.

Associate Managers and Delegates are requested to meet the members of the Board in the Committee-room of the Cooper Union (entrance on 3d Avenue), at 6 o'clock on the afternoon of the day of meeting. They are requested to bring statistical reports of the entire work of their Societies from the beginning of the war. These reports will be entered on the records of the meeting, and upon the outside of each should be written the name of the Society, and the names of the delegates representing it. Written enquiries about any part of the work of the Sanitary Commission will be received at this time and transmitted to the speakers.

The ladies of the Woman's Central Association hope also to have the pleasure of receiving their friends, at their rooms, in the Cooper Union, on Wednesday and

Thursday, the 16th and 17th of November. The books and store-houses of the Association will then be open for examination, and any desired information given in regard to our work.

It is with great pleasure that we look forward to the prospect of meeting our fellow-workers—many of you the well-tried associates of three-and-a-half years—face to face. It will give a new impulse to our work, and we trust that when we separate it will be to go back to it refreshed and strengthened.

Very respectfully yours,
ELLEN COLLINS,
LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER,
ANGELINA POST,
CAROLINE LANE,
CATHERINE NASH,
Committee of Invitation.

A PILLOW.

A dairy woman on a rented farm, with a dozen cows to milk, a little less than a dozen children to feed and clothe, and a house-full of work to do beside, and in a neighborhood among the cold hills, where the church and school, and Soldiers Aid Society, make up the whole of the outside life, cannot be expected to do what some some people would call *much* for soldiers, who are hundreds of miles away; but yet such women *do a great deal.* We know of one, who had two nice pillows, for a nice new baby. The geese had contributed the best of feathers, and the good mother had put them into sacks, and trimmed them neatly for her little nursling. One of the pillows was old, and the other was new—made new for the new little soldier, whose field was the nursery floor, and whose fortress was the cradle. The Aid Society met, and the dairy woman found time to meet with them, but she could not do much beside work, and believe and pray. One day however, she looked upon the little soldier in his little fortress, and said, "the *new pillow* shall go to some suffering soldier in the distant hospitals. Baby may keep the old one, but the new, the best, the softest, it shall go to the Union soldier."

WASHER-WOMAN.

She lived in a little home, with but few neighbors around her. Her chief income was derived from the washing she did for a well-to-do family near by; but she joined the Aid Society, for she could sew, as well as wash. She wanted to give something beside her labor and love, however, but what should she give? She gathered her little fruit crop,—cherries, currants and all, and dried them for the sick and wounded ones, who were defending her little home. She would not give a part only—but all. Every cherry and currant, that was spared from the drying, was packed away, and marked for the Sanitary Commission to send to soldiers. A friend expostulated, and begged her to keep a share for her winter store. "Oh! no, I do not need them, and the gift is very small!" Her all of little domestic luxuries—very small. Think of it, Girards and Astors, and all who have more than plenty.

AN ARAB CHIEF.

Yanni—a Christian Arab, makes an offering to the Sanitary Commission, from his Eastern home. Prepared orange flowers, are a delicacy in his land, for the sick and suffering. His new religion teaches him that sickness and wounds, and want, in other lands besides his own, claim the sympathy of a common brotherhood, and Yanni sends his contribution marked over his signature, for the U. S. Sanitary Commission. His message is, "You give good gifts to us, and we give good gifts to you."

HORSE-RADISH.

An interesting incident is related by a friend of Susquehanna county, Pa. A good woman who had but very little of this world's goods, determined that she must do something to make the soldier comfortable, and thus prove her interest in the cause of her country. She looked about her humble home, and saw but little—very little, that she could send to the front. But, though

she—there's my horse-radish patch, and perhaps some of that may help to season the course food, and make the boys think of home. So she dug up her horse-radish, grated it finely, stowed it away in jars, until her little store measured *two gallons*. She trudged away with this over four miles of mountain road, and left it with the neighborhood Aid Society, to be sent away with the stores of the Sanitary Commission. It was not much in comparison with the great cargoes that are sent to the soldiers, but it was her own offering of what she had, out of *her little*, and will doubtless add a wholesome relish to the humble viands of the "boys," while the consciousness of having a part in this great work, will be the donor's *reward*.

VOICES FROM THE COUNTRY.

LITTLE FALLS, N. Y.—The work of the Commission progresses. A lively interest created by a recent gathering of the people.

ROME, N. Y.—An excellent Aid Society in active operation.

HERKIMER VILLAGE, N. Y.—A Teacher's Institute for the county, listens to and considers the wants of the soldiers, and makes itself a channel of information in their behalf.

CEDARVILLE, N. Y.—Society reorganized and in good tune for work.

WEST WINFIELD, N. Y.—Gives fine promise of good results for the Commission.

A correspondent from Western New York states in general terms, as follows: "New societies have been formed, and many who took no interest in Sanitary matters are aroused to exertion. I find the people willing to help, if they can only be assured that the supplies reach the front, and are distributed amongst the needy soldier boys. The ladies have made a great amount of blackberry cordial, and are now putting up pickles, and will save large quantities of dried fruit for the Commission."

TAMAQUA, PA.—The work goes on well. A flourishing society exists and is industrious.

POTTSVILLE, PA.—Is alive to the cause. It works industriously. Much more will be heard from there soon.

WILKESBARRE, PA.—The organization here is about taking a fresh start for the winter campaign. What they have done in the past will be duplicated hereafter.

CAPE ISLAND, N. J.—The society resolved to go to work with renewed zeal.

CAPE MAY C. H., N. J.—Ditto.

TOWNSEND INLET, N. J.—A new society organized. Worthy and efficient Christian ladies have already commenced.

GREEN CREEK, N. J.—A new society formed. Plans matured for engaging the whole neighborhood in the cause.

GOSHEN, N. J.—A new society formed. The people much interested and a good promise of good fruit.

DENNIS, N. J.—The society stimulated and will do more work.

SWEEDSBORO', N. J.—A new impulse is given to the Society here, and the earnest people will be more earnest than ever.

THE RIGHT RING.

Extract from a letter of a late Chaplain in the Army of the Potomac to one of the Auxiliary Corps, who had invited him to enlist in the service of the Sanitary Commission.

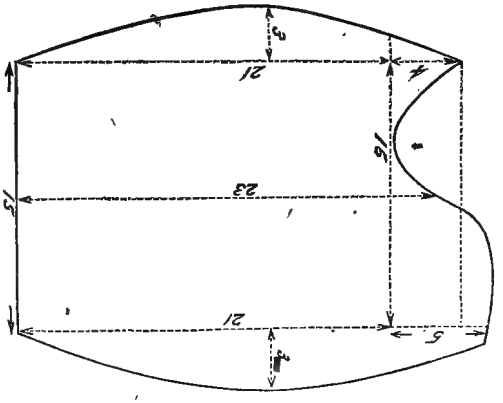
Though I parted reluctantly from the army and am home-sick to return, yet it seems without doubt best that I devote the coming winter to Hebrew and homilies. I am heartily sorry for it, for my heart wears the blue uniform, and is not easily retired from active service. If I live to see next summer, and the war goes on, I do not know what can keep me away from the field. I had an offer of a captiancy of cavalry a few days ago, that well nigh dragged me from the pulpit. There is no business fit for a young man who is fit to live in these days, outside the army lines. I hope, sir, that you will be able to accomplish all you aspire to in the way of making brave men strong for battle.

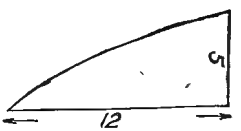
Wrappers for Hospitals Wanted.

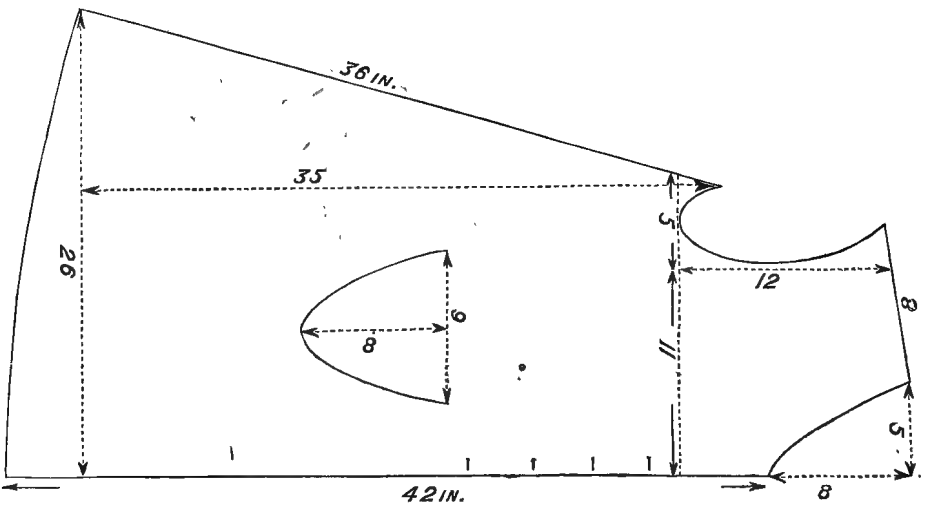
DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING WRAPPERS.

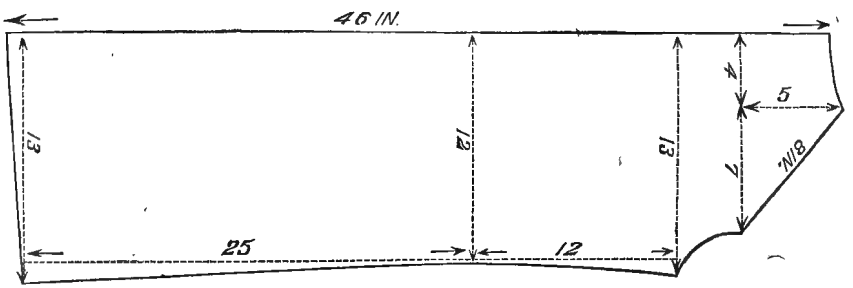
The circular side of the collar is to be sewed into the neck. The straight side turns over. In sewing in the sleeve the seam must be placed in the middle of the arm size *behind*, as per dot, in diagram. The pocket is to be felled on the inside. There are to be four buttons in the front. This wrapper may be made of any cotton or woolen material, doubled. It will take from 9 to 10 yards of any cloth, of calico width.

With a little ingenuity, old pieces may be made to go a great way, by piecing the lining, and making collar, and facings for the sleeves and fronts, of different stuff from the outside.









INDIVIDUAL RELIEF.

List of sick and wounded soldiers, waited upon in transit between Washington and New York, for the fortnight ending, October 15, 1864, by A. H. Trego, Courier, U. S. Sanitary Commission.

NEW YORK.

H. W., Co. A, 8th N. Y. Vols., Rockaway, wounded in both legs.
P. O., Co. A, 61st N. Y. Vols., New York, sick.
J. C., Co. H, 21st N. Y. Cav. Albany, wounded.
J. H. H., Co. C, 4th N. Y. Cav., Newark, wounded.
J. W., Co. L, 14th N. Y. H. A., W. Windsor, leg amputated.
M. J. H., Co. A, 121st N. Y. Vols., Albany, wounded.
S. H. C., Co. B, 146th N. Y. Vols., Farmington, sick.
6 N. Y. soldiers, Brooklyn, legs off.
6 officers of N. Y. and N. E. Regt's wounded at Richmond.
15 soldiers of N. Y., sick and wounded.
3 officers, N. Y. Regts., badly wounded.
Capt. S., Co. C, 12th N. Y. V., Ulster, badly wounded.

MAINE.

B. H. E., Co. K, 1st Me. Cav., Bath, fever.
S. M., Co. F, 32d Me. Vols., Portland, leg off.
B. W. P., Co. H, 9th Me. Vols., Dixmont, wounded.
V. H., Co. I, 29th Me. Vols., Augusta, wounded.
2 soldiers, Maine Regiments, Portland, bad wounds.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

J. T., Co. E, 11th N. H., Boston, wounded.
A. C. C., Co. A, 11th N. H., Derry, wounded.
C. H. S., Co. F, 5th N. H., Clairmount, wounded.
53 soldiers, 1st N. H. battery, time out, discharged.

MASSACHUSETTS.

J. N., Co. K, 22d Mass., Stutbridge, sick.
A. W. A., 5th Mass. Battery, New Bedford, sick.
21 soldiers, 5th Massachusetts Battery, Boston, discharged.
Lieut. J. N. M., Co. D, 35th Mass., Whaland, wounded badly.

CONNECTICUT.

3 Conn. soldiers, Hartford, wounded.
J. W., Co. K, 1st Conn. Cav., Woodstock, helpless, paralytic.

NEW YORK AND NEW ENGLAND.

3 officers, N. E. Regts., wounded.
15 soldiers, N. Y. & N. E. Regts., wounded.
4 officers, N. Y. & N. E. Regts., wounded.
17 soldiers, N. Y. & N. E. Regts., sick and wounded,
25 soldiers of New England Regiments, sick and wounded.
Total, 192.

SPECIAL RELIEF REPORT

BY J. B. ABBOTT,

For one week, ending Oct. 8, 1864.

SPECIAL RELIEF OFFICE.

Number of cases of discharged soldiers whose papers have been taken and acted upon,	23
Number of Bounty cases taken,	7
Number of applications for back pay by sick and disabled soldiers in Hospital,	16
Number of applications for ration money received,	5
Number of applications for back pay of prisoners of war,	20
Number of pension claims filed,	44
Number of claims for arrear of pay and bounty filed,	8
Number of claims for prize money filed,	1
Whole number of cases filed,	124
Whole number of cases adjusted,	77

Amount collected on papers of discharged soldiers,	$4,586 97
Amount collected on bounty cases,	1,750 00
Amount of back pay secured to soldiers in Hospital,	1,099 56
Amount of ration money collected,	14 25
Whole amount collected and secured,	$7,450 78

CASH ACCOUNT.

Amount on hand date of last report,	$216 20
Amount refunded,	20 65
Expenditures,	104 37
Cash on hand Oct. 8th,	132 48

HOMES AND LODGES.

Number of meals given to soldiers at Lodge No. 4,	2771
Number of meals given to clerks and messengers,	364
Number of meals given to soldiers at Alexandria Lodge,	384
Number of meals given to soldiers' friends,	160
Number of meals given to soldiers and soldiers' friends at the Home in Baltimore,	208
Whole number of meals given,	3887
Whole number of lodgings furnished at Lodge No. 4,	461
Whole number of lodgings furnished at Alexandria Lodge,	238
Whole number of lodgings furnished at the Home in Baltimore,	61
Total number of lodgings furnished,	770

The report of the Soldiers' Rest at Harrisburg, Pa., for the week has not yet reached me.

Report of the Sixth street Lodge shows that nine steamers have arrived during the week, with more or less sick and wounded soldiers. 398 were furnished with food and stimulants from the Lodge, on their arrival, before being removed to the hospitals.

A. H. Trego reports this week 146 sick and wounded soldiers waited upon, in transit between Washington and New York.

There has been a larger number of soldiers, who have suffered the loss of a leg or an arm, requiring assistance in adjusting their papers, or making their claims for pensions, this week than any previous week since the office was opened.

For the week ending October 15th, 1864.

Number of cases of discharged soldiers who have applied for aid in adjusting their papers and collecting their pay, received and acted upon,	38
Number of bounty cases taken,	11
Number of cases of back pay for soldiers in Hospitals entered in journal,	26
Number of cases filed for the pay of prisoners of war,	30
Number of pension claims filed,	64
Number of arrears of pay and bounty claims filed,	8
Number of prize money claims filed,	8
Whole number of claims entered,	185
Whole number of cases adjusted and allowed,	70
Amount collected on discharge papers,	$6,101 51
Amount of back pay secured,	1,092 73
Amount of bounty collected,	425 00
Amount collected for the families of soldiers who have become prisoners of war,	662 40
Amount of prize money collected,	3,636 41
Whole amount secured,	$11,918 05

The amount of work accomplished by the Homes and Lodges will not vary much from the result shown in last week's report.

CASH ACCOUNT.

Cash on hand October 8th,	$132 48
Cash received from Sanitary Commission,	$160 00
Expenditures,	$156 74
Cash on hand this date,	$135 74

The average number of letters received per day, 55

The number written per day will not vary much from the number received.

REPORTS OF LODGES AND CLAIM AGENCIES.

BALTIMORE.

A. E. Hastings, Superintendent of "Home for Invalid Soldiers," Baltimore, Md., reports as follows, for the week ending Oct. 9th, 1864.

Number of meals furnished,	208
" lodgings "	61
" soldiers entertained,	47
" " friends entertained,	22
Whole number entertained,	69
Medical attendance furnished,	2
Transportation at Government rates,	8
" San. Com. expense,	1

For the week ending Oct. 16, 1864.

Number of meals furnished,	271
" lodgings "	87
" soldiers entertained,	43
" " friends entertained,	25
" refugees entertained,	1
Whole number entertained,	69
Medical attendance furnished,	2
Transportation at Government rates,	10
" expense San. Com.,	6

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

S. G. Doolittle, Superintendent "Alexandria Lodge," reports the following for the week ending Oct. 8, 1864.

Number of meals furnished sick and wounded soldiers,	383
" meals furnished friends of soldiers,	160
" lodgings furnished,	54
Whole number entertained,	234
" males,	224
" females,	10

For the week ending Oct. 15, 1864.

Number of meals furnished sick and wounded soldiers,	300
" meals furnished friends of soldiers,	78
" lodgings furnished friends of soldiers,	26
" lodgings furnished sick and wounded soldiers,	159
Number entertained,	167
" of males,	159
" of females,	8

WASHINGTON, D. C.

HOWARD MCPHERSON, Superintendent Lodge No. 6, Washington, D. C., (6th street wharf) reports during the week ending Oct. 8, 1864, having supplied tea, coffee, crackers, and milk punch to 404 sick and wounded soldiers.

During the week ending Oct. 15, 397 men were ministered to at this Lodge.

JAS. C. FREEMAN, Acting Superintendent Lodge No. 4, Washington, D. C., reports as follows for the week ending Oct. 8, 1864.

Number of meals furnished to soldiers,	2,771
" " " " clerks and messengers,	364
Total number of meals furnished,	3,135
Nunber of lodgings furnished soldiers,	454
" " " clerks and messengers,	7
Total number of lodgings furnished,	461

For the week ending Oct. 15, 1864.

Number of meals furnished soldiers and sailors,	2450
" meals furnished clerks and messengers,	344
Total number of meals furnished,	2,794
Nunber of lodgings furnished soldiers and sailors,	363
" lodgings furnished clerks and messengers,	7
Total number of lodgings furnished,	370

BACK PAY AND BOUNTY.

W. K. NEAL, Superintendent Back Pay and Bounty Department, reports the following work for the week ending Oct. 8, 1864.

Number of cases taken and recorded,	33
" settled,	21
Amount collected on 21 cases,	$4,586 97
Number of letters written in full,	21
" " " part, (blanks)	2

For the week ending Oct. 15, 1864. Mr. Read reports.

Number of cases recorded,	38
" " settled,	22
Amount collected,	$6,101 51

GEO. W. RANDLETTE, Superintendent "Bounty Department," Washington, D. C., reports as follows for the week ending Oct. 8, 1864.

Cases received and recorded,	7
" settled,	18
Amount collected,	$1,750 00
Drafts sent,	21
Amount (21 drafts),	$2,321 07
Letters written,	21
" forms used,	7

For the week ending Oct. 15, 1864.

Cases received and recorded,	11
" settled,	5
" papers returned,	1
Amount collected,	$425 00
Letters written,	20
Drafts sent,	22
Amount of drafts,	$2,110 77

PENSION AGENCY, WASHINGTON.

WM. P. BARRY, Supt. Pension Agency, Washington, D. C., reports for week ending October 8th, 1864:

Number of claims filed (pensions),	44
" " " " (arrears of pay),	8
" " " " (prize money),	1
Whole number of claims filed,	53
Number of claims completed and allowed by Commissioner of Pensions,	12
Letters written in full	42
" Blanks filled	120
Whole number letters sent,	162
" " " Received,	71

For the week ending October 15th, 1864:

Number claims filed (pensions),	68
" " " arrears of pay,	4
Number of claims (prize money),	8
Total number of claims,	80
Claims for pensions allowed,	5
" " prize money,	10
Total claims allowed,	15
Amount of prize money collected,	$3,636 41
Letters written in full,	68
" (blanks filled),	59
Whole number sent,	127
" " received,	148

J. B. BROWN, Supt. "Back Pay and Prisoners of War Claim Department," reports for week ending October 8th, 1864:

Number cases taken back pay and hospitals,	16
" " adjusted,	23
Am't. represented by adjusted cases,	$1,099 56
Letters written in full,	43
" " (blanks filled),	136
Whole number,	179
Referred,	66

COMMUTATION OF RATIONS.

Number of cases taken,	5
" " " adjusted,	3
Amount collected on adjusted cases,	$14 25

PRISONERS OF WAR BACK PAY.

Cases taken,	20
Total collected for week	$1,113 81

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PROTECTIVE War-Claim Association

OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK.

OFFICE, 35 CHAMBERS STREET, NEW YORK.

PRESIDENT.

LIEUT.-GEN. WINFIELD SCOTT.

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JOHN J. CISCO, ESQ.
ADMIRAL DUPONT.
RUDOLPH A. WITTHAUS, ESQ.

TREASURER.

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JAMES BROWN,
WILLIAM H. ASPINWALL,
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HOWARD POTTER,
WILLIAM E. DODGE, jr.,
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PETER COOPER,
GEORGE BANCROFT,
DANIEL LORD,
WILSON G. HUNT,
ROBERT L. STUART,
ALFRED PELL.

Apply in person or by letter, to

HENRY GREENFIELD, *Secretary*,

35 CHAMBERS STREET, New York.

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq , New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
A. E. Shiras, U. S. A.
R. C. Wood, Assistant Surgeon-Gen'l U. S. A
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., New York.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clarke, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, jr., Philadelphia, Penna.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Prof. Fairman Rogers, Philadelphia, Penna.
C. J. Stillé, Philadelphia, Penna.
Ezra B. McCagg, Chicago, Ill.

OFFICERS.

H. W. Bellows, D.D., President.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Vice-President.
George T. Strong, Treasurer.
J. Foster Jenkins, M.D., General Secretary.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Associate Secretary.
J. H. Douglas, M.D., Associate Secretary.
F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary.

STANDING COMMITTEE.

Henry W. Bellows, D.D.
George T. Strong.
William H. Van Buren, M.D.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D.
C. R. Agnew, M.D.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously,

with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, State House, New Haven, Conn.

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Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

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Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, O.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

"Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C., where assistance is rendered in procuring Pay, Pensions, Bounty, Prize Money, and arrears of Pay and Bounty, and in various other ways.

"The Home," No. 374 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

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Important Information for Soldiers and Sailors who have lost Limbs.

The "PALMER" ARM and LEG are now furnished for the mutilated heroes of the Army and Navy, and I have the pleasure of presenting extracts from official letters from the Surgeon-General, which will gratify numerous applicants, who, in the past, have been led to believe that they must accept an inferior limb, or have no aid from Government.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * *

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.
C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

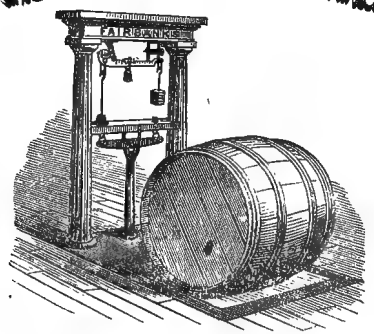
To B. FRANK. PALMER, LL.D., 744 Broadway, New York.

The Best PALMER LEG is furnished THE SOLDIER FREE.
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The Best LINCOLN "GOVERNMENT" ARM, FREE.
Prices of the PALMER LIMBS not raised to OFFICERS and CIVILIANS.

Apply in person, or by letter, at either of the offices. Address

B. FRANK. PALMER, LL.D.,
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CASH CAPITAL, - - - - - $1,000,000.

From Statement for the Sixth Fiscal Year, ending December 31, 1863.

Total Amount of Assets, January 1, 1864	$3,140,930 80
Total Amount of Premiums	3,252,256 76
Excess of Earned Premiums over Losses, &c	1,137,063 33
Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies	441,206 49
Guaranteed Cash Dividend to Dealers, (holding certificates of same) on Paid Premiums Earned during the Year, whether Loss has Accrued or not	269,614 80
Scrip Dividend to Dealers, on Earned Premiums	15 per cent.
Dividend for the Year to Stockholders	26 per cent.

LOSSES PAID IN GOLD

UPON RISKS ON WHICH THE PREMIUM IS PAID IN LIKE CURRENCY.

DEALERS WITH THIS COMPANY will be allowed the option (to be signified at the time of application for insurance) of receiving in lieu of scrip, at the end of each year, RETURNS IN CASH (guaranteed by certificate) of premiums paid and earned during the year, whether loss accrues or not, upon all new risks under the NEW YORK FORM OF POLICY, as follows:

1st. Upon all VOYAGE Risks upon CARGO, a return of TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT.

2d. Upon VOYAGE Risks upon FREIGHT, a return of TWENTY PER CENT.

3d. Upon TIME Risks upon FREIGHT, and upon VOYAGE and TIME Risks upon HULLS, a return of TEN PER CENT.

Such privilege, however, being confined to persons and firms, the aggregate of whose premiums upon such policies earned and paid during the year, shall amount to the sum of one hundred dollars.

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WM. M. WHITNEY, 2d Vice-President and Secretary.

THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

No. 26. PHILADELPHIA, NOVEMBER 15, 1864. No. 26.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON, D. C.

BY MRS. STEPHEN BARKER,

HOSPITAL VISITOR.

WASHINGTON,
October, 1864.

* * * My present circuit ranges between Harewood, Camp Barry, Deserters, Four Invalid Corps, and the Engineers' Hospitals,—eight in all.

I spend every forenoon at Harewood, and visit one or more of the smaller hospitals every afternoon. In all these places I draw orders on the Commission for such heavy articles as must be transported by the Commission, all light articles I take with me in the carriage, in order to distribute them myself.

At Harewood, and the Invalid Corps hospitals I keep a supply of flannels always on hand, for those who are discharged, or ordered to the front, who may be feeble and improperly clad, and for all requests of that kind, I have only to refer to the hospital wardrobe. It is my habit to go through the wards and tents at Harewood in systematic order, with memorandum book in hand, taking a note of whatever I may not happen to have in the carriage. The next day I deliver the ordered articles, and go on to the next wards in the same way. I make the entire rounds once a week, besides visiting the very sick cases much oftener. * * *

I have bought fruit, tomatoes, potatoes, oysters, eggs, green tea, fresh fish, chickens, salt mackerel, baker's rolls, custard pies, and nearly twenty pounds of butter, which has otherwise been an unknown luxury in Harewood, since I have visited there. * *

I have received a valuable present from Mrs. Hudson, of blackberry wine and cherry rum, worth forty-two dollars. These have cured some obstinate cases. But one of the *invaluable* remedies has been some pure French brandy placed in my hand by Mr. Hovey. The results of this stimulant have been astonishing. I find in my journal of October 9th, the following record:

"A brave Minnesota soldier had been badly wounded in the foot, the surgeon did his best to save it, and the patient endured weeks of excruciating pain, in the hope of curing it; meanwhile it was decaying, and the soldier daily failed. He was a rigid temperance man, and resolutely refused the fiery whiskey issued at the hospital. At last it became necessary to amputate the foot, but at a great risk of life, on account of the prostrated condition of the patient. Just before the operation was to be performed, I visited the hospital, and seeing the need of a stimulant, I persuaded the man to taste

the brandy. He yielded, and was so convinced of the need of it, and so delighted to find that it did not burn and distress him as other liquors had, that he asked for more, and had depended entirely upon it ever since. He bore his amputation well, and is improving rapidly, and says he owes his life to that brandy."

Yesterday I received another equally satisfactory testimonial as to its effects in chronic dysentery. * * *

A man from the bake-house applied for a shirt; another begged and sold a shirt for two dollars, within half an hour; another begged and sold a pair of brogans for the same price; I have never seen patients so bold and impertinent. I mildly refuse all requests that seem prompted by avarice or fancy. Two-thirds of these men confess that they can draw white woolen shirts, but they don't *like* them. I always advise such not to draw them, but take the money and buy such as they like. I generally get some bitter fling at the Sanitary Commission in reply, and was told by one man that he never before asked a thing, and never would again. "His folks sewed for soldiers, and he had actually given four dollars and fifty cents at a fair, and now when he asked for a woolen shirt he was told he might draw it and pay for it."

The moment the carriage stops they flock around me, and beg for everything they see, and especially the flannel shirts. One man asked for one yesterday who had three white ones in his knapsack. I meet all such requests with gentleness and patience, explaining to attentive audiences of from twenty-five to fifty men, the real uses of our Sanitary goods, and am always approved by the better men in the crowd. The mean ones go off silent or grumbling; but which ever way they go I am immovable.

In order to remove this impression in all justifiable ways, I have always followed up such scenes by generous and thorough distribution of such articles as really belong to convalescent men about to be discharged from the hospital, such as towels, combs, handkerchiefs, neck-ties, vests, stationery, magazines, &c., and sometimes slippers and brogans. I also keep a supply of our flannel clothing in the linen room, to which I refer all ward masters for their patients who are discharged without suitable clothing of their own. In my own visits in the wards, I also give to any patient needing it, a suit of flannel, which I endeavor to have at hand. * * *

Within the last fortnight I have visited nearly all the guards around the hospitals, and intend to complete the circuit, distributing mittens, which are intrusted to the Seargeant of the guard, leaving one pair at each Post, to be worn and left for the next comer. Our wish that this use might be made of them has been observed everywhere, except at Harewood—here the first ones who wore them stole them. We applied to the Captain of the Guard, who ordered them all to be brought to headquarters, (the mittens I mean,) and redistributed according to our instructions.

WESTERN DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS TO DR. J. S. NEWBERRY.

From H. Tone.

Atlanta, Geo.,
Oct. 5th, 1864.

Dear Sir:—Enclosed please find report of disbursements of hospital stores for the month of September; also, a statement of the amount of vegetables issued for general use, and a list of the regiments to which they were issued.

You will see by this that we have been able to furnish, during the month, a good ration of vegetable food to one hundred and forty-two regiments and twenty-five batteries, representing thirteen different States. In most of these cases the men had not tasted an onion or a mouthful of cabbage for more than a hundred days. At the close of the month the work was progressing rapidly; we had received notice of large shipments on the way, and were in hopes of being able to supply the whole army. But the sudden resuming of the campaign, the withdrawal of troops from this vicinity, and above all, severing our lines of communication have, for the time at least, checked us in our labors. During the latter part of the month we received very few hospital stores, our transportation being mainly taken up with vegetables, and the little stock we had on hand is nearly exhausted. We have still a few onions; as many as will supply the hospitals while they will keep, a fair stock of extract beef, a large quantity of lime-juice, and considerable clothing.

Fortunately, about the time that our supply of delicacies was exhausted, the chief commissary received a large shipment of

canned fruits, jellies, milk, oysters, &c., exclusively for hospital use, and to be paid for out of hospital funds. In looking over the invoice, (which his chief clerk was so kind as to show me,) I notice that, while he has large quantities of canned fruits, tomatoes, &c., he has comparatively few dried apples and crackers; and, as near as I can judge, there will still be a great demand upon the Sanitary Commission for these articles.

There are about 2,750 sick in hospital here, and for that number there is an ample supply for a number of days; sufficient, it is thought, to last until communication is re-established. Indeed, at present, we are better provided for, in the line of delicacies, than in some of the more substantial articles; for while there is hard bread to eat for any reasonable length of time, there is very little flour. The medical authorities are, however, on the alert, and all the flour in town will be taken possession of to-day, and held for the use of the hospitals.

FROM BENJ. WOODWARD.

MEMPHIS, TENN.,
Oct. 18th, 1864.

I arrived here this morning. From all that I can learn, antiscorbutics are imperatively demanded at all the points on White river, and at Little Rock. I found an invoice here ready to ship, which I had ordered up White river, and I have written to Mr. Myers, at Cairo, to ship to this point all such stores as can be spared from Cairo. I learn that scurvy prevails to an alarming extent at the mouth of White river, Duvall's Bluff, St. Charles, and Little Rock. Capt. Way had arranged before he left with Mr. Bingham, the Ohio State Agent, to take the charge of these stores. I merely designated the amount to be left at the various points. I shall go to White river immediately, and see what the condition is, and will report to you from Little Rock.

The gunboats require vegetables; there is much sickness on them. I trust to receive instructions from you before I leave, but the agent here thinks I had better go soon. There is no doubt that a good invoice is needed at Duvall's Bluff and at Little Rock. Mr. Christy thinks the Bluff should be made a depot.

MEMPHIS, TENN.,
Oct. 21st, 1864.

I have the honor to report that, finding the great need of sanitary stores in the fleet, I have ordered for the fleet surgeon a good supply, which he will probably get to-morrow. An invoice will go up White river by the first chartered steamer. The depot here will then be nearly full. Vegetables in large supply should be sent here at once, for never was there greater need. One regiment, the 6th Minnesota, now at the mouth of White river, has 400 sick, and other regiments at that point are nearly in as bad condition. Scurvy is rife at every port. There is not a potato here even in the markets. Potatoes, onions, kraut, pickled cabbage, and pickles are demanded at once. Since the reduction of the ration, hospitals cannot make a hospital fund; every hospital here is in debt, and totally dependent upon the Commission for sanitary stores.

I go to the Bluff by the first chartered steamer, as I have and can get transportation on no other. If I take a line boat I must pay passage, which I should not feel justified in doing. I inclose a letter of thanks received from the chaplain of the 9th Minnesota Infantry. I had an interview with him to-day, in which he expressed the confidence of the troops in the United States Sanitary Commission, and gave me detailed accounts of the great suffering at points below. Again permit me to ask the sending of as large supplies as possible.

I beg to call your attention to the esteemed value of blackberry cordial and syrup in diarrhœa. Every medical officer here, in the army and navy, considers it by far the best article which can be used in diarrhœa, in the chronic and in the scorbutic form of the disease. The hospitals all call for it. If it could be had in casks, so as to be drawn off, instead of going to the expense of bottles, it would be a great saving of expense. There is but a small quantity now here. The most of the cordial made and put up by druggists is nearly worthless; that made by private families is by far the best.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER.

CAMP NELSON,
Oct. 24th, 1864.

The report of our work here, for the past week, must of necessity be very similar to that sent last week. The "Home" has been nearly as full as during the three weeks preceding. Everything is now arranged for the winter. We have laid in a large supply of fuel, and shall commence whitewashing and battening this week.

The cleanliness and freedom from vermin of the "Home," during the whole time,

has been the universal remark of soldiers. This, however, has been but the result of close attention and labor, mainly on the part of a very excellent steward and efficient ward-masters. Our steward was unfortunately ordered away, for a few weeks, but was returned, and tells me that at Lexington, Louisville, and Nashville he met with many soldiers, who had been our guests, who spoke in the highest praise of our "Home." I should be very glad to receive a visit from yourself or Mr. Thorne, to see how the "Home" is going on, and also how the sanitary work is conducted, and appreciated by all in this camp, whether in or out of authority, belonging to every arm or branch of the service. In the department of stores, we have done our utmost. We need woollen under wear—shirts, drawers, and socks—very much; also, stimulants and fruits, potatoes and onions; twenty barrels of each I should like this week, if possible. We have about forty refugees to provide for, as we have done for the past eight or nine months; we shall send a large family to Cincinnati on Monday. The wants of the soldier are great, and we are doing our utmost to fulfill our mission in this field.

Will send reports early this month.

HOW THE GOODS GO.

The question is often asked by the few *doubtful* friends of the Commission, Where do the goods go? The answer is given in the following testimonial. "Our wounded, sick and needy soldiers" are the recipients, according to this evidence.

HEADQUARTERS 19TH ARMY CORPS,
MT. CRAWFORD, VA., *Sept.* 30, 1864.

JAMES V. HAMMER,
Agent U. S. S. C.

SIR,—On the eve of your departure from this command, we take pleasure in giving you our sincere thanks for the timely aid you have rendered to our wounded, sick, and needy soldiers during this brief but arduous campaign.

We believe you have been true to the trust confided to you, and your integrity and bravery, shown in relieving the wants of our noble soldiers on the late field of battle, calls for the admiration and respect of all who support our cause. We are

Very respectfully,
DUNCAN S. WALKER,
A. A. G.

I. G. OLTMANS,
Capt. and A. A. D. C.
B. M. FRENCH,
Maj. and A. D. C.
JNO. M. SIZER,
Maj. and A. A. I. G.
EDWARD G. DIKE,
Lt. and Chf. Ord. Officer.
N. H. W. DUDLEY,
Col. and A. A. D. C.
ELIJAH SWIFT,
Lt. and A. A. Q. M.
O. O. PATTEN,
Capt. and A. Q. M.
ROBT. F. WINERNSON,
Capt. Judge Adv.
JAMES C. COOLEY,
Capt. and A. D. C.
HENRY C. IMWOOD,
Capt. and A. D C.
HENRY R. SIBLEY,
Capt. and C. S. Vols.
E. S. HOFFMAN,
Surgn. in Chf. 2d Div. 19th Corps.

HEADQUARTERS 19TH A. C.,
IN FIELD, *Sept.* 15, 1864.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:—We, the undersigned, Surgeons of the 19th Corps, who have come in contact with Mr. J. V. Hammer, agent (of the above named corps) for the Sanitary Commission, take this method of returning their thanks to him, and through him to the Commission, for their kindness and his efficiency; and they bear witness to the universal courtesy and activity with which he has discharged the duties of his laborious position, as said agent.

H. FEARN,
Surgeon 175th N. Y. Vols.
E. F. WARD,
Surgeon 38th Mass. Vols.
WM. R. BROWNELL,
Med. Dir. 19th A. C.
WM. HENRY THAYER,
Surgeon 14th N. H. Vols.
J. K. BIGELOW,
Surgeon 8th Indiana Vols.; Surgeon in charge 19th A. C. General Hospital.
WM. W. ROOT,
Asst. Surg. 76th N. Y. Vols.
F. S. TREADWAY,
Asst. Surg. 75th N. Y. Vols.

NEW ORLEANS.

FROM GEO. A. BLAKE.

NEW ORLEANS,
October, 1864.

* * * I visited the celebrated ram, Tennessee, and she is certainly a formidable craft, both to the enemy and those confined within her, her friends. Temperature in engine-room and ward-room, when in motion, is 145°. * * *

Everything is working finely in this Department. By request of Major-General Granger, I have sent a large supply of stores to Fort Gaines, under charge of our agent, Mr. Miller, anticipating a concentration of troops in that region. I hope you will hear the announcement before many weeks that Mobile is ours. * * *

The "Home" is what it should be. Mr. Howes is a capital superintendent. * * *

THREE MONTHS IN THE UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION.

NO. II.—SCENES AND INCIDENTS AT PORT ROYAL, VA.

From three until six A.M., on the morning of Thursday, the Relief Corps rested; at that hour it turned out again amid a cold, drizzly rain, and without waiting for breakfast, pushed ashore at the newly made dock. We found numerous soldiers whose wounds were not severe enough to disable them from locomotion, waiting anxiously for assistance, medical and otherwise, for themselves and others; these were sent aboard the returning boat, and their needs attended to. Going on up through the main street of the village, we were besieged at every step by the poor, half-starved, and but slightly wounded ones, while the seriously wounded lay upon the stoops of the houses, and on the side-walks of the street; here and there placed against a fence was a once stalwart form, now with head fallen on breast, and a mortal wound in the body, gasping out the last remains of life. Almost in the time it takes me to indite this, a ruined building was found, a fire built, and milk-punch, and coffee prepared. Never having tasted intoxicating drinks in my life in any form, I confess to some qualms of conscience, when I took hold of the latter stimulant for distribution, but ere the day had past my conscience quieted, for I deem it impossible for the most sanguine temperament to conceive the effect of this and other stimulants administered to poor humanity, under such circumstances. The absorbing thought of the sympathetic mind in the position of a Relief Agent, is what can be done to ease and aid these poor dear sufferers; and the means which most effectually does this, is cheerfully embraced in spite of all previous habits, aye, and convictions.

Surrounding the building, and far away for at least a mile on either side, were wagons filled with the wounded, they seemed as though they could be counted by thousands. The ground was properly districted; to each district were appointed dressers of wounds; these were accompanied by Relief Agents, carrying milk-punch and other alcoholic stimulants; and preceding these and following after, were other Relief Agents, carrying coffee and soft crackers to those unable to leave the wagons; those able to walk went to the building where the good things were prepared, and at one of the windows awaited each his turn for the crackers and coffee, which having obtained, they would sit on the grass near by and enjoy it. For such as were hungry between meals several boxes of hard-tack lay open at different points on the field.

The dead were lying in rows near the Relief House. A burial party was organized for the burial of these and such others as might die, and its work was well and substantially done. Not a man died and was buried, whose friends were known, but they were informed of every particular concerning his death and burial.

Thus was the work continued from six A.M. until six P.M., by the corps of the United States Sanitary Commission from six P.M. of the previous evening; and so perfect were the arrangements that I do not think one man was neglected. At the time above named, an abundance of Government supplies arrived, and from Fredericksburg came also a full corps of our Relief Agents, who relieved our worn-out men, and continued the good work without intermission throughout the night of the 20th. Every man who labored there has a rich experience of that day's work. The agony of a thirty mile ride in an army wagon without springs, and over a corduroy road, though frequently attempted at portrayal by them, could not be told. So terrible was the tax on their vitality that many died on the way. One notable instance I shall never forget. While serving the milk-punch from wagon to wagon, which was done by climbing the wheels, I observed an uplifted hand which was not an uncommon sight, for many of the poor fellows unable to rise from their recumbent position, would uplift their hands to receive the cup. I passed the cup and released it into the outstretched hand, but the hand refused to grasp it, so that its contents fell upon the other maimed ones in the same wagon, who with a tremulous

laugh told me the body from which the hand projected, had been dead three days. There were numerous cases of this kind.

The patient and even cheerful spirit of the wounded was beyond all praise. And of the efforts of the Sanitary Commission in their behalf, the spirit of their ejaculations showed the intensity of their feeling. "Oh, if my poor mother knew this!" one would say, and another, "What will my dear wife say when she hears of this kindness?" And thus their thanks found utterance *ad libitum*.

I visited some miserably sick rebels in an improvised prison there, and in the name of the people of the United States through the Sanitary Commission, fed them. The kindness was in such marked contrast to what they expected or deserved, it broke them down, and several among them wept freely. But I must close, this paper being already too long. J. J. B.

NEW AGENT'S IMPRESSIONS.

My experience in the work (Sanitary Commission) thus far, has tended greatly to increase the feeling which led me into it; and I have already seen enough to convince me of the necessity and fitness of the work, and the grateful feeling with which the relief is received, to demonstrate to my own mind that the Sanitary Commission is accomplishing a great and good work in a higher and fuller sense than is comprehended by its friends and supporters at the North. While the men have uniformly expressed themselves gratefully for the assistance afforded them, I have also listened with pleasure to expressions of gratified appreciativeness of the good work effected from captains and surgeons of hospital boats, as well as army officers.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

The present war, terrible in its magnitude and duration, has had benevolent accompaniments never before known in the history of the world. The various organizations for the relief of soldiers, sick and wounded, in the camp, the field and the hospital, which are planted squarely on the generosity and patriotism of the people, brighten the gloom which our three years of conflict has hung around our country. Foremost among these is the Sanitary Commission, which has become a gigantic humanitarian organization, for the relief of the sick and wounded of our army. Only those intimate with its immense operations can utter its eulogy, or realize one half its beneficent work.

ITS CHIEF OBJECT.

The chief object contemplated by the Sanitary Commission, when it was created by the Government, was the prevention of disease. Modern sanitary science was hardly recognized in the ancient regulations of the medical bureau, and consequently, during the summer of 1861 our armies were in serious danger of destruction from epidemic disease. The first business of the Commission, therefore, was to awaken general attention to the sanitary interests of the army, and to do what it could to improve the sanitary condition of camps, hospitals, and men. It brought to bear upon Government the influence of the medical profession throughout the country, effected the extension and invigoration of the medical bureau, and secured the express recognition of the prevention of disease, no less than its cure, as among the functions of the medical staff. Government now employs its own sanitary inspectors, and does a certain portion of the preventive work which the Commission performed during the first year of its existence. But the Commission find it necessary to keep up an inspectoral corps likewise.

The visits of the inspector usually disclose something that can be done to improve or promote the health of the command. He finds that quinine is necessary to prevent malarious disease, or vegetables to prevent scurvy, or that stimulants, bedding, disinfecting agents, or hospital diet, are wanted. In consequence of his reports, the Commission have dug wells, to improve the water-supply of camps, improved the ventilation of hospitals, built temporary hospitals and quarters to replace unwholesome and dangerous buildings, furnished and fitted up hospital transports, and converted ordinary railroad cars into railroad ambulances, with cooking apparatus and store-rooms, and litters hung on springs, in which thousands of men with fractured limbs have traveled thousands of miles without injury.

It has furnished material for the vaccination of thousands of men at a time, when the medical bureau was not able to supply immediately what was needed. It has circulated throughout the army, and especially among the medical staff, many hundred thousand of its medical documents. These

have been prepared by some of the most eminent surgeons and physicians of the country, and embody, in a condensed form, the latest results of science. They have been of great use to our army surgeons, who often encounter cases for which their previous practice has not prepared them, and who have neither medical libraries nor opportunities for consultation.

RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

It is, however, through the Relief Department of the Sanitary Commission that it is best known to the people. In this work it aims, not to supplant, but to supplement the Medical Department of the Government, to meet exigencies for which the Government has not provided, and to furnish such supplies as the Government does not and can not. When the Medical Purveyor has the articles needed in the hospital and camp, the army draws them from him; when he is out, or when from some emergency a larger supply is needed than is provided by Government, or when because of some technical informalities in the manner of making out requisitions the Purveyor is obliged to refuse them, and thus endanger life by the delay, the army calls upon the Commission, which never fails to respond to the call.

The relief agents of the Commission keep up with the army as it moves forward. Where the army encamps in the morning, the Commission has pitched its tents long before night. It reaches a new base as soon as there are soldiers to protect it, and is at work establishing hospitals and providing necessary stores before the ponderous machinery of the Government has moved; its red flags are seen everywhere at the front, blending with the stars and stripes, where it is establishing its feeding stations and depots of supplies. Prominent and experienced agents accompany each division of the army, with organized corps of assistants, wagons and supplies.

GREAT BATTLES.

It is at great battles that the agents of the Commission are eminently useful. The battle service of the Commission requires large funds and supplies. At Murfreesboro, Antietam, Gettysburg, Chattanooga, Vicksburg, and Port Hudson, sudden and vast demands were made. Fifty thousand dollars would not cover the outlay of the Commission the first two weeks after one of our great battles. At Gettysburg it was $75,000. The average cost is $3 20 to a man; at Gettysburg it was $10 per man. The outlay of the Sanitary Commission during the months of May and June, for the battle necessities of the present campaign, was over $500,000, exclusive of the supplies directed to it, and which it distributed.

This service requires comprehensive forethought, prompt and energetic action, and unwearied labor in infinite detail. Of some articles the requirements are enormous. Condensed milk, and extract of beef by the ton; wines and spirits by the barrel; crackers and farinaceous food by the ton; tea, coffee and sugar by the chest and hogshead; cargoes of ice; potatoes, onions, pickled cabbage, sourkrout, lemons and oranges, by car loads; shirts, drawers, sheets, crutches, bed-rests and mattresses, by tens of thousands! And this material has to be transported by wagon trains from one base to another; forage for horses has to be provided; drivers have to be paid, steamers chartered, and coal consumed; and yet so economically is the whole work of distribution managed that its cost is less than three per cent.

SPECIAL RELIEF.

In addition to this, the Commission supports twenty-five Soldiers' Homes or Lodges, scattered over the whole field of war from New Orleans to Washington; and twenty-three hundred soldiers a day are taken care of in these homes. Multiply 2,300 by 365, and you have over 800,000 men thus relieved annually. Three other agencies to secure the soldiers' rights are maintained by the Commission: 1. Claim agency to secure his bounty; 2. A pension agency; 3. A back-pay agency—all of them giving their services to the soldier free of charge. Often $20,000 back-pay is secured in one day. A Hospital Directory is also sustained, by which the whereabouts of the sick men is determined, when they are lost to their friends. It costs $20,000 a year to maintain it, but is worth a million, if the relief afforded to human anxiety can be estimated in money.

COST OF AGENTS.

To carry on this vast human machinery, the Commission employs two hundred agents at an average of about $2 per day—less than an ordinary mechanic's wages—or a total of $12,000 per month, who operating from Texas to the Potomac, or from Charleston to Kansas, and the results are

such as to justify the nation's pride in this grand and beneficent, yet truly American institution.—*People's Journal of Health.*

THE COMMISSION AND PARTY POLITICS.

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER.

The spirit of the Sanitary Commission, as originated by its great founder, was nationality—to receive the gifts of the people, and bestow them upon her soldiers, irrespective of State, sect or political opinion. My heart responded at once to this grand *universal* charity, and whatever may be thought of my loyalty in other respects, here it cannot be questioned.

While I believe the success of the Lincoln party fatal to the peace and prosperity of the country, you honestly think otherwise—here we cannot agree; but in the grander spirit of the Sanitary Commission, merging all differences in the great work of Christian benevolence to our national soldiers, we *can* labor successfully. This spirit we have always made prominent in our Branch, and if it is entitled to the commendation you bestow, it is because party spirit has not ruled. We have asked and received from all.

No matter what their political views are, we have nothing to do with what caused the war, or how it is conducted—but the humane work of caring for our suffering soldiers. Appeal in humanity's name, and they will respond.

When I review the difficulties we have had to contend with, to instruct and enlighten our auxiliaries and the public—compared with the efforts of others to supplant and destroy us, I am astonished that we have breasted the storm, and are still a living Branch.

PAYING SOLDIER'S FAMILIES.

The following plan far paying to the families of officers and soldiers in the service of the United States, who are or may become prisoners of war, sums due them by the Government, having been approved by the President, is published for the information of all concerned:

"Payment will be made to persons presenting a written authority from a prisoner to draw his pay, or without such authority, to his wife, the guardian of his minor children, or his widowed mother in the order named." Application for such pay must be made to the senior paymaster of the district in which the regiment of the prisoner is serving, and must be accompanied by the certificate of a judge of a court of the United States, or of some other party, under the seal of a court of record of the State of which the applicant is a resident, setting forth that the said applicant is the wife of the prisoner, the guardian of his children, or his widowed mother; and if occupying either of the two last relationships towards him, that there is no one in existence more nearly related, according to the above classification.

Payments will be made to parties thus authorized and identified, on their receipts made out in the manner that would be required of the prisoner himself, at least one month's pay being retained by the United States. The officer making the payment will see that it is entered on the last previous muster roll for the payment of the prisoner's company, or will report it, if these rolls are not in his possession, to the senior paymaster of the district, who will attend to either the entry, or give notice of the payment to the Paymaster-General, if the rolls have been forwarded to his office.

HOSPITAL FUND.

OFFICE COMM'Y GEN'L OF SUBSISTENCE,
WASHINGTON, *March* 1, 1863.

HOW CREATED.

The sick in hospital not needing full rations for their subsistence, only such parts thereof are issued as are actually required for the support of themselves and authorized attendants. The difference between the number of rations due a hospital, at cost price of a complete ration at the station, and the value of the stores issued to it, during the same period and at the same prices, constute *a credit* with the Subsistence Department in favor of the hospital. This credit is called "Hospital Fund."

ITS USES.

The Commissary who issues to a hospital is authorized to purchase for it, on the requisition of the medical officer in charge, and in amount not exceeding the hospital credit at the time, as follows:

1st. Food, solid or fluid, to be used for the diet of the sick, and not furnished by the Subsistence Department or Medical Department.

2d. Articles to be used in either the pre-

paration or serving of the food, embracing principally cooking utensils and table furniture, and not furnished by the Quartermaster's Department or Medical Department.

3d. Gas, oil, and other means of illumination, to be used instead of candles, which are part of the soldier's ration.

The Hospital Fund being thus a means for supplying the suffering sick with wants and conveniences needful for their health and more comfortable condition, not otherwise to be obtained, its management should be held as a sacred trust, and its expenditure confined strictly to the purposes which this fund is designed to accomplish. Medical and hospital supplies, quartermaster's supplies, and all objects of expenditure from the appropriations of the different departments of the military service, *are not proper charges against the hospital credit.*

ITS EXPENDITURE.

The articles purchased by the Commissary for the sick in hospital are paid for out of the subsistence funds in his hands for public disbursement, on a voucher certified to by the medical officer in charge; and the hospital credit is diminished in consequence thereof by the amount of the purchases made. An expenditure of money by the Commissary for the subsistence or convenience of the sick in hospital, is accounted for in the manner prescribed for other disbursements of the Subsistence Department. At large Depots or General Hospitals, this fund may be partly expended for the benefit of the sick at dependent posts or in detachments, on requisitions approved by the Medical Director or senior Surgeon of the district.

HOW ASCERTAINED.

A "Statement of the Hospital Fund" is made out at the end of each calendar month, and appears as a part of the Commissary's "Abstract of Issues to Hospital" for that month. On it are entered the balance of credit (if any) to hospital at the end of the preceding month, and the number of rations due it in the month, at cost price; also, the stores which have been issued by the Commissary to the hospital and articles purchased by him for the sick, during this period, with the cost of each set opposite. The difference between these two amounts—credits and debits—leaves an ascertained balance of credit, (if the Hospital Fund for the month has not been entirely used up,) applicable to authorized expenditures for the subsistence or convenience of the sick in hospital during the following month. This statement may be prepared in the same manner at any day, should there be occasion for ascertaining the exact state of the credit of a hospital at any particular date. An "Abstract of Issues to Hospital" and a "Statement of the Hospital Fund," should be made out monthly for each *separate* hospital.

HOW TRANSFERRED.

At the request of the Surgeon General, and on instructions from the Commissary General of Subsistence, Hospital Fund may be transferred as follows:

The Commissary directed to transfer any portion of this credit from a hospital he supplies to another one, drops the amount specified from his next Statement of its Hospital Fund as transferred to the hospital designated in the instructions, giving (when informed) the rank, name, regiment, or corps, and station of the Commissary who issues to it. The Commissary directed to receive a stated amount of this credit, takes up the same in favor of the designated hospital supplied by him, on his next Statement of its Hospital Fund, and as received from the one mentioned in the instructions, giving (when informed) the rank, name, regiment, or corps, and station of the Commissary who issues to such hospital.

When an officer is relieved from subsistence duty, he will give his successor a certified statement of the hospital credit of each *separate* hospital supplied by him, and will note such action on the Hospital Abstract. His successor will take up these credits in favor of each separate hospital he issues to, in manner as above explained. Hospital Fund being *a credit* only, cannot be transferred from one officer's papers to another's *as money*.

HOSPITAL GARDENS.

Among the benefits conferred by the Sanitary Commission, those resulting from the establishment of gardens for hospital use are very promiment. In the Western Department, Dr. Newberry has given much attention to this subject and with satisfactory results.

There have been gathered from the gardens at Chattanooga during the month of

September, the following vegetables: 3,935 dozen of corn, squashes, melons, cabbage, &c., and 440 bushels of potatoes, tomatoes, beans, &c.

Mr. Wills, the gardener in charge, writes that "the crops are doing finely. With good weather we shall have a large quantity of tomatoes, Lima beans, sweet corn, sweet potatoes, radishes, turnips, &c. Our entire issues up to this date (September 3) have been 9,583 bushels and 13,907 dozens of some twenty-one varieties of vegetables, and 1,146 pockets of flower-seeds."

From the garden at Knoxville during the month of September there have been issued 276 bushels of tomatoes, 264 bushels of beans, 6,347 dozen of cucumbers, mostly pickles, and 1,927 heads of cabbage.—*Sanitary Reporter.*

WHERE'S JEDDO?

In the spring of '62 a colored boy, just escaped from his master, unable to read or write, was found upon the Pamunky river, by a lady engaged in the care of sick and wounded soldiers. He was taken to Massachusetts, where he has been cared for and educated by a conscientious, kind, and religious woman. He is much beloved by her and all her family, as the following reverie will show. What he has learned, what he has done and is doing, cannot all be told, but he is a faithful worker in a special diet kitchen at City Point, and is a decided character.

The little effusion below is from the pen of the good woman who has so kindly instructed him. F. B. F.

WHERE'S JEDDO?—It is so long since I have seen him. His step is not on the stair, nor his laugh in the kitchen. He hasn't set the table yet; hasn't put on his clean jacket. *Where's Jeddo?* He used to be everywhere, "up stairs, down stairs, and in the lady's chamber." When the summer days were cool I used to take him into the parlor, to sing "Peter, James, and John;" and if he had been violent and naughty, I would put one finger in the button-hole of his jacket, to keep him from going away, while I talked with him in tender tones, and he was sure to become good again.

I must let Jeddo have a lesson. But Jeddo is not here. There stands his bed, and his chair, and his round table covered with books. I look out his window,—but no Jeddo. *Can he have run away?* No, indeed. He used to do so, once in a while, but at last the Lord gave me such strength that I held him tight and would not let him go. No, Jeddo has not run away. Is he not then at Sabbath-school? With his Bible on his knee, he sat, not long since, and prepared with me his Sabbath-school lesson, and I heard him softly say: "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me." Oh, I can never forget Jeddo; but where is he now? At Canada? He got angry one day, and vowed he would leave me, and go off upon the cold water. I remember just the rustling of the trees, and my own sorrow on that day. But it can't be that he went then, for I have talked and sung with him since. Oh, I remember all about it now. He is off near the Potomac, among the sick soldiers; gone to "lift up the hands that hang down, and strengthen the feeble knees;" gone to carry to his weak and needy brethren some of the cool freshness and truth of northern clime and northern life. The Lord bless and preserve my Jeddo.

And so Jeddo left the banks of the Pomac and followed up the banks of the York to the White House, and then followed up the banks of the James, and is filling a little sphere of usefulness and doing a little share of good for himself and others. So let Jeddo work. A poor famishing outcast on the Pamunky two years ago, and now feeding the hungry on the James. Ignorant and indolent then, and now reading, writing, and working.

LAUNDRIES IN THE ARMY.

A correspondent writes:

No clothing is wasted now, but it is not always well washed, and in its distribution, injustice may be occasionally be done to individuals. I find to-night in a single tent, four men who have on July cotton shirts—not over thick at that. They had on woolen shirts when they came to the hospital a few days ago, but have been obliged to send them to the laundry, taking these in exchange. They are not certain to get their same ones back again, as they are issued by lot; but rather than let them

suffer, I gave them each another and admonished them to stick to them as long as possible. It is impracticable to mark each man's clothing, and there must be some unpleasant friction sometimes in the distribution in consequence.

THE "REFRESHMENT STATIONS."

Mr. Eno makes the following condensed report of the refreshment stations at Dalton, Resaca, and Kingston, from the commencement of the operations, to September 15. The men fed were all sick and wounded, and were from twenty-four to sixty-eight hours on the way to Chattanooga.

Number of men fed, 15,736. To them were given 3,664 gallons of coffee, 238 gallons of soup, 25 gallons of tea, 377 gallons of punch, 268 gallons of ale, 139 gallons of stewed fruit, 53 gallons of tomatoes, 60 gallons of pickles, 35 gallons of lemonade, 14,678 sandwiches, &c., 2,931 pounds of crackers and light bread, 82 bottles of stimulants, 16 bushels of apples, 18 gallons of blackberry.—*Sanitary Reporter.*

A WORD TO ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

Your names constitute a roster, eminent for learning, piety, and influence. In looking over it, one cannot but be impressed with the fact that eight hundred men, selected from all our chief seats of learning; from prominent places in all the churches of the land; from important and prosperous mercantile and commercial institutions; from social and domestic associations that wield power and wealth—must be competent to command vast acquisitions to the resources of philanthropy; not by their own gifts of money merely, but by their counsel and influence. For all these, you are now earnestly solicited.

You have been so accustomed to regard the United States Sanitary Commission as a vast machine, that having in itself the inspiration of Christian principle, and being constantly quickened by the generous impulses and donations of the people, has kept its own course, and done its work without ostentation or friction, that you may have almost lost sight of the fact that you constitute a part of this great machinery, which is working such a work in the land. It is to remind you of this fact, that the present message is addressed to you. To remind you that each associate member is in himself a *power* for good. To ask whether that power is being directed earnestly and judiciously for the advancement of the cause. Not that there is any reason for complaint, but that there is need for increased diligence. Why? The women of the land ask for your assistance in their little societies. They will call upon you more frequently; their appeals will be more earnest if need be, but your assistance *they must have.* The winter campaign upon which we are entering, will be fruitful in demands upon the patience, endurance, patriotism and generosity of the people. The women are reorganizing where they have grown tardy. They are organizing where they never had societies before. Every week brings tidings of renewed effort, and they all say, "Oh, if the men would work, too!" Will you keep these "Soldiers' Aid Societies" alive? Will you furnish them with means and material? Let all associate members renew their pledges of aid to the various Relief Societies, and they will be able to do what they are longing for, but what they are hindered from accomplishing, for want of your *active, practical co-operation.*

SANITARY AND CHRISTIAN COMMISSIONS.

The following correspondence will be read with interest:

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
October 29, 1864.

To Officer in charge of U. S. Christian Commission, Washington, D. C.

SIR:—It is the desire of the Sanitary Commission to effect more permanent arrangements for securing religious services at the several Relief Stations of this Commission.

As it is the legitimate and peculiar province of the Christian Commission to minister, through its delegates, to the spiritual welfare of the soldiers and sailors, may I ask that you, as officer in charge of the work of the

Christian Commission in this vicinity, will arrange to have a clergyman present at each of the Relief Stations of the Sanitary Commission in this city, every Sunday for the purpose of holding religious service among the men.

Should you accede to this request, you may feel assured that every facility will be secured by agents of this Commission on duty at the several Relief Stations, to the gentlemen you may assign to this work.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
FRED. N. KNAPP,
Associate Secretary.

UNITED STATES CHRISTIAN COMMISSION,
Washington, D. C., Nov. 1, 1864.

FRED. N. KNAPP, ESQ.,
Associate Secretary U. S. S. C.

MY DEAR SIR:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ult., inviting us to furnish ministerial services on the Sabbath at each of your Relief Stations. Please accept our thanks for the courtesy. It will give the Christian Commission great pleasure to comply with your request whenever and so far as we shall be able to do so. At present we are very short for help. I shall probably have a larger force after election. Will you have the kindness to give us a list of the "Stations" where we could hold services, and the hours most suitable, and oblige,

Yours most truly,
J. J. ABBOTT,
Agent U. S. C. C.

CITY POINT.

FROM DR. MCDONALD.

CITY POINT, VA.,
Oct. 29th, 1864.

Sickness last night prevented me from writing, as I had intended, an account of the recent move and work of the Sanitary Commission in this Department. To-night I can only give you the outlines, as there is much to be done before Sunday. We try to avoid all work on Sunday, and only issue on that day to cases of urgent necessity.

On the night of the 26th inst., our troops in Army of the Potomac, were massed, all wagon trains sent within the entrenchments at City Point, and every preparation made for an early and rapid march towards the South-side Railroad. Daylight of the 27th found the column moving on with four days rations; a force having been left in the several forts to guard our line and all other troops sent forward. Two divisions of the Second Corps were pushed out to the Boynton Plank Road, of which they gained possession, but being in a cul-de-sac with the rebs on each side, they were compelled to retrace their steps and "get out of the wilderness" before morning, leaving a part of their wounded on the field.

HOSPITALS AT CITY POINT.

All the troops are now in their old positions; the hospitals have had large accessions to their numbers, increasing the total now at base hospitals at City Point to about 6,400, on account of the cleaning out of all front hospitals. Our work in the base hospitals has consequently been increased; that at the front diminished, as all wounded have been sent to the rear.

Our wagons which were sent in, have been pushed out again to-day to their former position, with good loads and ready for what is to come.

HOSPITAL AT DEEP BOTTOM.

On the right, across the James, General Butler's forces were moved along the New Market and Charles City roads, crossing to Seven Pines, where the enemy were found in their breastworks, (the same that they occupied two years since,) and a battle ensued, resulting in the return of our forces to their former line, having lost about eighteen hundred in killed, wounded and missing. Most of the wounded were conveyed to Deep Bottom, and placed on boats for transportation to hospital. At Deep Bottom, we found work for the Agents of the Commission. Many of the wounded had been hurried from field to boats without even a primary dressing; they were tired, hungry and cold. Our agents fed, clothed and assisted them as well as was possible, dressed wounds, provided stimulants to such as needed, supplied some of the boats with stores for their voyage, and endeavored to do all they could to relieve the suffering. Fortunately, we had a very good supply at this station, and though it was soon exhausted, we had it filled again in a short time. The tug had been sent up during the forenoon, with a small supply for general distribution, and while she was gone, a telegram was received calling for battlefield supplies; a load was gotten ready and put on board as soon as she returned, and she was immediately sent back, arriving at Deep Bottom in time to replenish our storehouse for the next train

of wounded, which arrived while we were unloading.

The men were taken from ambulances to the boat, there immediately cleaned, their wounds attended to, operations performed, and also fed and put to bed; direct from the ambulance to the examining surgeon, thence to bed or the operating table.

A VETRAN AND HIS YOUNG COMRADE.

When passing through the crowd on my way to the store-tent, I noticed a man wounded in the leg, carefully bathing the hip of a young comrade, who asked, "Charley, where did you get them rags?" "From the Sanitary," was his reply. After a pause the younger one remarked, "Charley, aint that Sanitary a bully concern?" Charley turned just at this moment to dip his rag again into the water, and I saw that he was an old soldier, his face was scarred and bronzed; his comrade was a mere boy, and this was his first wound, (not a severe one). I offered to assist in dressing the wound, but Charley remarked that he could do it very well, and went on with his work very systematically; his own wound which was the most severe, he paid but little attention to, till the young man was dressed. In passing to the boat again, he called me to him, and asked if I would please look at his leg, which he was then bathing, and while I examined the wound he said, "Dr., your Commission has done more good during this war than the folks at home know of. When I was sick at Fair Oaks, they took care of me, and kept me alive two weeks; I got wounded at Chancellorsville, and the first thing after the Jonnies sent me across the river; at Fredericksburg, they gave me something to eat, and a nice cup of coffee, and to-day they have done the nice thing by all the boys." When his wound was dressed, he got up, thanked me and went on the boat, as cheerfully as though nothing had happened. I was much pleased with his kind care of a young comrade, his forgetfulness of self, and his thoughtful observation of all that was passing. He was an old soldier, though not more than thirty years of age, and a brave one, as is acknowledged by all his comrades. This is the third time I have known him to be wounded since the commencement of this war.

There are many such men in this army, and such scenes as that of yesterday bring them out in glowing colors.

All is quiet to-night, and a stranger would hardly believe we had so recently passed such an exciting day, were he to judge from present appearances.

LETTER FROM CAMP PAROLE, MD.

BY ALMA CAREY.

We have very little to report this week, nothing unusual having occurred. The hospital is filled with paroled men, with the exception of a very few who are exchanged, and are too sick to be transferred to other hospitals.

Many are being sent to their own States on furlough, for the purpose of giving their votes at the coming election. We believe there are but few among them who will not give the *right* vote.

During the present week we have lost *eight* of our sick men by death, the largest number in one week through the past year. Only one of these died of his wound, the others lingered long with fevers and chronic diseases. Some had near relatives to mourn their loss, and others seemed to be almost without kindred or friends. We hope they had *the* Friend that "sticketh closer than a brother."

Our sick have been well supplied of late with vegetables, apples, oysters and other things necessary to the health and comfort of the paroled men. Can not the Commission furnish them more freely with *nice crackers?* That are considered a rare treat for sick soldiers.

There have been many changes and removals among the surgeons and stewards of this hospital within the last few weeks; this has caused some inconvenience in the general arrangement of all departments of the hospital.

Arrangements are being made for the reception of our prisoners from Georgia, who are expected daily; after their long confinement, surely too much cannot be done for them. We are sometimes *ashamed* that we cannot supply *everything* that is wanted by these poor sufferers.

It is under contemplation to enlarge the hospital proper, in Camp Parole, by building twelve more wards, as our present wards are now constantly full, and we shall not have accommodations for the many sick that will probably be among those who are to come.

LETTER FROM ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND.

BY GEO. A. MILLER.

* * * I have, during the week, visited the two divisions of the General Hospital, and the College Green Barracks, coming in contact with the surgeons in charge of the hospitals, (Dr. Palmer and Dr. Vanderkieft) and Captain Davis, commanding Barracks; and am happy to say that, without exception, I was most cordially received by the above officers and their executives.

Dr. Vanderkieft has kindly offered me quarters in his hospital, which I think I will accept, as it will bring me nearer my work. * * *

SUSPENDERS WANTED.

As soon as the men are able to get out of their tents, they call for suspenders. As the Government does not furnish anything of the kind, I think it very important that the Commission should endeavor to do so.

JOURNAL OF A DAY.

BY L. S. PHILLIPS.

CAMP PAROLE HOSPITAL,
Oct. 21, 1864.

I have been requested to give as my report this week "A Journal of a Day," thereby conveying some idea of my method of working. I will take this day as a sample of all my days in Camp Parole.

During the morning I remained in the office occupied in various duties, and attended to the calls of any patients in the wards, who are able to come out and make known their wants, which are generally supplied with a few crackers, stamps, paper and envelopes, and also to furnish lint, bandages, old linen, &c., to the nurses of the several wards. At 9 o'clock I began my daily visits to the hospital; we have six wards, each capable of accommodating forty-eight men, and these are now full with paroled men, lately arrived from Richmond.

A BOY OF NINETEEN.

I first visited ward 6, here is one boy of nineteen years, who has been very low for many weeks and cannot recover; he is a weak minded unfortunate boy, and an instance of many who are allowed and even urged to enlist as soldiers in our army. Others here are feeble from long sickness, and some have lost limbs, but most of them are cheerful and uncomplaining. I distributed among them, as they needed, handkerchiefs, combs, paper and envelopes. I was asked for suspenders, but had none.

GOD'S DEAR ONES.

In ward 5, there are more cases of severe sickness, such as fevers, amputations and chronic complaints; here are several boys of only sixteen or seventeen years of age, "God's dear Ones,"—little Christians. One has lost his left arm at the shoulder, but bears it manfully. I gave him a wrapper which pleased him much, and he humbly asked, if he could take it home with him when discharged. For one man in this ward I wrote to his wife, and warned her of his dangerous condition.

I next visited ward 4; here are not many serious cases of sickness, only one is not expected to recover. Several have lost limbs, and here I gave cushions, slings handkerchiefs and combs. It is astonishing to see with how much gratitude these trivial articles are received.

In ward 3 I found a man who had died during the night, he had been long sick. Most here wanted as usual, combs, paper, &c.

Ward 2 has many very sick men. One told me he knew he could not live long, and had resigned himself to his Heavenly Father's will; here I distributed various articles and was again asked for suspenders. What a pity that our brave soldiers are without suspenders.

Ward 1, has some quite sick men, but none dangerously so; all needed what little I could give them, such as slippers, towels, &c.

We have at present good and kind nurses in all the wards, and they allow me to draw their attention to any disorderly conduct, neglect of patients, want of cleanliness in the care of the ward. I also visited the low diet kitchen, and found that the sick were to be well provided for at their coming dinner.

After going through the hospital I returned to the office, when I wrote a letter for a very sick man to his sister, asking her to come to him. In the afternoon I commenced taking stock, attended to calls in the office, and was variously employed till 5 o'clock, when I again visited the wards to look after some who were about leaving on furlough, and do what I could for the comfort of the very sick before they should begin another long sleepless night.

In the evening I wrote two letters. One to a mother for a boy who had lost his right arm, and the other to a sister for a man who has also lost his right arm. I also received

letters from friends of soldiers, to whom I had previously written.

FROM CAMP PAROLE, MARYLAND.

BY JOS. C. BATCHELOR.

My report for this week will not vary particularly from those for the preceeding ones, as the same routine is gone through with from week to week. No men have arrived, but a number have been sent to their respective States in anticipation of the coming election.

The men in section D, seem to be doing well, this fine weather agreeing with them, though some of them are badly shaken with that disagreeable disease, chills and fever.

One poor fellow died in ward 47, from the effects of eating too much of articles sent him from home by his wife. No one was aware of it until morning, when he was found sitting by the stove lifeless. It seems as though both soldiers and their friends, should exercise more judgment about such things than they do.

A new Agent has arrived this week to assist, or rather share in the labors of Miss Phillips, in section A. She is Miss A. Cary, from Maine, and I should judge will make an efficient laborer in our good cause.

Affairs in that section seem in an excellent condition, at least as far as the comfort of the men is concerned, although they are rather crowded. The number of deaths this week is higher than in any during the past year. One article is particularly spoken of as much needed there by our Agents, which is nice crackers. Many a man is more benefited by a cracker in the right time, than by a full meal at another time.

FOOT-BALLS.

Several officers have spoken to me about furnishing "foot-balls," for the use of the men in the Barracks, as they would be a great inducement to exercise of which the men need to take more than they do. I would respectfully recommend that they be furnished.

FROM GEORGE A. MILLER.

I have spent a large part of my time in Divisions, Nos. 1 and 2 of the General Hospital. As Dr. Vanderkieft has charge of the goods sent into the Naval School Hospital, and has made them accessible to the lady nurses, there is little need of a visitor to attend to the distribution of clothing. The same is also true of the St. John's College Hospital. The Claim Agency has a great field here, if it can be worked. There was a muster for commutation of rations for prisoners, last summer, and about four months afterwards their certificates were sent on; but about four-fifths of the men who were mustered, had been sent elsewhere. And whether their certificates were of value to them or not, I know not. The men are all eager to have something done to secure the collecting of the commutation of rations, and I am not less anxious to do it. There seems to be a reluctance on the part of some of the officers to sign some of the papers necessary to collect back pay.

When a person is discharged for disability, he generally wants to make application for a pension, and I feel no delicacy in regard to presenting his papers. Some wish to have their State and County bounties collected, which of course we are at liberty to do.

In a religious view, there can be no limit to the work here, and in particular on the arrival of large numbers from the South where they have been stripped of every thing. I would suggest the propriety of being prepared to distribute Testaments among them.

INTERESTING FROM ANNAPOLIS, MD.

BY J. ADDISON WHITAKER.

Oct. 22, 1864.

I herewith respectfully present my report for the week ending this date.

OFFICE.

I have expended the sum of two hundred and twenty-eight dollars and twenty cents, ($228 20), as per statement (paper A.) sent forward to B. Collins, Assistant Treasurer, New York.

I have issued stores as per paper B. This paper will also show stock on hand, what has been received, &c. I would respectfully recommend this form for general adoption, as it will be found on trial, to serve our purposes admirably.

Our office work engrosses so much of my time, that I am prevented making as many visits to the whole field of our work as I should like.

FLAG OF TRUCE BOAT.

The arrival of the Flag of Truce Boat gave us a great deal to do, no one unless he is present can form an idea of the condition of both officers and men on their arri-

val here, of course those who can gain relief in no other way, find their way to our office and their reappearance makes all the appeals that any heart needs, to move it to efforts for relief.

That relief to the soldiers is in stationery, a towel, handkerchief, tobacco, &c., which makes him as happy as a child with a present of a new toy. As one poor fellow said, "I feel just as though I had been let out of *some place!*" and it is a fact that a great many are so weak or overjoyed as to appear a little beside themselves.

Hospitals are crowded, and therefore only the worst cases are taken into them. Consequently a great many are sent to Camp Parole who can drag themselves out there.

One dear fellow had to stop at the office, he was ready to faint away, he had suffered with diarrhœa so long that he was a walking skeleton almost. I gave him a bottle of Jamaica Ginger, and addressed words of cheer to him, but he was so depressed in spirits that they seemed to break up the very fountain of his heart; he wept like a child, he was homesick, and almost heart-broken. I gave him transportation to the camp, and directed our agent there to take a special interest in his case.

It did my heart good to see our first paroled Navy Officers come back. I did all I could for them; would like to have done more, but was afraid I would transgress my limits of authority in expenditure

I never saw any one so happy as they were when old "living" clothing was thrown away and our new comfortable under clothes and new pants were put on. It was really a laughable sight to see them half naked running about the office and yard full of *mirth*, changing as rapidly as possible.

Their thankfullness and appreciation of all that was done I am sure from what was said will be shown when they receive their pay, and get home where they can write for papers and contribute their means.

The demand for thousands of stationery and towels, &c., is very great after the arrival of a boat, and really we should be well supplied. * * *

Oct. 29, 1864.

* * * Office duties increase weekly. We have more calls for information, more correspondence, and more relief work to do than ever. In addition to our usual work in the office, our labors are increased by the efforts we make to meet all demands on our time in regard to the "Claim Agency." A great deal of information is being scattered throughout the country by the blanks furnished by the General Claim Agent, being given to relatives and friends of the soldier visiting here. We are also giving attention to the work suggested by the "Chief Assistant of Special Relief," and in a little while shall be able to throw a large amount of work on Back Pay accounts into his hands. As this field is a new one in this work of the Commission, some little trouble has been experienced by the ignorance of the officer as to what was his duty in regard to the same. However, after a proper explanation the requisite papers are given, and and all the co-operation we can ask is cordially given, and our service fully appreciated. * * *

We have occupied the new house for our "Home," which is filled daily with sorrowful and deeply afflicted relatives of soldiers.

Three arrived on Saturday night, and on going to the hospital found those whom they loved so dearly and for whose sake they had traveled so far, they having come all the way from Illinois, were dead! and were to be buried on the morrow.

How welcome the quiet retreat which the "Home" afforded, was to them. This is an illustration of one of its benefits.

For Report of Meals and Lodgings, &c., see Paper "F."

The additional expense to which we are put, by the new building, will return a thousand fold in blessings upon the Commission and the soldier. * * *

PRISONERS FROM RED RIVER.

New Orleans,
Oct. 21, 1864.

* * * Mr. Stearns accompanies our Commissioner of Exchange of prisoners to Red River, to-day. As our men will be obliged to walk from Syler to Alexandria, and possibly from there to the mouth of Red River, many will become exhausted and require attention. Mr. Stearns will take with him an amount of concentrated food and stimulant.

Since the capture of Forts Powell, Gaines, and Morgan, situated on Mobile Bay, there has been considerable transportation across Lake Pontchartrain to this city. All steamers land about five miles from the city; the cars do not run after eight o'clock

P.M., and of course, all soldiers that arrive have no accommodations. After consulting the Medical Director on Major-General Canby's Staff, I resolved to open a "Soldiers' Lodge," at Lakeport. The main difficulty was to obtain a house, I labored two days faithfully, but the secesh element was too strong for me to obtain what I wanted, and I had no promise of military authority to enforce any I desired.

The Railroad Company have given me the privilege of occupying a building they own on the extreme end of the wharf. I shall endeavor to obtain the lumber of the Quarter Master's Depot, and the mechanical genius of Mr. Furniss will avail me in making a *good Lodge*, the benefits of which will be duly appreciated.

The expense will be considerable. If the Quarter Master will furnish lumber, perhaps over $100, if he does not, perhaps over $300. I cannot wait to hear if my course is approved. I shall *go ahead* and abide the consequences. I always keep steadily in view economy to the Commission, with advantage to the soldiers.

ECONOMY OF WOOLEN UNDERCLOTHING.

The following extract of a letter addressed from City Point, Va., to the New York State Military Agent at Washington, D. C., by Mr. J. V. Van Ingen, is worthy of especial notice. The writer has had large and long experience, and his views are entitled to much respect.

The demand for *woolen shirts, drawers and socks*, is always very great; but the need now is more imperative than ever before, at this season and in this climate; and I am told here that every woolen shirt given out costs the Commission nearly *four dollars*. The class really needing them most is that of the convalescents, returning or about to return from hospital to regiment, with little flesh and blood about them, and almost certain to relapse if sent away thinly clad. In very many cases these must go back shivering, unless the Commission or a State Agency supply them; and it may be weeks before the convalescent, returned to duty, can "draw" them in his regiment. The sequel is a relapse and a return to hospital.

And this brings up a very urgent and momentous *question of economy*. Where one thousand dollars is paid readily as bounty to a raw recruit, out of the public treasury, is it not a strange contradiction and neglect of wise economy, (leaving humanity out of the question,) to suffer the loss of the vigorous service of an experienced soldier by this defect in arrangements and provisions, otherwise so admirable and bountiful?

A soldier is brought to the hospital, sick or wounded, from a distant camp or line. His soiled or bloody shirt and drawers replaced by a hospital shirt and drawers of cotton; he remains for weeks—unpaid most likely; recovers, "is returned to duty,"—but, if he cannot comunicate with his regiment, and often even if he can, there is no provided source for fitting him out warmly for his new exposure, except the charities of the Commission. It is so, too, as regards rheumatic invalids in hospital, requiring warm, woolen underclothes. I know how entirely you will agree with me, from your own large experience in your office, when I express the earnest wish, that this simple consideration could *rule* in all that regards the sick and temporarily disabled soldier, who is not a proper subject for immediate discharge; namely, that "If a green recruit is worth $1,200 or $1,500 to put into the ranks, then it is the purest economy to spend at least half as much on any means and appliances which promise to promote and hasten the restoration of a sick or disabled veteran to sound health and vigor, and to efficient service."

I wish that this rule could dominate in all that relates to our hospitals, as it certainly has been recognized by the Sanitary Commission.

HOMES AND LODGES.

MEMPHIS.

At the Lodge in Memphis, during the four months ending with October 1st, there were furnished 1,335 lodgings and 4,501 meals; and pay to the amount of $3,573 36 was drawn and paid over to furloughed and discharged men.

CAIRO.

At the Home in Cairo, during the four weeks ending Sept. 28th, there were furnished 7,712 lodgings and 17,630 meals.

LOUISVILLE.

Mr. Morton, the superintendent of the Home in Louisville, writes under date of Sept. 30th:

Rations were furnished at the "Home" and "Rest" for the month of September, as follows:

From the 1st to 10th,	6,996
" 10th to 20th,	8,206
" 20th to 30th,	11,129
Total,	26,329

The month has been one of unusual activity in every department, and our capacity, in the way of quarters, has not been equal to the demand for accommodations. The number of sick and wounded cared for has averaged about one hundred daily; and for the comfort and better accommodation of such, a diet-kitchen and special cook have been provided, which makes our arrangements for that department complete in every way.

NASHVILLE.

Capt. Brayton makes the following report for the month of September:

Number of furloughed men and men traveling under orders admitted,	8,546
Number discharged men admitted,	330
Total,	8,876

From the following States: Ohio, 2,243; Indiana, 1,279; Illinois, 1,722; Michigan, 460; Wisconsin, 496; Pennsylvania, 335; Kentucky, 430; Iowa, 610; Minnesota, 27; New York, 163; New Jersey, 46; Tennessee, 145; Kansas, 27; Missouri, 203; Connecticut, 7; Massachusetts, 29; Alabama, 20; Maine, 1; U. S. Army, 719.

Number meals furnished,	25,820
" lodgings "	9,518
" furnished with transportation,	8,670
" for whom back pay was drawn,	104
Amount drawn and paid over,	$29,194 18

We have dressed the wounds of 1,499 men, and cared for 325 sick men who needed medical attendance. There have been given out 381 shirts, 257 pairs drawers, 124 pairs pants, 44 coats, 13 dressing gowns, 6 pairs socks, 3 blouses.

NEW ALBANY.

During September, at the Home in New Albany, 674 lodgings, and 2,391 meals have been provided.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

BY J. B. ABBOTT.

I have the honor to submit the following report of the special relief work under my charge, for week ending Oct. 29th, 1864:

Number of applications of discharged soldiers for aid in adjusting their papers and collecting their pay, taken and recorded,	17
Number of cases settled,	37
Amount collected,	$4,802 92
Number of bounty cases taken and recorded,	4
Number allowed,	8
Amount collected,	$750 00
Number of applications from sick and wounded soldiers in General Hospitals for aid in collecting back pay taken and recorded,	43
Number of sick cases adjusted,	43
Amount of pay secured,	$3,607 24
Number of applications from the families of prisoners of war for aid in collecting their back pay,	5
Number of sick cases adjusted,	3
Amount of pay secured,	$310 75
Number of naval claims recorded,	36
Number of sick claims allowed,	3
Amount of money secured,	$655 88
Number of pension claims recorded and filed,	43
Number of sick claims allowed,	10
Number of claims for arrears of pay and bounty filed in the Second Auditor's office,	4
Number of sick claims allowed,	2
Amount of money secured on the two cases allowed,	$287 35
The aggregate number of cases taken and recorded,	152
The aggregate number of cases adjusted,	106
The aggregate amount of money collected,	$10,414 14
Number of drafts forwarded,	26
Amount of the 26 drafts,	$1,966 11

EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

Cash on hand Oct. 24th,	$36 94
Cash received from Sanitary Commission,	$1,600 00
Cash refunded from loan acc't,	$30 25
Expenditures,	$115 65
Cash on hand this date,	$1,551 54

HOMES AMD LODGES.

At Lodge No. 4, the number of meals furnished to soldiers,	3,025
Number of lodgings furnished,	435

At the other places the amount of work accomplished is about the same as usual. At the Alexandria Lodge several soldiers have died of late, all having been brought to the Lodge in a dying condition. One of them was shot seven times by guerrillas, five times after he surrendered. This occurred out on the Manassas Gap Railroad.

He lived to reach this Lodge, but died while being removed from the stretcher on which he was brought.

A. H. Trego reports one hundred and ten sick and wounded soldiers waited upon and assisted in transit between Washington and New York. He advises me that many of them, whom he has assisted, were utterly unfit to travel alone, and were exceedingly grateful for the aid he rendered them.

Since my last report I have received an important decision in a case submitted to the Second Comptroller on the 2d of September last, and which he referred to the Secretary of War. The point in question was this: "Are re-enlisted veterans, when discharged from the service, entitled to travel pay and allowances to their place of original enrollment, or only to the place of their re-enlistment?"

U. S. Sanitary Commission,
"Special Relief" Office, 389 H Street,
Washington, D. C., *Sept.* 2*d*, 1864.

Hon. J. M. Broadhead,
Second Comptroller, Treasury Department.

Sir:—I have the honor to submit to you, for decision, the case of Orris A. Bishop, saddler, Company B, 8th Illinois Cavalry, who joined the company on its original organization at Sycamore, Illinois, and mustered into the service of the United States at St. Charles, Illinois, on the 18th day of September, 1861; was re-mustered into the service as a veteran January 1st, 1864, at Culpepper, Virginia, and on the 27th day August, 1864, discharged from the service of the United States, by reason of surgeon's certificate of disability. He now claims transportation and subsistence from the place of his discharge to the original place of enrollment; but there is a question whether he is entitled to it to his original place of enrollment, or only to Culpepper, Virginia, the place of his re-muster into the service as a veteran.

Your decision on the point in question will confer a great favor upon many veteran soldiers, and

Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) J. B. Abbott,
Chief Assistant Special Relief Office.

Treasury Department,
Second Comptroller's Office,
Oct. 21, 1864.

J. B. Abbott, Esq.,
389 H Street, Washington.

Sir:—I am this day in receipt of the decision of the Secretary of War, stating that "the free transportation of veteran volunteerr to and from their homes, upon occasion of their re-enlistment furlough, was one of the conditions of their re-entering the service, and, like the bounty then paid, to be considered a gratuity."

I enclose herewith the discharge and final statements of Orris A. Bishop, whose case comes within the scope of the decision.

Very respectfully yours,
J. M. Broadhead,
Comptroller.

War Department,
Paymaster General's Office,
Washington, *Oct.* 21, 1864.

J. B. Abbott, Esq.,
389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

Sir:—The papers in the case of Orris A. Bishop, saddler, Company B, 8th Illinois Cavalry, forwarded by you to this office, having been submitted to the Second Comptroller, he decides that "A volunteer discharged to re-enlist as a veteran, under Order No. 191, (dated 25th June, 1863,) is, in effect, only transferred to another organization in the same service, and when finally discharged is entitled to his travel, pay, and allowances to his place of original enrollment, and not to the place where he re-enlisted. The Secretary of War having decided that the transportation to be furnished, under General Order 376, (dated Nov. 21, 1863,) to veteran volunteers going on furlough to and from their respective homes, after discharge from their original enlistment, was designed to be a gratuity, no deduction on account of such transportation will be made from their pay, &c., when they shall be finally discharged, or at any other time."

The papers are herewith returned.

Very respectfully, your ob't servant,
(Signed) B. W. Brice,
Acting Paymaster General.

The importance of this decision will be realized by the re-enlisted veterans when they are finally discharged, as it will place in their possession at least one million of dollars, if not two millions. Heretofore, they have only received travel pay and allowances to the place where they re-enlisted.

I herewith submit the following report of the Special Relief Work under my charge, for the week ending November 5, 1864.

Number of pay accounts of discharged soldiers taken and recorded, . . 26

Number of claims for back pay,		55
Number of claims for bounty,		6
Number of claims for the pay of prisoners of war,		12
Number of naval claims,		74
Number of pension claims,		26
Number of claims for arrears of pay and bounty,		2
Whole number of claims received and acted upon,		201
Number of pay accounts of discharged soldiers adjusted and money collected,		27
Number of claims for back pay adjusted,		38
Number of bounty claims allowed,		1
Number of claims for the pay of prisoners of war allowed,		6
Number of naval claims allowed,		30
Number of pension claims allowed,		18
Whole number of claims and cases adjusted,		120
Amount collected on the pay accounts of discharged soldiers,	$4,955 09	
Amount of back pay secured,	3,026 23	
Amount of bounty collected,	100 00	
Amount of pay collected for the families of prisoners of war,	797 12	
Amount collected on naval claims,	2,052 28	
Total amount collected,	10,730 72	

EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

Cash received from the Sanitary Commission and otherwise,	300 25	
Expenditures,	234 45	
Cash on hand, November 5,	65 80	

HOMES AND LODGES.

The number of meals given at Lodge No. 4, to soldiers and seamen was 2,980.

There has been quite a large number of seamen accommodated here during the week, while waiting to have their claims for pay and prize money adjusted.

The report of the Alexandria Lodge shows the whole number of soldiers and soldiers' friends admitted since last report to be 146. Number of meals furnished, 243; number of lodgings furnished, 83.

There has been an unusual number of very sick and severely wounded men to take care of temporarily, from the regiments on duty along the line of the Manassas Gap and the Orange and Alexandria Railroads. These men are transferred to hospital with as little delay as possible after reaching the Lodge.

The report from the Soldiers' Home in Baltimore, shows 72 admitted since the last report, including 12 soldiers' friends and 1 refugee. Number of meals given, 363. Number of lodings furnished, 108.

Since my last report I have employed one man, a discharged soldier, who has been in the service three years, and has lost his left arm. I have now seven discharged soldiers on the pay roll of this office.

During the week ending November 5, a large number of furloughs have been granted to soldiers to go home and vote at the presidential election, transportation being furnished them to and from their homes free of charge. So great has been the rush around the transportation offices, that many were delayed one and two days in getting their transportation; while thus waiting around the doors of the offices, we have prepared coffee and food and carried to them. Those who were lame or too feeble to endure the crowd, we took their furloughs and obtained the transportation for them. They were exceedingly gratified for this kindness.

A WORD TO THE BRANCHES.

You are organized for work. You do work. The history of the war has demonstrated more capacity for work in your machinery, from the several centres to their remotest auxiliaries, than was ever estimated even by yourselves. You have done so much that it is very evident you can do a great deal more. Your very success in the past has given you facilities for greater success in the future. There is more friction, however, than there need be in some of your organizations, but no more than you can remove. Will you permit a brief examination of one of the causes of this friction, and a few suggestions for remedying it?

It is this. There is not always unity of purpose. Preferences are expressed for sending supplies here or there. In large States, like New York and Pennsylvania for example, one portion of the State prefers to act independently of another portion; each desires to be a centre for itself, and to be supplied by constituencies of its, or their own choosing. Little districts are then formed—

little independencies—the natural inclination of which is to set up for themselves. This is well, when the centre of the little circle becomes itself tributary to the larger one, but when it does not, evil to the cause must be the consequence. Let managers, corresponding secretaries, and others having control of Branches, see to it that they cultivate the most kindly relations with the more distant places,—associate managers in counties and other officers of societies, and through them to each member and to the community generally. The Pope issues bulls; Bishops, letters; Governors, messages; and Presidents, proclamations. Why not women in charge of Branches issue letters to the associate managers in the several counties within their respective boundaries, and these to the little societies in the several towns of their counties respectively, infusing into all the spirit, work, and plans of the Commission, and asking from all, the freest interchange of thought and effort. Concentrated labor is *felt;* supplies accumulated, are seen, known, and accounted for; independent effort, to gratify local pride or promote some narrow purpose, fails to do much good.

Union should be the watchword of all the Aid Societies, as it is of all the loyal people and States.

QUESTIONS.

We propose to Associate Managers throughout the country, to adopt a list of questions to be answered by the town and village societies in their respective neighborhoods, and forwarded to the corresponding secretaries of the several branches, as follows:

1. What is the name and location of your society?
2. How many working members has it?
3. How many contributing members?
4. How often does it meet?
5. What is the monthly average of its work?
6. What is its plan for raising money?
7. Is a correct record kept of its receipts of supplies, and of their shipment?
8. What is needed to increase the efficiency of the society?
9. Does it hold public meetings frequently?
10. Do the churches, and the pastors of churches in your neighborhood co-operate with you?
11. What objections are there to your plans among the people of your town or village?
12. What can be relied on for the next three months from your society?
13. What other associations for relief of soldiers exist in your neighborhood?
14. What new societies have been formed, and where are they located?

Questions like these, carefully answered once in three months, and forwarded through the Branches to the Central Office, would furnish material for very valuable statistics, and it is hoped that our various Auxiliaries will do their share in furnishing the desired information.

THE LIFE OF THE COMMISSION.

The United States Sanitary Commission, in its conception, organization, and work, is the expression of a grand idea. That idea is its life. It must grow, as all life does, when not encumbered by extraneous or adventitious hindrances.

Men are called to defend the unity of the nation, and thus exhibit in their humanity the idea of nationality. They belong to the nation. For the time being, they lose their individuality as citizens, and are merged into a common struggle for a common end. They need help, and must have it. The impulse of sympathy for the men causes fountains to open, from which, means of help and comfort flow for *humanity's* sake. The emotions of love for country excite effort to save life and strengthen arms, for the *country's* sake. Men and nation are both needed for the cause of free institutions in all the world; for freedom of

thought and action seem to be essential to the accomplishment of the Divine purposes towards mankind. This great idea is embodied in these words,—

GOOD WILL TO MEN;

—the idea that moved God so to love the world as to redeem it—that stirred the hearts of angels to sing, and that has given life and power to Christianity, in all the generous developments of its spirit, in every age; and that is now the motive power of every good work in every branch of Christian enterprise.

The idea is, good will to *all* men, irrespective of name, class, or locality. State lines are obliterated by the touch of this power. Denominational differences are not thought of, by the mind that is possessed of this idea. It is the life of the Commission. It is its power. It is the life of the people, the power of the nation; and because it is, there can be no disagreement in principle or in purpose, between the Commission and the people.

The *animus* of the Commission being sound, however, does not imply that its organization is complete, because all human organizations are of necessity imperfect; they are so, because humanity is imperfect. But we claim for the Commission that, notwithstanding its imperfections in form, (and in this respect it has a brotherhood relation to all kindred institutions,) it is nevertheless unequalled in its comprehensive scope of effort, in the simplicity of its plans, in the earnestness of its laborers, in the cheapness of its conduct, and in the magnificent results of its efforts, by any other organization known to men.

AID SOCIETIES.

Take the thousands of Aid Societies that meet week after week throughout the land, their general, harmonious co-operation, the hundreds of thousands of boxes, barrels, and parcels that are flowing into the various Branches in our larger cities in the North and West, from these societies,—think of the thousands of children who are doing their little work, and the hundreds of crippled and aged people in their solitude who are knitting and sewing and praying for the soldier, and for the country; and what is the *idea* that gives impulse, toil, perseverance, sacrifice to all these? The answer is, good will to our soldiers and to our country. Such is the basis upon which the machinery of the Commission is built.

RAILROADS AND EXPRESS COMPANIES.

Take now the means of transportation all over the country, traversing in all directions to and from our great centres of trade and through our rural districts; examine their books, and it will be found that hundreds of thousands of dollars have been contributed by these corporations and companies, in freight and express charges, that the people may not be embarrassed by even ordinary expenses, in their plans for contributing to the army. Consider these things, and ask, What the motive? where the inducement? The answer is, good will to our soldiers—loyalty to our government.

GOVERNMENT FACILITIES.

Look at the interest manifested by the Government in the care of its sick and wounded. Never did a nation provide so liberally before. The hospital stores were never so abundant, or so varied, in the history of our own, or other lands, as they are at this time. A government was never so earnest to make a soldier's life, as much as possible, like home life. Hospitals, in field and city, never had so many competent surgeons; and soldiers were never better fed in the trenches, or better cared for in hospitals.

Look at the transportation for battle stores allowed in the field, by agencies that are only supplementary to the Government, and the kindly sentiment that prevails among army officials towards the Commission, and ask the question, Why? The answer is, to save men from suffering and death, and to save the nation to itself and its people.

ENCOURAGEMENT.

With such a call from the army, such a noble response from the people, such willingness on the part of the Government, the Commission is constantly assured that, in the great heart of the people, the divine idea that gave it existence, still lives and moves. The people continue to do good deeds, and confident that there can be no failure on their part to furnish contributions, the agencies of the Commission, as they are found in every city, camp, and hospital, will still be employed as reliable instrumentalities for the dispensation of their supplies.

DUTY.

Need it be asked, What is duty? The excitement of the political campaign is at an end. The election is over. The policy of the government is decided. The war will go on till the rebellion is no more. Soldiers will still fall in battle; many more will be in hospital. Thousands who are, and will be permanently disabled, will leave the ranks and return to their homes. What shall be done with, and for them? The Aid Societies are still at work. The Government never was more earnest or bountiful. Societies, companies, corporations—all—who are loyal to the country and who love the right, are conscious of the great responsibility that is upon us as a people, and of the great duty we have to perform. Let us do it nobly—do it with good will, with sacrifice if need be, but do it—work for the sick and wounded, save life for its own sake, save men for the country's sake, do our duty for our own sake, do all for the sake of Him, to whom we must give account.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

BY REV. JOHN A. ANDERSON.

The streets in front of the transportation offices were jammed. The sidewalks leading from thence to the Baltimore depot were jammed. The spacious station-house was jammed. The railings which barred out the crowd from the cars were not half so squeezed together as was the crowd itself; and when the cars were once fortunately gotten into, they were more than jammed. It was a jam-up affair; for hale heroes just from out the trenches before Petersburg, and hearty heroes just from out the columns with which splendid Sheridan has so often whirled Early, were going home by the hundreds and by the more than thousands to vote. In the strength of heroism, and better, in the majesty of simple American citizens, they were, shoulder by shoulder with their old neighbors, to deposit a silent ballot for Lincoln or McClellan as each might will; for though defenders of their country and soldiers, that country had not seen fit to politically ostracise them because thereof; and they voted unrestrainedly, not as soldiers, but as citizens.

But though hale and hearty as hundreds of them were, more thousands were just out of hospital; with hands off, with arms off, with legs off, with faces emaciated by disease and frames terribly burnt out by fevers. Those who were strong, might stand six and ten hours before the quartermaster's windows awaiting an opportunity to present their papers; and those who had limbs might be able to stand as many hours before the railings, and to hustle through the dense mass into the cars. But more than two-thirds of the whole number were either so weakened by disease, or so disabled by wounds, as to render such feats of endurance and vigor impossible.

SOLDIERS GOING HOME.

All day and all night long the stream from City Point, the one from Shenandoah, and the one from the Washington and Alexandria hospitals, would meet and surge against the depot, ere it was permitted to pour along the railways; and in the inevitable delay, many a tottering convalescent was famished for food, and shrouded by chill night.

SOLDIERS' HOME AND LODGE.

Close by the depot was the "Soldiers' Home;" and close by the up town transportation office, was the "Soldier's Lodge" on H street; and not only did the Commission throw wide their doors, but also agents were constantly pressing through the crowds and culling out the weakliest and neediest, whom they assisted to tables smoking with well filled dishes, and to beds smiling with cleanliness. From dawn until midnight those tables were never emptied, or, rather, were re-filled as rapidly as

emptied, a fact that may be seen from the following extract from the books:—

	MEALS.		NIGHT'S LODGINGS.	
	Home.	Lodge.	Home	Lodge.
Nov. 1,	1,250	1,113	394	84
2,	1,426	390	449	50
3,	1,284	352	410	70
4,	1,163	285	336	70
	5,123	2,140	1,589	274
	2,140		274	
Total.	7,263		1,863	

Nearly two thousand snug beds to shelterless sick men, and over seven thousand meals to hungry convalescents, may be regarded as good work for two of the Washington special relief institutions in ninety-six hours' time; and the capacity of the Lodge, it will be seen, was far from being fully tested, owing to its distance from the depot.

But this was the smallest part of the comfort actually afforded.

Our wife's hand-bag is somewhat of a nuisance when we go railroading, and doubtless the plethoric knapsack is no small burden and anxiety to sick men who must wait hours in the jam.

CHECKING BAGGAGE.

Between two and three thousand checks were issued to these, their baggage safely stowed, and when desired, re-delivered to the owner.

TRANSPORTATION.

The papers of those who were too feeble or too badly crippled to reach the office, were taken by Sanitary Commission agents to the quartermaster, and transportation secured upon them; when, after a meal or a night's sleep, the poor fellow was helped into a car, nestled down into a seat, and sent on his way rejoicing, to be similarly aided—should aid be needed—by the U. S. Sanitary Commission at Baltimore, Harrisburg, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Buffalo, Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Portland and many other railroad centres.

FEEDING IN THE STREET.

Then, too, numbers far greater than the 7000 above mentioned, were fed in the streets and in the depot; for although many had been two days on the way, eating nothing but hard tack, if that, yet so intense was the longing to push homeward, and so great was the dread lest by leaving the line for a meal the only chance should be lost, that hundreds declined the invitation to enter the buildings; and to these were carried steaming bucketsful of coffee and baskets of soft bread and cold meat.

It seems a little thing to mention the constant streams of water which kept pouring into wash basins and canteens, but thirst and dirt are great annoyances.

Week after week such genuine christianity is being silently practised by the Sanitary Commission. As one looked at the poor fellows who, faint and weary, sat at the edges of the throng, yearning for home, hoping for it, with home for the first time in years a possibility, with the cars that would turn that possibility into a certainty in sight, and yet blocked out as if with granite by that solid mass about the gates, one could not but remember the five porches of Bethesda: "In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water;" and of the impotent man who answered the Saviour:—"Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me in the pool; but while I am coming another steppeth down before me." One need not go to Palestine and to the first century to be a good Samaritan.

The sum total of "aid and comfort" given at these institutions can only be cast up by the recipients; but be it ever so large, it can never approximate to the munificence of generosity with which this loyal people would greet its hero sons, nor to the luxuriance of honor which it would wreathe upon the brows of its preservers.

The rush at the "Home" still keeps up, and after election, when these men return, will have to be gone through again.

Washington, November 5, 1864.

HOW THEY DO IN THE NORTH-WEST.

The work of the friends of the soldier in Chicago, the centre of the Sanitary Commission for the North-West, has taken a new impulse, the influence of which is felt even here in the East. The following exhibit of two months work will be read with interest.

The number of packages (i. e., barrels and boxes,) received during the last two months, is 804. The number shipped is 3,297; 2,493 of which have been boxes of purchased supplies, consisting of articles

never donated in quantities. The average value of these packages was formerly estimated at $40 per box or barrel, but the increased price of every article of food and clothing now renders $50 a low average estimate for the value of the boxes received. At this estimate, it will be perceived that the value of the sanitary goods donated the Commission during the months of July and August, is $124,650. In addition to this, $26,881.63 worth of supplies have been purchased and forwarded to the front. The Commission has received $49,908.31 in money during the last two months, $40,000 of which was the generous gift of the Northern Iowa Sanitary Fair, held in Dubuque, in June. The whole number of boxes shipped to the hospitals and to the front, from the beginning, is 46,890. Special shipments of supplies have been sent to Memphis, $8,000 worth having been purchased for the occasion. About $18,000 worth have been purchased for Louisville, from whence they were to be re-shipped to the front. About $2,000 worth of supplies have been sent to Kansas, to the brother of old "John Brown," who is the sanitary agent for that district. The Commission expend regularly every week about $4,000 in the purchase of necessaries for our wounded men, and will continue to do so during the present campaign. These purchased supplies, it will always be remembered, consist of articles which are never donated—which can only be obtained with money, and which are absolutely essential to the comfort and recovery of the men—as canned milk, concentrated extract of beef, green tea, crushed sugar, crackers, ale, wines, codfish, etc. It must not be forgotten, that all these purchases and shipments are exclusive of donations of articles which are received day by day, and which in the aggregate amount to ten times as much as the purchased supplies. All through the season, for the last five months, the average shipments of sanitary stores to the front and the hospitals, have been about *ten tons daily*.

Supplies have been sent to Louisville, Chattanooga, Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Duval's Bluff, Memphis, Vicksburg, Cairo, and to the various hospitals in the vicinity. The Chicago hospitals, and the Chicago Soldiers' Rest, and Home, have drawn on us as they have had need; and we are daily supplying soldiers *in transitu*, who call at our rooms for help.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF CHILDREN.

The children of Chicago have manifested a very commendable and touching interest in the Sanitary Commission during the last two months. Those living in the West Division of the city have been fairly inoculated with a Sanitary Fair mania, which has had so extensive a run among their elders, and the July and August vacation has yielded the Commission quite a harvest from these little fairs. They have been mostly held in the grassy yards of private houses, under the trees, and have been planned and carried on exclusively by children, from nine to fourteen years of age, who have manifested no little shrewdness in their calculations, and ingenuity in their devices. These fairs have netted the Commission about three hundred dollars in money—a very handsome sum for children to earn during the fierce and torrid holidays.

It was the good fortune of the writer to attend one of these fairs. A boy of fourteen stood at the gate as door-keeper, gravely exacting and receiving the five cents admission fee which was charged. Another little chap of ten perambulated the side-walks for a block or two, carrying a banner inscribed, "SANITARY FAIR FOR THE SOLDIERS," and drumming up customers for his sisters under the trees. "Here's your Sanitary Fair, for sick and wounded soldiers," he shouted, after the fashion of a newsboy; "walk up, ladies and gentlemen, walk up!" Inside the yard, under the trees, from which the national colors depended, the Fair tables were spread, and here sat the little fairy saleswomen, some of the wee ones, in high dining chairs, and all presiding over their wares with a dignity that provoked laughter. Big brothers stood behind them, ostensibly to see that their sisters made change right, but in reality, probably, because they enjoyed the whole affair, for the mimic traders resented any of their interference, stoutly declaring that "they could make change themselves." One of the little gipsies shook back her curls, and lifting her sunny face, announced that "already they'd *dot* twenty-*free* dollars," and she wanted to know how much that would buy for the soldiers.

The Fair mania has extended into the country, and the young people of Lemont, Ill., sent $75 to the Sanitary Commission, as the result of their Fair, saying in a note, that "they made terriffic charges on the pockets or their fathers, which were com-

pletely successful." Since then, the same parties have given a concert, which netted the Commission $40.

A few days ago, a beautiful black-eyed, rosy-cheeked boy ran into the office of the Commission with an eager face, and handed to the treasurer a two-dollar greenback. Said he, "I'm five years old to-day, and my papa *div* me two dollars to buy nuts and *tandy*—but I don't want none, and you may *div* the money to the soldiers." He could hardly wait to be thanked, or kissed, but off he ran to his play. God bless the children! their hearts are in the right place; and to them it is a pleasure to sacrifice and labor for the brave men defending the country.

A NEW METHOD FOR RAISING FUNDS.

When it is remembered that the number of sick and wounded men now in hospital approximates one hundred thousand—that the military campaign is to be conducted to the end with no abatement of vigor—that half a million more men are soon to take the field, to pass through the inevitable sickness of acclimation and camp life—and that the Sanitary Commission has during the last two months disbursed half a million of dollars in money, to say nothing of donated stores, it will be seen that there must be a regular supply of means, which shall be as unintermittent and ample as the demand, or fearful suffering must ensue among the country's brave defenders.

The Sanitary Commission now proposes that an effort be made to obtain from every person in the Northwest the proceeds of one day's labor, one day's profits, or one day's income, for the benefit of the sick and wounded of the army. It asks for the 365th part of the gifts of Providence, for the benefit of the gallant men now preserving them for those at home. It is hoped that this appeal will be answered by the toiling seamstress and daughter of luxury, the hardy day laborer and skillful mechanic, by the millionaire, banker, and lawyer, by the successful merchant and his employés, by the hardy mariner and stalwart yeoman, by the government employé—even by corporate bodies, heretofore said to be destitute of souls. No class will be denied the privilege of uniting with, and none will be oppressed by this thorough and systematic plan.

The various trades, professions, and businesses of this city are already organizing, with a view to obtain from all this voluntary assessment. In many of the country towns there is completed an efficient organization for the carrying out of this purpose. It is recommended that committees of two or three persons should be appointed for every department of business and labor, mercantile, mechanical, agricultural, operative; male and female, old and young. It is hoped that clergymen and Sabbath-schools, as well as business men and associations, will become interested in this plan—that the press may be subsidized in its behalf—that Aid Societies, Loyal Leagues, and Good Templars will take it in hand promptly and energetically. The way to do it is, to ORGANIZE! Organize in your workshops, in your families. Let the men organize. Let the women organize. Let the trades organize. Organize everywhere. Let the workmen give with their employers, the employers with their workmen.

It is easily done. If the workmen will authorize their employers to deduct one day from their week's or month's earnings, and the employers will add to it a day of their profits, the whole will be acknowledged together to the credit of the establishment. We say to all, go to work at once with us in this great work. Hurry forward your contributions. Every acknowledgment will stimulate others to follow your example.

Circulars, with full instructions, will be sent upon application, by mail or otherwise, and letters on the subject will be fully and promptly answered.

Two of the churches of Chicago have already taken the initiative in carrying out this programme: St. James' Church, Rev. Dr. Clarkson, rector; and the first Congregational Church, Rev. Dr. Patton, pastor. Each has paid into the Commission the *fifty-second* part of its church revenue for a year, on the ground that a church organization has but fifty-two days in its year.

In Palatine, a small town in Cook county, a few miles from Chicago, the Aid Society have assessed a monthly tax on every person in the town, varying from $1 00 to five cents. Collectors are appointed for the nine school districts of the town, whose business it is to collect the sums pledged monthly, and pay them to the Aid Society, and the aggregate will be an amount of between one and two thousand dollars yearly. If every town in the Northwest would follow this example, the Sanitary Commission would have a revenue sufficiently ample for its needs, and every Aid Society would be able

to supply itself with all the fabrics it needs for the manufacture of hospital clothing.

THE BASIS OF THE SANITARY AND CHRISTIAN COMMISSIONS OF CHICAGO.

To prevent misapprehension on the part of the public as to the work of these two Commissions among the soldiers, they have jointly decided to state publicly, the basis upon which they stand, as co-laborers in raising and disbursing the supplies necessary to prosecute their work:

1st. These two Commissions have heretofore worked, and intend hereafter to work in harmony, and will assist each other in every way possible.

2d. Both Commissions in this city have studiously endeavored in all their official action, to avoid any approach to rivalry in any of their work, desiring only that such methods of raising and disbursing supplies should be pursued as will with least expense, accomplish the most good to the soldiers, as evidence of which it may be stated, that the Christian Commission have turned over a large proportion of their stores to the Sanitary Commission, and in return have drawn from the Sanitary Commission sanitary supplies to be distributed by the agents of the Christian Commission.

3d. And for the future, it is proposed to the public, by both Commissions so far as their authority extend, that any individuals or societies that may desire the Christian Commission to distribute the stores raised by them, shall mark them "U. S. C. Com. care of N. W. Sanitary Commission of Chicago," and such stores shall be forwarded to the army, to be drawn upon by the Christian Commission, as the wants of the army may require; and all agents of both Commissions, whose business it is to raise money or supplies for either, shall be instructed to inform the public that entire harmony of action exists between the Sanitary and Christian Commissions of Chicago acting for the Northwest.

TO THE CLERGY OF THE NORTH-WEST.

DEAR BRETHREN:—Permit me, as one of your number, and a member, from its organization, of the North-Western Sanitary Commission, to call your attention to the plan now in progress for replenishing its treasury, by the one day's income method. This proposes that every individual, business firm, corporation, and church shall give the net proceeds of one day's business, or the wages of one day's labor, or the amount of one day's income. The plan is simple and feasible; and, when properly presented, by argument and example, is sure to take with all loyal people. Some of the churches in this city have already sent us one Sabbath's income of their pew rental, and the pastors a day's income from their salaries. Many branches of business are following the same example. Will you not propose the matter to your respective congregations, and thus aid the good work of supplying the wants of our sick and wounded soldiers? Allow me, from my thorough acquaintance with the operations of the Sanitary Commission, to bear testimony to the efficiency and economy of its methods. Our system of intelligent, experienced, and *permanent* agents has proved itself to be most worthy of confidence, guarding against mismanagement and waste, and thus more than saving all its incidental cost. The size of our armies and the severity of the campaigns make unusual demands upon our treasury. May we not rely upon the patriotism of our clergy to sustain us to the end of the war? If they will send to this office, 66 Madison street, Chicago, Ill., circulars for distribution will be forwarded at once, containing all necessary explanations. Subscription lists will also be furnished.

In behalf of the North-Western Sanitary Commission. WM. W. PATTON,
Vice President.

A PRAISEWORTHY ENTERPRISE.

Home for the Veterans of the United States Army, and Orphan Asylum for the Children of deceased Soldiers, at Egg Harbor City, N. J.

These Institutions have been endowed with 60 acres of land and the partial proceeds of 500 lots, amounting to $13,000, by the directory of the Gloucester Farm and Town Association of Egg Harbor City. The *Retreat* will offer to the disabled soldiers of the Republic a happy home, where they can find that care and those comforts which a grateful country wishes them to be provided with. The *Orphan Asylum* will receive and educate all children of deceased soldiers, in order to make them useful citizens. The *Board of Trustees* is composed of some of the highest officers in the United States, both civil and military.

As we wish to be enabled to afford admittance to all who may apply, we solicit for the better endowment of the Institutions liberal donations from all who feel an interest in the future welfare of those who are

disabled and will be homeless and helpless at the close of the war, and also for the *Orphans* of our fallen heroes. A Quarterly Report will inform the donors and the public of the progress of the Institution.

The Constitution and By-laws will soon be ready in pamphlet form, and further information respecting the *Soldiers' Retreat and Orphans' Home* will be cheerfully given by the undersigned. All contributions should be directed to the Treasurer, P. M. WOLSEIFFER, Esq., Egg Harbor City, N. J. By order of the Council of Administration.

The Executive Committee—GEORGE O. GLAVIS, L. BULINGER.

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OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

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F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
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Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
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Prof. Fairman Rogers, Philadelphia, Penna.
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C. R. Agnew, M.D.	C. J. Stillé,

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, State House, New Haven, Conn.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 244 F Street, Washington, D. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Distribution, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 46 Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

U S. Sanitary Commission, Harper's Ferry, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Parole, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, City Point, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Newberne, N. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Beaufort, S. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, New Orleans, La.

Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, N. Y.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 59 Fourth Street, Pittsburgh, Penna.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Columbus, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

"Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C., where assistance is rendered in procuring Pay, Pensions, Bounty, Prize Money, and arrears of Pay and Bounty, and in various other ways.

"The Home," No. 374 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

"Special Relief" Office, 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

"Soldiers' Rest," Buffalo, Exchange street, opposite R. R. Depot.

HOSPITAL CARS.

Between Louisville and Chattanooga—Dr. J. P. Barnum, Surgeon in charge.

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BOSTON, Mass.

Important Information for Soldiers and Sailors who have lost Limbs.

The "PALMER" ARM and LEG are now furnished for the mutilated heroes of the Army and Navy, and I have the pleasure of presenting extracts from official letters from the Surgeon-General, which will gratify numerous applicants, who, in the past, have been led to believe that they must accept an inferior limb, or have no aid from Government.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * *

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.
C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

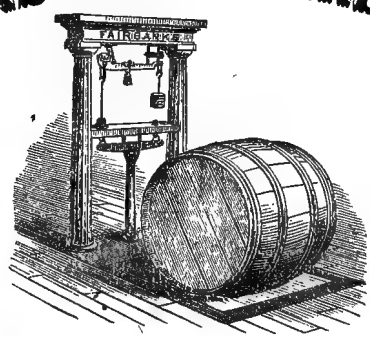
To B. FRANK. PALMER, LL.D., 744 Broadway, New York.

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The Best PALMER ARM, for a SMALL ADVANCE.
The Best LINCOLN "GOVERNMENT" ARM, FREE.
Prices of the PALMER LIMBS not raised to OFFICERS and CIVILIANS.

Apply in person, or by letter, at either of the offices. Address

B. FRANK. PALMER, LL.D.,
President American Artificial Limb Co.

FAIRBANKS' STANDARD SCALES.



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Cash Capital, paid in, - - - $200,000.

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WITH OR WITHOUT PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS,

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Losses will be Promptly Adjusted and Paid.

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Corner of Wall and Nassau Streets.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - - - $1,000,000.

From Statement for the Sixth Fiscal Year, ending December 31, 1863.

Total Amount of Assets, January 1, 1864	$3,140,930 80
Total Amount of Premiums	3,252,256 76
Excess of Earned Premiums over Losses, &c	1,137,063 33
Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies	441,206 49
Guaranteed Cash Dividend to Dealers, (holding certificates of same) on Paid Premiums Earned during the Year, whether Loss has Accrued or not	269,614 80
Scrip Dividend to Dealers, on Earned Premiums	15 per cent.
Dividend for the Year to Stockholders	26 per cent.

LOSSES PAID IN GOLD

UPON RISKS ON WHICH THE PREMIUM IS PAID IN LIKE CURRENCY.

DEALERS WITH THIS COMPANY will be allowed the option (to be signified at the time of application for insurance) of receiving in lieu of scrip, at the end of each year, RETURNS IN CASH (guaranteed by certificate) of premiums paid and earned during the year, whether loss accrues or not, upon all new risks under the NEW YORK FORM OF POLICY, as follows:

1st. Upon all VOYAGE Risks upon CARGO, a return of TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT.

2d. Upon VOYAGE Risks upon FREIGHT, a return of TWENTY PER CENT.

3d. Upon TIME Risks upon FREIGHT, and upon VOYAGE and TIME Risks upon HULLS, a return of TEN PER CENT.

Such privilege, however, being confined to persons and firms, the aggregate of whose premiums upon such policies earned and paid during the year, shall amount to the sum of one hundred dollars.

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WM. M. WHITNEY, 2d Vice-President and Secretary.

THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

No. 27. PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER 1, 1864. No. 27.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

BOARD MEETING.

At a quarterly meeting of the Board of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, held in Washington on the 2d ult., many interesting reports were read, from which we extract the following.

They exhibit the work of the Commission in a way that cannot fail to impress every candid reader with a sense of its magnitude and its value.

EXTRACTS OF REPORT OF DR. ALEXANDER McDONALD.

We are continually calling for clothing. Many of the men were without money, having four, five, and in some regiments, seven months' pay due them. They were without clothing, consequently on arriving at hospitals; the old, soiled, and ragged garments were replaced by hospital garments; and on leaving, and often before, the Commission was called upon to furnish new articles of clothing. Food for special diet kitchens was to be furnished, hence the calls for farina, corn starch, milk, canned meats, crackers, &c., &c. The use of the canned meats has been greatly diminished, most of the hospitals have a fund which, in some cases, is being used for hospital purposes; and fresh mutton, beef, oysters, &c., are found in some of the kitchens, thereby rendering the use of canned meats unnecessary. Tomatoes are in continual demand, many who can eat nothing else, will take these; and there are very few who do not relish them. Tea is much called for, and forms a staple article of issue Men who have been long in the field, have become saturated with coffee, and on reaching a hospital find tea a grateful beverage. The issue of stimulants has been materially diminished.

Requisitions are now only on orders approved by surgeons in charge of brigade; thereby making the brigade surgeon, in a certain degree, responsible for the proper use of such stimulants. Furniture and equipments for hospital use, are not so much needed as during the early part of the season. Most of the hospitals are well furnished, and all that is now needed is stock to replenish worn out material; much of this can be obtained of the medical purveyor Tin cups, plates, spoons, knives and forks are, and will continue to be, constantly demanded. Few, if any of the sick or wounded, are able to save their plates, cups and spoons, and cannot be supplied from any source but from the Commission.

Reading matter of all kinds is in constant demand, bound books for hospital library, pamphlets and papers for general distribu-

tion, and a contribution of daily or weekly papers, of recent date, would add greatly to the comfort of disabled soldiers. Such could be kept in the reading rooms of the various hospitals, within reach of all who choose to read, and would be a valuable acquisition for men from all parts of the country.

Towels and handkerchiefs are genuine comforts. Of course large numbers will constantly be needed, as the men are continually coming in and being discharged; each one needs and should have these articles, in order to secure personal cleanliness.

Games of all kinds tend to relieve the ennui of hospital life, and a liberal supply is often required. The tone of an entire ward has been changed by the "animating strains of a jew's-harp," and many a tedious hour whiled away by means of some simple but interesting game; draughts, puzzles, &c., &c., are a source of relief, and occupy the attention of men who would otherwise lie idle, listless, and home-sick.

FIELD RELIEF.

At each army corps, generally attached to one of the division hospitals, is a field relief station, moving with the army corps, from which station are issued to the men and hospitals such supplies as may from time to time be needed. During a battle, its staff form a flying relief corps, for the puprose of rendering aid to the wounded and surgeons as speedily as possible. Each of these stations is composed of a hospital tent, and a tent, two four horse teams, and two loads of stores; to each are attached two relief agents, two teamsters and a cook. There are at the present time seven such stations in the armies operating before Richmond; though there are but five army corps, the sixth and seventh stations are rendered necessary on account of the peculiar situations of the tenth and eighteenth corps. With the field relief corps is an inspector, Dr. N. C. Stevens, whose reports are forwarded.

THE AUXILIARY RELIEF CORPS

under the superintendence of Mr. F. B. Fay, is intended for work more particularly in hospitals. During an engagement, the agents in the corps go to the field, there prepare and dispense food, dress simple wounds, furnish clothing, assist in the removal of wounded, and do all they can to aid or comfort those so unfoutunate as to need such assistance. The reports of Mr. Fay will give details regarding this work, and also show how it is continued at the several corps hospitals after sick and wounded have reached those havens of rest. In this department thirty-five men are now employed, and the work is of great interest, productive of much good to both soldier and agent.

SPECIAL RELIEF

in this army has been conducted by all departments; the field relief corps have supplied needy men in the trenches with such as we could give to make their situation more comfortable. The auxiliary relief corps have attended to the personal wants of those in hospital with a tender care, in some instances more like that of brother for brother, than the regard of strangers. The barges have afforded shelter and food for very many who were "too late for the mail boat," tired out with the exertion made to "get home" and recruit the wasted energies preparatory to another campaign, or returning to the scene of labor before health had been fully established; refugees, men, women and children; sick or disabled soldiers en route to or from their homes, too weak to go further; officers without any other place at which to lodge or eat, compelled to remain over night in order to complete their business; citizens of both sexes, in search of wounded or sick or deceased friends, have been crowded upon us, and we have done the best we could do to aid them. Our sleeping apartments and decks have been crowded, our tables cleaned and refilled; day after day, and night after night have these scenes been enacted, and the succeeding night a similar, yet entirely different crowd of humanity, would be found on the "Sanitary boats." A few applicants have been turned away, but we have generally been able to accomodate all who require our aid.

AT NORFOLK

we have a store-house for supplying the hospitals near Fortress Monroe and Portsmouth. At Portsmouth is a lodge for sick or disabled soldiers, and the friends of those in hospital. This lodge, which is in charge of Mr. John L. Alcook, is a model of cleanliness and regularity. It is conducted on the most economical principle, and is partially supplied by government. Mr. Alcook reports that he furnished during the month of

	Meals.	Lodgings.
August, . . .	1,634	541
September, . . .	1,207	418
October 8, for the week,	153	80
" 15, "	401	134
Totals,	3,395	1,173

during the past 45 days, or an average of $75\frac{2}{45}$ meals, $26\frac{1}{15}$ lodgings, every 24 hours.

Two agents have lately been sent to Hampton to work in the hospitals, they are provided with tent, cooking utensils and food, and will draw supplies from Norfolk. Mr. A. C. Edmunds is in charge of relief work at and around Fort Monroe. An agent goes on the flag of truce boat between Baltimore and Fort Monroe, and it is our intention to supply this boat regularly at the latter place, instead of, as now, at City Point.

SUPPLY TRAIN.

It has been found that a part of the supply train could be dispensed with, consequently the number of teams has been so reduced as to relieve us of the expense of five drivers and fourteen horses.

ACROSS THE JAMES.

The move across the James river, resulting in the wounding of a large number of men, kept our agents very busy for a time. The crossing at Deep Bottom was made by the tenth corps, which immediately advanced and was soon engaged with the enemy. Our agents and wagons, attached to the corps, had followed to the north bank of the James, where a flying hospital had been established, to which most of the wounded from the tenth and eighteenth corps were forwarded for transfer to boats.

A part of the eighteenth corps having remained in their old position, it was deemed best that extra aid should be sent when needed, to the forces across the James. Accordingly, on the day succeeding the passages of our troops, the tug "Governor Curtin" was loaded with battle-field supplies, and proceeded with a force of relief agents to Deep Bottom, where there was plenty of work for all; the wounded having commenced to arrive before our agents reached there.

THE WOUNDED.

Milk punch was immediately prepared, and was supplied with crackers to all in need. Then water was to be brought, slight wounds to be dressed, clothing to be furnished, and food prepared and distributed. In this work our agents laboured faithfully through the afternoon, night, and late into the succeeding day. During the night a cold rain fell, which continued all the next day; then came a call for stimulants and clothing, for warm drinks and food, all of which were furnished as well as possible; and as the ambulances arrived and unloaded, the men were tended with care, supplied with such material as could be obtained, and made as comfortable as possible, under such circumstances,

Two wagons had been forwarded, one to the eighteenth corps, the other to Deep Bottom. The tug made one or two trips per day, as was necessary. Two extra wagons, loaded with supplies, were sent by land the evening after the battle; and reached Deep Bottom at two A.M. of the succeeding morning, having been on the road all night—during a drenching rain. One wagon was unloaded, and the other held in reserve. A wagon belonging to tenth corps station, was sent front, and all arrangements made for the stations at the front to draw their supplies from Deep Bottom, reserving teams to be sent to the rear, if occasion should require. Almost every day since that time, more or less wounded have been brought in, and placed on transports for transfer to corps hospitals. These men have been fed and assisted by our agents, and the boats supplied when they were in want of such stores as we had.

The station at Deep Bottom has furnished supplies for our agents at the front, the flying hospital, tenth corps field hospitals, and various regiments in the vicinity.

The agents have been well employed, and as there is a probability of the flying hospital, which has been temporarily removed, being re-established at or near our present station, we have deemed it best that things there should remain as at present. The work of the Commission is now so systematized, as to be conducted with considerable regularity and much less labor than formerly; hence a part of the reduction in number of employees and monthly expenses.

Most of the employees have endeavored to perform their duties faithfully, and have shown a disposition to aid the work to the full extent of their ability; for their energy and perseverance they deserve commendation. Accompanying documents are herewith submitted for your perusal. They set forth the past and present condition of each

department, together with views and suggestions of each superintendent, and will give in detail statements of the work as it is.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORT OF DR. SWALM, CONTROLLER OF ISSUES.

CITY POINT, *Oct.* 21, 1864.

On Friday, August 12th, the 2d Corps was loaded on transports and passed down the river, destination unknown.

After dark, and from that until midnight, these transports were steering up the river, and were to land the troops at

DEEP BOTTOM.

On the 14th inst., 8 A.M., General Grant and staff left the wharf and proceeded up the James, and a few moments after the Commission tug "Governor Curtin," with supplies and agents, in charge of Dr. Parrish followed. On arriving at Deep Bottom, no tents were yet pitched, no head-quarters established, and the wounded had already been brought in from the picket line, and were lying in the wagons. A temporary depot was established with the ambulance train, and ice, milk, sherry wine, Jamaica rum, condensed lemonade, fans and sponges were issued. The gunboat "Agawam," having lost three men killed and several wounded, such stores as were needed on board were issued. As no wagons were allowed across the pontoon bridge, the tug was of immense value to us, enabling us to be first on the ground and to become established, and be ready for the wounded. Tug returned, was reloaded, and Mr. Fay with some of his agents went up in her. About two hundred and fifty wounded had been brought in, and our agents were hard at work.

ISSUES.

Amount of Goods issued from the Storehouse of the Commission at City Point, Va., from June 18th to Oct. 1st, 1864.

Crackers, 82,851 lbs.
Dried Rusk, 78 lbs., & ½ bbl.
Porter, 126 ½ bbls., 6 bbls., 37 bottles.
Ale, 61 bbls., 15 ½ bbls., 140 bottles.
Cheese, 835 lbs., 3 boxes.
Eggs, 1,741 doz., 1 bbl.
Potatoes, 1,810¼ bbls.
Onions, 3,044½ bbls.
Sugar, 25,388½ lbs.
Cherry Rum, 1,054 bottles.
Cots, 14.
Butter, 6,237 lbs.
Milk, 60,771 cans.
Turkey, 12,557 cans.
Chicken, 12,017 cans.
Goose, 102 cans.
Tomatoes, 86,441 cans, 186 galls., 10 boxes, fresh.
Soup and Bouilli, 2,355 cans.
Julien Soup, 959 cans.
Lemons, 1,360½ boxes.
Whiskey, 6,265 bottles, 140 gallons.
Morphia, 5 ounces.
Fans, 7,531.
Jamaica Ginger, 16,056 bots.
Slippers, 5,718 pairs.
Shirts, (wool), 35,789.
" (cotton), 4,136.
" (can. flan.), 532.
Drawers, (wool), 24,610 prs.
" (cotton), 3,606 prs.
Socks, (wool), 27,127 pairs.
" (cotton), 1,150 "
Towels, 20,787.
Jamaica Rum, 4,812 bottles, 5 kegs.
Wine Sherry, 7,025 bottles.
Brandy, 4,199 bottles.
Cherry Brandy, 628 bottles.
" Cordial, 98 "
Gin, 489 bottles.
Gin Cocktails, 15 bottles.
Bitters, 53 bottles.
Blackberry Brandy, 1,700 bottles.
Blackberry Cordial, 35 btls.
" Wine, 1,871 "
Tobacco, chewing, 12,448 lb.
" smoking, 8,957½ lb.
Domestic Wine, 732 bottles.
Hats and Caps, 1,322.
Air Beds, 5.
Iron Beadsteads, 1.
Camp Kettles, 138.
Pads, 1,437.
Cushions, 246.
Medicine Cups, 233.
" Tubes, 119.
Twine, 4 balls.
Brushes, 18.
Buttons, 1 paper.
Firkins with handles, 2.
Seidlitz Powders, 46 boxes.
Kissengen Water, 40 bottles.
Musquito Netting, 1,595½ pieces.
Stretchers, 108.
Nails, 119½ lbs.
Rubber Sheeting, 25 yards, ½ roll.
Buckets, 214.
Cologne, 1,533 bots., 4 boxes.
Coats, 104.
Pants, 415 pairs.
Vests, 52.
Dried Beef, 901 lbs.
Pork, 630 lbs.
Canned Meats, 185 cans.
Mattresses, 240.
Tin Dippers, 97.
Pickles, 26,804½ galls., 1,213 jars, 601½ bbls., 144½ kegs.
Pickled Tomatoes, 135 bbls, 6 galls., 1 keg.
Pickled Onions, 8 bbls.
Army Bread, 8 boxes.
Oranges, 108½ boxes, 2 doz.
Rice, 852 lbs.
Sauerkraut, 330½ bbls., 22½ Kegs.
Bed Sacks, 1,513.
Vegetables, 384 bbls.
Vinegar, 44 galls., 113 botts.
Condensed Lemonade, 3,032 cans.
String Beans, 6¼ bbls., 81 cans.
Extract Coffee, 228 cans.
Pans, Baking, 22.
Old Linen, 26 bbls., 15 lbs., 3 boxes.
Chloride Zinc, 18 oz.
Epsom Salts, 3 lbs.
Brooms, 235.
Oat Meal, 292 lbs.
Faucets, 17.
Gridirons, 2.
Saws, 8.
Hatchets, 6.
Head Rests, 186.
Pens, 9,418, 4 boxes.
Ink, 2,497 bottles
Pen Holders, 4,773.
Pencils, 7,818.
Note Books, 36.
Writing Paper, 283,500 shts.
Envelopes, 164,023.
Mock Turtle Soup, 35 cans.
Wrappers, 628.
Veal Soup, 120 cans.
Beef Soup, 1,665 cans.
Vegetable Soup, 442 cans.
Roast Beef, 4,333 cans.
Mutton, 9,857 cans.
Raspberry Vinegar, 213 bots.
Knives, Carving, 34.
Forks, " 31.
Tin Plates, 6,653.
" Cups, 13,739.
Knives and Forks, 2,716.
Spoons, (large), 4,001.
" (small), 2,308
Lemon Syrup, 739 bottles.
Apple Pulp, 4,906. cans.
Steak Broilers, 2.
Toasters, 10.
Soda, 9¾ lbs.
Gypsum, 3 cans.
Raspberries, 7 cans.
Strawberries, 2,046 cans.
Blackberries, 1,960 "
Cherries, 1,059 "
Cranberries, 209 "
Pie Fruit, 186 "
Dried Fruit, 1,888 lbs., 1 bbl.
Raker's Iron, 7.
Canteens, 52.
Camphor, 9 bottles.
Wash Tubs, 26.
" Boards, 10.
Washing Machines, 3.
Clothes Wringers, 5.
" Pins, 300.
Grave Boards, 205.
Spit Cups, 52.
Cider, 403 botts., 1 bbl.
Port Wine, 13 bottles.
Claret Wine, 41 "
Cauldrons, 9.
Pillow Sacks or Ticks, 596.
" Cases, 2,282.
Sheets, 4,137.
Sheeting, 20 yards.
Blankets, 526.
Flannel, 121 yards.
Quilts, 749.
Rubber Blankets, 10.
Pouches, 2.
Games, 157, and 1 box.
Ginger, Ground, 9 lbs.
Meat Forks, 1.
Water Firkins, 6.
Chambers, 165.
Catsup, 397 botts, 1 box
Alcohol, 8 bottles.
Reading Matter, 39¾ boxes.
Tongues, 9.
Mustard, 450 lbs.
Beef Stock, 2,429 cans
Beef a la Mode, 646 cans.
Tapioca, 18 lbs.
Farina, 14,961 lbs.
Corn Starch, 18,352 lbs.
Maizena, 1,441 lbs.
Corn Meal, 6,128 lbs.
Tea, 4,810½ lbs.
Coffee, 3,016 lbs.
Peaches, fresh, 172 boxes.
" 12,198 cans.
Canned Fruits, 30 cans.
Pails, 451.
" Tin, 84.
Chloroform, 39 lbs.
Oil Silk, 11 rolls.
Soap, 1,308¼ lbs.
Handkerchiefs, 36,189.
Chocolate, 5,636 lbs.
Cocoa, 88 lbs., 2 boxes.
Apples Dried, 506¼ bbls.
Peaches, Dried, 100 lbs
Bay Rum, 1,763 bottles.
Shoes, 2,431 pairs.
Haversacks, 9.
Coffee Pots, 241.
Bread, Soft, 7 bbls. 26 loaves.
Salt, 17 boxes, 238 lbs., 96 bags.
Coffee Boiler, 1.
Nutmegs, 201 lbs.
Pepper, Black, 117¼ lbs.
" Cayenne, 3 lbs.
Cinnamon, 7½ lbs.
Spices, 69 lbs.
Nutmeg Graters, 19.
Pigs Feet, 12 kegs.
Tripe, 16 kegs.

Cream Freezers, 7.
Stools, 3.
Oil, 1½ gals., 1 can.
" Cloth, 28 yards.
Hams, 31½, 19 bbls., 50 lbs.
Curried Cabbage, 52 bbls.
Jellies, 1,004 bottles.
Egg Nogg, 266 "
Flour, 1,456 lbs.
Gelatine, 122 lbs.
Codfish, 3,680 lbs.
Mackerel, 17 kits, 4 bbls., 50 lbs., 4 kegs.
Saleratus, 59 lbs.
Green Corn, 525 cans.
" Peas, 552 "
Tea Mugs, 48 "
Shovels, 3.
Boiler, 1.
Apple Brandy, 48 bottles.
Splints, 200.
" Zinc, 3.
Maccaroni, 252 lbs., 1 box.
Arrow Root, 18 lbs.
Baskets, 36.
Stoves, 20.
Wash Basins, 1,182.
Camp Chests, 1.
Bandages, 15½ bbls. 9 boxes.
Candles, 1,134 lbs.
Matches, 64 gross.
Arm Slings, 1,313.
Lint, patent, 23 rolls, 2 boxes.
Isinglass Plaster, 33 rolls.
Adhesive " 6 "
Crutches, 2,816 pairs.
Pins, 350 papers.
Housewives, 1,667.
Essence Beef, 87 cans.
Lanterns, 188.
Candlesticks, 213.
Tamarinds, 151½ kegs, 5 bls. 34 galls., 10 lbs.
Bed Pans, 232.
Urinals, 97.
Spittoons, 98.
Pipes, 1,080, 43½ boxes.
Sponges, 2 bbls., 28 lbs., 153 pieces
Combs, (fine), 2,875.
" (coarse), 7,372.
Scissors, 53 pairs.
Sardines, 423 boxes.
Sardine Openers, 8.
Pillows, 2,649.
Blackberry Syrups, 1,274.
Peas, 481 cans.
Flavoring Exts., 960 botts.
Cork Screws, 21.
Axes, 3.
Ring Cushions, 48.
Straw, 6 bales.
Thread, 13¼ lbs.
Needles 700, 183 papers
Horse Radish, 215 bottles, 2 boxes.
Gooseberries, 40 cans.
Grapes, 832 cans.
Beets, 299½ bbls.
Turnips, 84 bbls.
Prunes, 1,063 lbs
Blacking, 78 boxes.
Clams, 50 cans.
Surgeon's boxes, 8.
Tobacco Cutter, 1.
Ligatures, Silk, ¼ lb.
Watermelons, 109.
Spelling Books, 219.
Boiled Onions, 775 cans.
Lard, 4 lbs.
Mops, 4.
Mucilage, 5 bottles.
Condensed Egg, 530 cans.
Chlorium Acid, 1 bottle.
Cream Tartar, 4 lbs.
Cantelopes, 323.
Camp Chair, 1.
Bologna Sausage, 1.
Broma, 1 box.
Apples, Green, 44 bbls.
Apple Preserves, 14 cans.
Apricots, 12 bottles.
Barley, 25 lbs.
Corned Beef, 2 bbls.
Blotting Paper, 1 bunch.
Bromine, 2 lbs.
Cabbage, 5,016 heads.
Dessicated Vegetables, 1 can.
Havelocks, 29.
Sweet Potatoes, 24½ bbls.
Shears, 3.
Tally books, 6.
Yeast Powder, 109 cans.

This enormous amount of supplies, valued at $403,933, will not astonish, when taking into consideration the number of sick and wounded we have had in the hospitals. In the Base Hospitals alone the number admitted was twenty-two thousand during June, July, August, and September, as follows:

	Sick.	Wounded.	Total.
July, . . .	1,896	1,465	3,361
August, . .	7,262	4,504	11,766
September, .	4,251	419	4,670
Total, ...			19,797
The figures for June cannot be obtained, the hospital being established late in the month. The number, however, is estimated at			2,203
			22,000

AUXILIARY RELIEF CORPS.

The issues to these Base Hospitals are made through the agents of the Auxiliary Corps, who come in direct contact with the patients, and supply them personally, under direction of the surgeons. They also supply the special diet-kitchens, where all the delicacies are properly prepared.

RELIEF CORPS.

The issues to the front hospitals have also been large, and they are made through the Relief Agents, stationed in every corps. Surgeons and chaplains draw from us for the sick in their own regiments,—the men not sick enough to send to hospital, and yet not well enough for duty. Such are the sources from which the demands have been made upon us; nor do I think they have been large, considering the amount of suffering.

VEGETABLES FOR TROOPS.

After what has been issued to the army, there were still on hand, July 2d, 758 barrels of vegetables, for which transportation was easily procured at General Headquarters, and they were equally distributed among the troops. So this great work went on, and, as fast as the vegetables arrived, they were sent to those for whom they were intended; and up to July 18th, one month after the arrival of the Commissioner at this point, there were issued—

2,497 bbls. potatoes, 1,346 bbls pickled cucumbers, 355 bbls. sauerkraut, 356 bbls. dried apples, 68 bbls. fresh beans, 58 bbls. beets, 443 bbls. pickled onions, 1,309 bbls. fresh onions, 133 bbls. turnips, 54 bbls. curried cabbage, 132 bbls. assorted vegetables, 6 bbls. fresh peas, 8,930 cabbages.

CEDAR LEVEL.

Still they came, and, from want of room, a vegetable depot had to be established at Cedar Level, of which John Butler, one of our agents, was placed in charge, and the goods were subject to the order of J. Warner Johnson, Superintendent of Relief Corps at the front. Cars were always readily furnished for the transportation of the goods; which acts of kindness were duly appreciated, and were among the many which already existed, and still exist, and which I think are further evidences that the usefulness of the Commission is recognized. By sending the goods to Cedar Level the distribution was greatly facilitated, and several miles of travel for the teams saved.

July 20th the following were sent:—

74 bbls. potatoes, 63 bbls. onions, 27 bbls. green apples, 1 bbl. tomatoes in cans, 10 bbls. cranberries, 53 bbls. pickled cucumbers, 2

bbls. beets, 27 bbls. pickled tomatoes. Total, 257 bbls.

July 22d.—Potatoes, 697 bbls.; onions, 424 bbls.; beets, 157 bbls.; sauerkraut, 1 bbl Total, 1,279 bbls.

July 23d.—Tomatoes, 780 boxes; potatoes, 67 bbls.; cranberries, 1 bbl.; onions, 32 bbls.; beets, 37 bbls.; tomatoes, 45 bbls dried apples, 107 bbls. Total, 789 bbls. and 780 boxes.

July 27th.—Onions, fresh, 115 bbls.; pickled tomatoes, 40 bbls.; pickled cucumbers, 6 bbls.; pickled onions, 9 bbls. Total, 170 bbls.

July 30th.—Onions, 319 bbls.

August 2d.—1 case 2 doz. 3 lb. tomatoes; 44 cases 2 doz. 2½ lb. tomatoes; 27 cases 2 doz. 2 lb. tomatoes; 50 bbls. pickles, assorted; 45 bbls. pickles; 6 bbls. onions, pickled; 2 bbls. tomatoes, pickled. Total, 72 cases, 103 bbls.

August 3d.—Pickles, 126 bbls.; onions, 31 bbls.; sauerkraut, 1 bbl.; tomatoes, 3 bbls.; tomatoes, 2,376 lbs.; tomatoes, 324 gals. Total, 161 bbls., 2,376 lbs., 324 gals.

August 5th.—Pickles, 61 bbls.; onions, 250 bbls.; sauerkraut, 24½ bbls. Total, 335½ bbls.

The station at Cedar Level was broken up, and for some time the issue of vegetables was stopped, to a great extent. What were issued during August and September will be found in the table of issues above.

Recapitulation of Issues of Vegetables at Cedar Level.—Potatoes, 3,335 bbls.; pickled cucumbers, 1,637 bbls.; pickled onions, 458 bbls.; fresh onions, 2,543 bbls.; sauerkraut, 381½ bbls.; fresh beans, 68 bbls.; beets, 254 bbls.; tomatoes, in cans, 1 bbl.; tomatoes, 45 bbls.; turnips, 133 bbls.; curried cabbage, 54 bbls.; assorted vegetables, 132 bbls.; fresh peas, 6 bbls.; green apples, 27 bbls.; cranberries, 11 bbls.; pickled tomatoes, 69 bbls.; tomatoes, 852 cases; dried apples, 107 bbls.

The cost of the above is about eighty thousand six hundred and forty-eight dollars, which, in conjunction with the approximated value of the issues in the above table,—viz., four hundred and three thousand nine hundred and thirty-three dollars,—the total aggregate will be about four hundred and eighty-four thousand five hundred and eighty-one (484,581) dollars. The above shows the work of the Commission and the issues to have been very large. The time of year has arrived when the demands upon us for woolen under clothing will be much larger. We are also on the eve of a great battle, when it will be expected of us to do a great work; and I am happy to state I think we are in such a condition that we will be able to meet any demand that will be made upon us. As regards the imposition that is said to be practised upon us, it cannot be wholly avoided. The surgeon's signature to requisitions is required, and I think but very few misapply the goods. At any rate, it is to be hoped, for the credit due themselves and the profession, it is not carried on to a great extent.

FROM CITY POINT.

BY DR. N. C. STEVENS.

Since my last communication I have been along the trenches and breastworks of our line of defence, from the Appomattox to the extreme left; thence along our flank line to ——, on the James river. The appearance of the troops was a matter of special observation. Most of the divisions were encamped along within a few rods of the breastworks; the space between being thoroughly cleared of everything, and daily policed, as were also the various operations of the soldiers. Most of their quarters were very neat, nearly all sleeping on bunks raised from the ground from eight to twenty inches. A very few regiments only slept on the ground—"still in the slough of despond." These were mostly new troops. Some of these regiments have already improved their quarters. The fifth corps occupies an oblong square, through the centre of which the Weldon railroad and the traveled pike run. In making the bed for the railroad, there was left on either side, a deep ditch, in which had grown up low underbush, and which was otherwise filled with material not conducive to health. These places, as well as the borders of the swamp within the lines, were being most thoroughly cleaned; so that they were hardly recognizable. I mention this to show that what was formerly last thought of, is now the first thing to claim the notice of surgeons and others. They say it is easier to keep men well by these attentions, than to cure them of the diseases produced by neglect. Cæteris paribus, the longer a soldier has been in the field, the better care he will take of himself; and this will prove true of officers in the care of their men. The general health of the army at this season of the year, was never better A brigade surgeon told

me this morning, that of an effective force of two thousand men, he had only one hundred and one on sick report; and he thought that many other brigades were as favored as his. From my own observation, I think the entire sickness of the army in the field is less than seven per cent. The morale of the army was never better than at present. Our men acquired position and full confidence in the government, and our southern victories make every man feel that he can begin to see the end. You cannot find a soldier who has given three years of hard service, that is willing to have anything but a united, undivided country. It is for that they have fought and bled, and they will never be satisfied with anything short of it.

A. M. SPERRY'S REPORT.

AUXILIARY RELIEF AGENT.

Among special duties, we have given us the making and administering of all stimulating drinks. Nothing is trusted to the nurses or other attendants, relieving the surgeons of much responsibility, and adding to the welfare of the patients.

Since taking up work in the wards, I have always had under my care some man, often more than one, who must have the best care possible, or die. The very sick and the badly wounded are usually sent away, but it often happens that such cannot be moved without danger. For such men I try to care to the best of my ability. Men who will live with ordinary treatment, must yield precedence to men who will not. There are always such to be found, the saddest thing being that while attending to one, others equally deserving must be neglected. To nurse, feed and care for a desperately sick man is no slight task. Yet these must have all this care if they are to recover.

To general duties, attending to minor yet necessary things, the daily rounds, the making of punch, egg nog, etc., the attending to diet, the petty, yet pressing wants of men, the writing of letters, hearing sad stories, comforting, advising and cheering men, add a few such cases as those mentioned, and a day's work is presented that is little less than appalling.

Though to give such constant attention as I have shown ought, and often is given, may be really impossible in every case, such an approximation should be made as the utmost liberality of the people will permit.

We save in a direct saving manner. Nothing here is subject to the dishonesty or selfish caprice of any surgeon, steward, or ward-master. There are no losses between the issuing barge and the patient, or other rightful recipient. Many times no doubt the agent gives indiscreetly, but if he be competent and honest, experience enables him to guard more and more against imposition. Goods kept in our store tents are as free from invasion as if on the issuing barge, and yet much nearer the men. When as at this station, the issues are made directly to the men through no middle parties, there can be no losses. We *know* where they go. No "surgeon" drinks the liquors, no "officer" gets more than his needs as a sick man requires. "Sanitary" is *here* "for the *soldiers*." I might enlarge, but I forbear adding that my own opinion, my own feeling is, that we save many times what we cost, and that personal service is the most efficient means of reaching the soldier, thence his home and the hearts and the purses of the people at home.

The greatest good to the sufferers is the end to be attained. This is the very purpose for which the people give.

Of shirts, drawers, and socks, the demand is very great and our supply very inadequate. Until other means can be used, it is our plain duty to supply as many as possible, and be just in other directions. I would recommend that suspenders be put on the list of regular supplies; also that *green* tea be furnished in small quantities for special cases. We need *crushed* sugar in part, instead of all coffee sugar as now furnished The general condition of our work is flattering; it is generously appreciated, and that appreciation frankly expressed. Concert of action with the hospital authorities is perfect, and mutual confidence exists. With an honorable position clearly defined, we have only to labor and wait for our sure reward.

AN INCIDENT.

The following is from a letter written by a friend who is laboring in Hospital for Colored Troops at City Point.

I have about twenty contrabands who cluster round me like a great family. In the evening I teach some of them their letters, and Sunday evening they come into my tent and we sing and pray, and it is beautiful to see how anxious they are to

know the right way. I tell them that they want a religion which will make them good every day, which will keep them from lying, stealing, and being impure, and then I explain these things to them in very simple terms, and they respond with enthusiasm, "Jes so, Miss H.," or "Dat's so, Miss H."

I asked Lizzie the other evening, what the preacher said in the afternoon service? She replied that *he* said, "*dey mus all drink and eat at de sweat of der own eyebrows.*" It struck me so humorously, I thought I would write it to you.

WASHINGTON.

Amount of Hospital Supplies issued by the U. S. Sanitary Commission at Washington, D. C., during the months of July, August and September, 1864.

Air beds	3
Air pillows	17
Adhesive plaster, rolls	148
Apples, dried, lbs	198
Apples, green, bbls	1
Arrowroot, lbs	389
Alcohol, bottles	131
Baskets	8
Bandages, bbls	88
Bandage rollers	6
Bedsteads	15
Bed ticks	1,351
Bed pans	187
Blankets	1,960
Blankets, rubber	87
Brushes	188
Brooms	40
Books	3,310
Body bands	432
Buttons, doz	29
Beef, lbs	800
Beef stock, lbs	4,182
Bread, loaves	1,000
Butter, lbs	940
Barley flour, lbs	125
Bay Rum, bottles	1,054
Brandy, bottles	2,762
Bitters, bottles	21
Camp stools	1
Camp kettles	42
Coffee pots	12
Cauldrons	2
Combs	10,338
Chairs	23
Chairs, rocking	81
Chambers	31
Cushions	3,998
Cushions, rubber	98
Clocks	3
Corkscrews	65
Crutches, pairs	1,252
Canes	166
Canteens	33
Canbas, sy. fr	360
Cambric, yards	455
Cotton batten, lbs	13
Candles, lbs	375
Candlesticks	186
Cups and saucers, doz	16
Clothing, boxes	2
Caps and hats	310
Coats	205
Carbonic acid, galls	15
Cologne, bottles	1,064
Condensed cider, lbs	33
Condensed meats, lbs	6,834
Condensed fruits, lbs	9,428
Cond vegetables, lbs	2,125
Catsup, bottles	415
Chocolate, lbs	4,274
Coffee, extract, lbs	727
Coffee, ground, lbs	1,529
Condensed milk, lbs	19,457
Crackers, lbs	19,660
Corn starch, lbs	8,706
Corn meal, lbs	7,012
Cod liver oil, bottles	8
Camphor, bottles	19
Chloroform, bottles	17
Cream tartar, lbs	7
Charcoal powder, lbs	436
Cheese, lbs	50
Door locks and mats	16
Disinfectant powder, lbs	75
Drawers, cotton, pairs	13,887
Drawers, wool, pairs	4,668
Dried fruit, lbs	7,965
Eggers	9
Eggs, dozen	155
Eggs, dessicated, cans	149
Eye-glasses	9
Envelopes	188 931
Fans	14,974
Faucets	4
Filts, dozen	1
Flannel, yards	42
Flaxseed, lbs	120
Flour, lbs	87
Farina, lbs	2,334
Flavoring extracts, btls	390
Games	166
Gas stoves	1
Ginger, extract, bottles	4,226
Hammers and hatchets	26
Halters	24
Hinges	12
Head rests	2,689
Head boards	100
Horse shoes, kegs	4
Herbs, bbl	1
Hops, lbs	15
Hams, lbs	1,555
Haversacks	55
Handkerchiefs	28,085
Ice, lbs	62,475
Ink, bottles	330
Iceland moss, kegs	149
Jellies & preserves, jars	1,255
Knives and forks, doz	164
Knives, carving	3
Lumber, planed, feet	2,000
Lime, bbls	46
Lanterns	144
Lamps	4
Lint, bbls	126
Life preservers	118
Lemons, boxes	320
Lard, lbs	233
Mattrasses	46
Matches, gross	10
Mucilage, bottles	2
Mittens, pairs	18
Memorandum books	110
Magazines	1,907
Medicines, bottles	33
Medicine cups	233
Medicine chests	1
Morphia, oz	5
Mutton tallow, lbs	35
Molasses, gallons	58
Malt, bushels	2
Malt liquor, bottles	1,288
Malt liquor, gallons	1,488
Mugs	36
Netting, mosquito, pcs	649
Needles, papers	274
Needle books	1,824
Neck ties	316
Nails, lbs	204
Oil silk, rolls	96
Oil cloth, yards	35
Oil, kerosene, gallons	15
Old linen, bbls	303
Onions, bbls	54
Oakum, lbs	400
Oatmeal, lbs	1,480
Oranges, boxes	61
Oysters, pickled, bott's	46
Pails, wooden	61
Pails, tin	68
Plates, tin	521
Plates, earthenware	156
Planks, spruce, feet	100
Pitchers	13
Poison, bottles	4
Pens	5,204
Penholders	1,238
Pencils	1,347
Pipes, boxes	3
Pillows	2,547
Pillow cases	5,279
Pillow ticks	888
Pants, pairs	218
Pins, papers	275
Pickles, gallons	1,279
Potatoes, bbls	46
Pork, lbs	200
Quilts	1,675
Rubber cloth, yards	53
Reading matter, boxes	30
Rice, lbs	361
Rum, Jamaica, bottles	552
Rum, cherry, bottles	285
Sash, window, pairs	22
Sheet lint, lbs	96
Syringes	7
Stoves and furniture	3
Stewpans	10
Skimmers and dippers	54
Spoons, dozen	174½
Sieves	2
Scissors, pairs	51
Stretchers	29
Slings	1,909
Sponges, lbs	309
Soap, lbs	755
Salts, Epsom, lbs	8
Soda, lbs	12¼
Sago, lbs	23
Sugar, lbs	8,605
Spices, lbs	329
Syrup, bottles	1,178
Sweet Oil, bottles	14
Salt fish, bbls	390
Shoes, pairs	2,431
Slippers, pairs	7,211
Socks, cotton, pairs	10,113
Socks, wool, pairs	6,757
Shirts, wool	9,758
Shirts, cotton	23,544
Suspenders, pairs	920
Sheets	7,756
Spittoons	199
Spit cups	272
Splints	554
Spikes, lbs	30
Towels	18,808
Tin cups	3,817
Tin basins	393
Tumblers	25
Tables	2
Teapots	29
Trusses	3
Twine, balls	12
Thread, lbs	47
Tracts, box	1
Tamarinds, gallons	61
Tea, lbs	2,446
Tobacco, lbs	7,352
Tobacco cutter	6
Urinals	115
Vests	111
Vegetables, bbls	14
Vinegar, bottles	227
Wood, cords	1¼
Water coolers	4
Water casks	4
Water beds	4
Writing desks	1
Writing paper, reams	340
Wrappers	1,559
Wine, domestic, bottl's	9,298
Wines, foreign, bottles	4,779
Whiskey, bottles	3,770
Yams, lbs	10
Yeast powder, cans	6

NEW ORLEANS.

Amount of goods forwarded to New Orleans, during the quarter ending September 30, 1864.

Chambers	24
Combs, gross	2
Writing paper, reams	40
Envelopes	20,000
Pens, gross	6
Pen holders, gross	3
Lead pencils, gross	6
Ink, gross	1
Bay rum, bottles	48
Jamiaca ginger, bottles	72
Butter, lbs	406
Corn Starch, lbs	960
Farina, lbs	400
Sago, lbs	277
Tea, green, lbs	84
Sherry wine, bottles	144
Raspberry wine, bottles	132
Peaches, cans	480
Tomatoes, cans	480
Linen sacks	248
Pants, pairs	412
Coats	109
Vests	101
Bed sacks	1025
Pillow cases	1691
Sheets	2631
Towels	1565
Handkerchiefs	4201
Cotton socks, pairs	335
Fans	106
Cotton, (old) barrels	4
Linen, (old) barrels	4
Bandages, barrels	6
Lint, barrels	2
Whiskey, bottles	144
" casks	1
Domestic wine, kegs	7
" " bottles	180
Foreign wine, bottles	4
Brandy, jugs	1
" bottles	120
Pickles, jars	8
" kegs	42
" casks	15
Cheese, lbs	80
Books and papers, boxes	15
Mosquito netting, yds	3036
Chocolate, lbs	480
Condensed milk, lbs	1008
Maizena, lbs	1000
Crackers, lbs	1507
Beef stock, lbs	600
Codfish, lbs	525
Sugar, white, lbs	467
Coffee, lbs	127
Quinine, ounces	10

Kissingen water, bottles	288	Blankets	100
Dried apples, barrels	6	Washbowls	100
Dried fruit, barrels	13	Lanterns	12
Fruit vinegar, bottles	280	Wool socks, pairs	1733
" " kegs	1	Pillows	219
Cut tobacco, barrels	1	Cushions	535
Blackberry cordial, bots.	205	Pillow ticks	442
Onions, barrels	100	Cotton drawers, pairs	1387
W. W. Vinegar, gallons	43	Cotton shirts	1590
Tin cups	300	Slippers, pairs	140
Wrappers	304		

BEAUFORT, S. C.

Amount of goods forwarded to Beaufort, S. C., during the quarter ending September 30, 1864.

Beef stock, lbs.	1200	Quassia salts, lbs.	1
Oyster crackers, lbs.	1621	Paregoric, pints	½
Condensed milk, lbs.	480	Tinct. Opii, oz.	4
Concentrated coffee, lbs.	960	Sulph. Morphia, oz.	½
White sugar, lbs.	486	Adhesive plaster, rolls.	2
Extract of coffee, lbs.	5	Blue mass, oz.	2
Ice, tons	226	Calomel, oz.	2
Shoes, pairs	5	Dover Powder, oz.	4
Combs	6	Nit. Potassa, oz	8
Wool socks, pairs	5	Cit. Ferri et Quinine, oz.	3
Wool drawers, pairs	5	Gum Arabic, lbs.	1
Onions, barrels	20	Blistering Colodion, oz.	4
Potatoes, barrels	20	Butter, lbs.	89
Potash, lbs.	¼	Cheese, lbs.	45
Rochelle salts, lbs.	2	Flour, barrels	1
Epsom salts, lbs.	2	Fruit, boxes	1
Cream salts, lbs.	2	Sheets	212

NEWBERNE, N. C.

Amount of goods forwarded to Newberne, N. C., during the quarter ending September 30, 1864.

Blankets	157	Sheets	270
Wool shirts	588	Towels	543
Wool socks, pairs	504	Cotton drawers, pairs	470
Condensed milk, lbs.	1008	Cotton shirts	385
Maizenna, lbs.	400	Bed sacks	153
Farina, boxes	10	Collars	78
Ground coffee, lbs.	252	Handkerchiefs	1316
Mustard, lbs.	24	Pickles, kegs	8
Slippers, pairs	500	Bitters, bottles	24
Adamantine candles, lbs.	200	Lint, barrels	2
Oyster crackers, lbs.	780	Cotton, barrels	2
Crackers, lbs.	627	Bandages, barrels	1
Brandy, bottles	74	Sherry, bottles	2
Lemon syrup, bottles	144	Shrub, bottles	1
Prunes, lbs.	394	Cider vinegar, bottles	2
Codfish, lbs.	200	Maderia, bottles	12
Pillows	334	Champagne, bottles	12
Quilts	149	Claret, bottles	24
Mattresses	2	Brandy cheese, lbs.	3
Pillow cases	314	Papers and corks, boxes	2

Special Relief Department.

EXTRACTS FROM J. B. CLARK'S QUARTERLY REPORT, WASHINGTON, D. C.

The number of men who have been received from regiments that were on the way home, having served their time out, is very much larger than at previous times. This is accounted for from the fact that nearly all of the one hundred days' men from Ohio, have passed through this city, within the last two months; and invariably they have had a very large proportion of their number sick; in some of the regiments the surgeons have reported as high as three hundred, out of nine hundred men; in others not more than one hundred. It will thus be seen that nearly one quarter of these men are sick and unfit for duty; showing conclusively, to my mind, that the enlistment of men for a short term of service, is of very little good to the government; not merely from the fact that they are unable to do much duty for the time they are out, but it gives them an idea that all the men in the army are unfit for duty in about this proportion, which is not the fact as we all know. These men are in the field just long enough to get sick from change of habits and food; and going home as they do at this time, do not recognize the fact that a very large proportion would have recovered in a short time and have become acclimated, and would, without doubt, be as hardy men and make as good soldiers as any we have in the army.

These ideas, carried home to the various parts of the country, can but have the effect of keeping not only these men, but others that may be brought in contact with them, from coming into the army if they can in any way avoid it.

The number reported from the "Soldiers' Rest," as sick, are as heretofore, either from new regiments coming out, or men on their way from the hospitals to Camp Distribution. We have had very few men who were here to be examined for commissions in colored regiments, compared with the previous reports; but a large proportion of the number are not in the army, but are young men that have been students of the Military Academy in Philadelphia. and have been sent here by Col. Taggart. There has been a very large number of men who have had their wounds dressed, or have been furnished medicine, that have not been entered on the register. Such cases are either on passes from the various hospitals, on their way home, or returning from home to the hospitals; and have needed this attention without its being necessary to keep them for any length of time.

HOSPITAL VISITING.

MRS. BARKER'S REPORT.

Washington, Monday, October 31, 1864. —Carried to Harewood two dozen pairs drawers, some woolen gloves, two dozen suspenders, seventy-one slippers. Also gave to Mrs. Moore, the matron of the linen room, three cans peaches, one bottle of tamarinds, one jar currant jelly, one can pine-apples, one bottle bay-rum, two bottles port, and two of sherry wine, for discretionary use.

Tuesday, November 1, 1864.—Visited Harewood as usual in the forenoon, but found that, owing to the rapid call for sanitary clothing among invalids who were sent home on furlough to vote, my supply was insufficient. I came home to get more supplies, and returned in the evening, so as to be ready for the next morning. I was just in time, for our last shirt had been called for.

Wednesday, November 2, 1864.—Finding nothing more important than to look after the disconsolates at Fort Woodbury, whom I left last week feeding on dry bread, tough beef, and salt pork, I expended a few dollars in mutton, potatoes, apples, &c , and carried some of the firkin butter, and also currant jelly. Dinner just came in; and the scene which followed was most gratifying to them and to myself.

Thursday, November 3, 1864.—Thursday forenoon again at Harewood, with some shirts and socks; also with jellies for the wards. A boy at Campbell lies very sick, and nobody seems to know how to care for him. I have had beef-juice prepared at Lodge No. 4 for him, and also sent him some pure brandy.

Friday, November 4, 1864.—Stormy, and staid at home in the forenoon; in the afternoon went to Fort Strong, to inquire after Wm. Wetherbee, of Leominster, in answer to a letter from his aunt. Found him convalescent, and most tenderly cared for by his surgeon, N. B. Dean, of Salem, Mass.

Saturday, November 5, 1864 —Went to Campbell, to carry some beef-juice to the sick boy. Found another man who had just recovered from pneumonia, who had just taken off a flannel shirt to be washed, and had none to put on in its place. Being sure he would take cold, I went back to the store on purpose for a shirt, and he put it on at once. Also visited Camp Barry hospital, with supplies, and gave orders for more.

Nov. 8.—Received $20 Ware Fund from Mr. Hovey. Answered a letter from Mrs. Seymour, concerning effects of Henry W. Faxon, who died at Harewood. Also another letter from Mrs. Lothrop, Vice-President, about Saterlee, who died at Harewood. Visited Harewood with supplies of butter, pickles and blackberry jam.

Nov. 9.—Visited Sherburn Barracks and East Capitol Barracks Hospitals before dinner; divided between them pickles and blackberry jam. Found the men convalescent, mostly up and dressed. Afternoon visited Rush Barracks (Invalid Corps) and drew an order for one dozen woolen drawers.

Nov. 10.—Forenoon at store, Cliffburn and Fry Hospitals, where I carried flannels, stationery, pickles, &c., all ask for vegetables, onions especially. At one Invalid Corps Hospital they have scurvy.

Nov. 11.—Forenoon at Harewood and Campbell, carried more brandy to my sick man at Campbell. He does not know how to get along without it, but he prospers finely. Patients at Harewood gone home to vote, so as to materially thin out the wards.

BY J. B. HOLT.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
Nov. 12, 1864.

I have the honor to submit the following report for the week ending Nov. 12, 1864.

Have visited during the week, forts Lyons, Williams, Ward, Albany, Woodbury and Strong. Invalid Corps Hospitals, Freedman's Village, Fairfax Seminary, and twenty hospitals at Alexandria. Have attended to quite a number of cases of Special Relief. * * * Would that the good people of the North could all visit and see how much is needed to make our poor suffering soldiers in hospitals comfortable. Each and all would contribute far more liberally I am confident. Pillow slips and towels are called for and much needed. Bandages and old linen are much called for, and if there should be many wounded sent to our hospitals, there would be very great suffering for the want of such. There is not anything that will be so much needed and relieve so much suffering. The furloughed soldiers are coming back as a general thing much better for the change, and with much better courage.

I trust ere many months shall pass, we shall hear the glad notes of peace, and the calls upon the Commission to minister to the wounded will no more be heard.

EXTRACTS FROM JOURNAL OF MRS. J. B. JOHNSON.

Oct. 1864.—My labors as Hospital Visitor in the month of October, 1864, have, by your directions been confined to Campbell, Douglas and Stanton General Hospitals.

My plan of visiting is; first, to visit and consult the surgeon in charge, and ascertain

his views as to the *plan* of distribution, as well as to obtain permission to visit the various wards. Second, to become acquainted with the soldiers as far as possible in order to comfort them with kind words if they are low spirited or home sick, and to understand their *real* wants in order to distribute supplies as judiciously as possible.

I have been in every instance kindly treated by the surgeons, who seem to desire the aid of the Commission in its benevolent work; and for me to say, the supplies are thankfully received, is but to repeat what has been so often asserted since the commencement of the war. If the oft repeated "God bless the Sanitary Commission," and other expressions of gratitude from the soldiers could be heard by the members of the "Aid Societies" in the North, I think their energies would be redoubled, and the storehouses of the Commission be filled to overflowing. * * * I have distributed as follows:—28 pairs drawers, 36 pairs suspenders, 24 night caps, 10 bottles ink, 30 shirts, 60 pairs socks, 30 handkerchiefs, 7 pairs slippers, 12 neckties, 12 bottles jellies, 5 bottles blackberry brandy, 30 needles, 2 wrappers, besides quantities of stationery. All of which I think have been judiciously expended. The many cases of diarrhoea among recent admissions, render the blackberry brandy and syrup very useful.

Report for the week ending Nov. 12, 1864.— * * * On my entrance to the 1st ward, and after making my mission known, I heard exclamations on all sides, such as, "The Sanitary Commission always gives us something that does us good." "They always know what we want." "They are so liberal." "My appetite is poor and I need some jelly," &c.

The demand for woolen shirts and drawers is very great, while in accordance with instructions, I have given only in the most extreme cases.

The following have been supplied:—6 fine combs, 12 pairs suspenders, 4 pairs drawers, 20 pairs socks, (wool), 2 wrappers, 5 pairs slippers, 5 bottles blackberry brandy, 6 woolen shirts, 2 to 3 quires of paper and envelopes, 2 pairs crutches, 6 handkerchiefs.

CAMP PAROLE.

Alma Carey and S. L. Phillips, U. S. Sanitary Commission Lady Visitors at Camp Parole, Md., report as follows:

Since our last weekly record, a large proportion of the patients in this section have been sent home on furloughs; consequently much excitement has prevailed in the wards. While many were rejoicing, in prospect of speedy reunion with loved ones, after long and painful separation; other have been disheartened by delay in receiving furloughs, and many are detained by severe indisposition; yet, as but few have been admitted during the week, the number of inmates have been greatly reduced. But two have died since our last report. One, a man of middle age, after having sent favorable reports to his family, deceased quite sundenly. His wife, who had been apprised of the alarming change, arrived after his interment, but had the consolation of learning that he left pleasing evidence of being prepared for his summons to the Heavenly rest.

The other case, was that of a young lad, homeless and friendless, as far as could be ascertained; but in prison, he had found the only unfailing Friend, and though all-untaught, particularly in divine knowledge, the simple trust, expressed to those about him, gave precious evidence of his adoption into the family of God. And as your agents, with a few Christian friends, at his burial, listened to the sad record, *no relatives*, they were cheered by the suggestion of the officiating clergyman, that he had found loving kindness in the home of the blessed.

November 11, 1864.

The lapse of another week brings but little apparent change in the current of events here. The wards are being gradually filled again, by the transfer of patients from the camp. Application for aid and supplies have usually been readily met; but some few articles, already noticed in our requisitions, must still be refused the suffering applicants, it having been impossible to procure them. We would mention blackberry wine or cordial, which is frequently prescribed by the physicians, and has been a source of relief and comfort to such as have contracted disease in Southern prisons.

Disease and death are still doing their sad work in this section. After a few days respite, the dread destroyer appeared somewhat suddenly again on Wednesday morning, and removed three more victims to their eternal home. It was a sad sight as, at the

burial, the three coffins lay side by side, enveloped by the glorious old flag their lives had been sacrificed to defend, but most comforting to think of the more than mortal honor put upon each by Him who died that they might live, for all, as we believed, had departed in full hope of a glorious immortality. One of these cases, which created much sympathy, was that of a head nurse in one of the wards, who, having long been faithful at his post, was suddenly stricken down by disease and called away, before the wife and little ones he had left in a distant state could be notified of his illness. His last night was spent in prayer for himself and family, and his last words were those of trust in Jesus. Another, who had been long a prisoner, as death drew near, manifested deep anxiety and penitence for sin, at last found peace in believing, and, at his earnest request, received baptism on his dying bed. Another, the fourth who had passed away during the week, had long followed Christ, and died rejoicing in the prospect of the heavenly rest.

In cases like these, how gratifying to your agents to be permitted to smooth the passage to the tomb, by the temporary relief provided through the munificence of the Commission, as well as, by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, to lift the veil, and point to the heavenly mansions prepared for them.

FROM ANNAPOLIS, Md.

BY J. ADDISON WHITAKER.

Two gentlemen came from Philadelphia to obtain the body of a deceased brother. They were directed by Mr. Boardman, of that city, to Mr. Sloan. I put them in the way of obtaining the body, afforded them every facility for disinterring it and bringing it to depot; gave them a ticket to the "Home" for meals, furnished them beds to sleep in in our "Lodge Room," and spent some time in stating what our work was from the time of the arrival of the prisoners till they were ready to return to duty or their homes. I showed them our journal, containing receipts and issues; explained how we welcomed and entertained visiting relatives; how we helped the soldier collect his ration money, back pay, and in case of death, helped the widow, &c. collect her pension, bounty and other money due her, and all free of any expense. How careful we were in the receipt and issue of stores; how difficult it was for us to misuse the stores or funds, and for others to impose on us.

They were delighted and amazed at what to them was all new. They had been told that others did all the work. They had heard all sorts of charges against the Sanitary Commission, and only the Sabbath before, they had discussed the subject in their Sabbath-school. One of the teachers ventured to speak for the Sanitary Commission, but he was met with objections everywhere against it.

They said they were sorry that they had known so little of the good we were doing, and should take the first opportunity of setting forth the truth in regard to our work. They regretted that we did not take more pains to let our work be known. I am glad to say, they left knowing more of the real work than they did before.

Misses Phillips and Cary are faithful and are doing a noble work. Their services are as valuable to us as they are to the soldiers, and their friends visiting them. Their work in that hospital is an illustration of the fact that the Sanitary Commission can attend to the souls of men as well as their bodies.

Of all our work, none meets with more approval than "The Home." From the Matron's report, you will see what a large family we have had this week. Our moving was so quietly and quickly done, that it did not interfere in the least with accommodations to visitors. It has, indeed, been a house of mourning this week. About a dozen came with expectation of administering to those so dear to them; but alas! it was too late. Their only consolation in so great an affliction was found in the pleasant accommodations of the "Home."

I believe our work in this district commends itself to public favor and confidence.

BY J. C. BATCHELOR.

There has been a great deal of excitement in camp this week on account of most of the men going away on furloughs. Between two and three thousand have gone Not over five hundred are left, altogether Some of the poor fellows were not fit to go though they insisted upon it, and must have suffered much while traveling. One case was especially pitiful. A man, I, should judge, of forty-five years, wasted away by chronic diarrhœa to almost a skeleton, un

able to walk except with asssistance, started for the western part of Ohio, without overcoat, blanket, or anything more than his usual clothing to protect him from the inclemency of the weather. Seeing his condition, without saying anything to him, I procured a blanket, and threw it over his shoulders. He was completely confounded, and for a long time could not realize that it was given him. But after he understood it, you should have seen the look of gratitude given me, though he said little, as he was choked by his emotions. He went with the expectation of never returning, saying he was going home to die. To all of the severe cases I gave Jamaica ginger to warm and strengthen them on their journey. Many had no covering for their sore feet, and those I supplied with good warm slippers.

The hospital is now in charge of Surgeon James C. Fisher, U. S. V., with Dr. Wm. St. G. Elliott, as executive officer.

November 12, 1864.

This has been an unusually dull week in camp, there being so few men remaining here; and a greater portion of them having received pay a few days since, needed very little, if any, help from the Commission. * * *

A good share of my time has been spent in Section A, attending to the claims of the soldiers for back pay, bounties, &c. &c. Many of the men have families who are suffering, because their husbands and fathers cannot obtain the funds wherewith to support them.

While conversing with Dr. Fisher, he recommended that woolen nightcaps be furnished the men, for this reason: the wards being ventilated through the roof during the night, the cold wind blows on the heads of the men, and they, to protect themselves, wrap their bed-clothes around their heads, which, of course, is very unhealthy, as they breathe confined air.

Our agents in Section A report all things to be moving on as usual. The wards are gradually filling up, Section D in camp having been changed from hospital to barracks, and all the men removed. * * *

Blackberry wine or cordial is instanced as being ordered by surgeons for diarrhœa cases.

THE HOME.

The following is the report of "The Home" for the week ending November 6, 1864.

Whole number admitted,	.	969
" " Lodged,	.	2,070
" " Meals,	.	6,547

From the following States:—Maine, 109; New Hampshire, 73; Vermont, 20; Massachusetts, 123; Rhode Island, 5; Connecticut, 25; New York, 269; New Jersey, 30; Pennsylvania, 196; Delaware, 2; Maryland, 9; Virginia, 3; Ohio, 17; Illinois, 3; Indiana, 3, Wisconsin, 61; Michigan, 21.

On account of the great number of furloughed soldiers arriving at the Home during the past week, it was impossible to make a record of all their names, and at the same time take care of the baggage. Mr. Wood, the only one assisting, was kept busily employed all the time securing transportation for the feeble and wounded ones, and seeing to their getting on the cars.

The only names taken for four days, were those arriving in the evening, when I had the assistance of Mr. Murray and others.

All were allowed the privileges of the dining room, which was open from a quarter past five in the morning, till half-past eleven at night. In the evening, the most needy were provided with beds as far as they went, and the others the shelter of "The Home."

For the two nights that we made no record, the number lodged was 859. Number of meals given, 2,700; included in the report.

BY GEORGE A. MILLER.

The soldiers have been paid this week, and a great number sent home on furloughs to vote. The anticipation and reception of their pay; then the anticipation, and *in some cases*, the *reception* of furloughs, has kept the men in good spirits the past week, so they have thought less than usual of their wants and troubles.

The poor sick fellows seem to enjoy having some one to talk with them, as much as almost anything that can be done for them. They love to tell their experience in the army, and in Dixie. Some of them have suffered everything but death, and are ready and willing to suffer even *that* now for the salvation of the country.

There is a house near Libby Prison occupied by *Union* people. At certain times when the rebel officers were out of sight, a young lady would cheer the boys by waving the Union flag *in* her chamber window. She was finally detected and imprisoned,

It is the opinion of many of our paroled men that there is a strong under-currrent of Union sentiment in the South, which will show itself as soon as there is an opportunity.

The work of the Commission is going along as usual. *Great* things are not being done. But that is not the purpose of the Commission. It is to supply those *little* things which Government does not. Those *little* things, however, are of *great* consequence to the soldier. Those tokens of kindness, coming right from the loved ones at home, have a mighty power to sustain and cheer the desponding heart of the noble hero as he lies on his bed suffering from wounds or disease.

BY H. WOOD.

Report of the Home for the Wives and Mothers of Soldiers, for the week ending November 6th, 1864.

Whole number admitted, . .	19
" " Lodged, . .	143
" " Meals, . .	331

BY EDMUND KLOTT.

Report of the Hospital Department of the Home, Washington, D. C., for the week ending November 6th, 1864.

Total number of patients admitted,	470
Number of permanent patients, who stayed for a day or longer, .	94
Number of transient patients, . .	26
" " wounds dressed, . .	350
Total number as above,	470

OUR PRISONERS.

LETTER FROM SURGEON G. L. PALMER.

U. S. A. General Hospital, Div. No. 2, Annapolis, Md., *Nov.* 12, 1864.

Rev. J. A. Whitaker,
Supt. U. S. San. Com.

Dear Sir:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your kind favor of this date, tendering the aid of the Sanitary Commission, in the anticipation of the arrival of a large number of paroled prisoners, at this place. I have already made requisition upon the medical purveyor, commissary and quartermaster for supplies, which I believe will be enough to meet the emergency. But there are numerous articles of comfort, which soldiers generally purchase with their own money, and as these unfortunate prisoners are always destitute of money, I know they will be glad to accept them from you; and I shall be happy to facilitate their receiving anything to make them comfortable and happy. They will want pens, ink, paper, envelopes, stamps, handkerchiefs, suspenders, towels, pocket knives, &c. I may need for extra dressing, some rags and shirts; and if the weather is very cold, I may need one or two hundred quilts, as these men require about double the clothing necessary for other sick men. I think some pickles will also be needed.

I have the pleasure to inform you that I have received this day, and distributed, forty rocking chairs, purchased with the hundred dollars which you gave me for that purpose last Sabbath.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF J. B. ABBOTT, WASHINGTON, D. C.

For week ending November 12, 1864.

I have the honor to submit the following report of the Special Relief work accomplished under my charge, for week ending November 12, 1864.

Number of pay accounts of discharged soldiers received for adjustment, . . .		32
Number of cases settled, . .		26
Amount collected on the cases settled, ...	$5,732	46
Number of bounty cases taken,		6
" " " allowed,		3
Amount collected on the bounty cases adjusted and allowed, .	$275	00
Number of claims of soldiers in General Hospital for back pay received, ...		28
Number of claims adjusted, . .		38
Amount of back pay secured, .	$2,730	09
Number of claims for the pay of soldiers who have become prisoners of war, . . .		13
Number of claims allowed, .		5
Amt. collected on cases allowed,	$255	80
Number of naval claims filed, .		29
" " " allowed,		33
Amount collected on claims, .	$3,784	06
Number of pension claims filed,		27
" " " allowed,		1
Number of claims for arrears of pay, &c. filed at 2d Auditors,		2
Number of claims allowed, .		1
Amount collected on claims, .	$104	33

Aggregate number of claims received and acted upon,	131
Aggregate number of claims completed,	105
Aggregate amount collected,	$12,881 74

CASH ACCOUNT.

Cash on hand, November 5,	$65 00
Expenditures,	$16 00
Cash on hand, November 12,	$49 80

The work of the "Homes and Lodges" is considerably larger than last week.

Lodge No. 4 furnished lodgings to soldiers,	312
Meals to soldiers,	1961
Alexandria Lodge furnished lodgings to soldiers,	53
Meals to soldiers,	158
Number of persons of admitted, Sixth street Lodge,	107
Furnished food, coffee and stimulants to,	195
Home at Baltimore has accommodated during the week,	60
Classified as follows, Soldiers,	40
Soldiers' friends,	13
Refugees,	7
Number of meals given,	335
Number of lodgings furnished,	104

At Lodge No. 4, Harrison Town, private Co. G, 61st Regt. N. Y. Vols., died very suddenly about 12 o'clock to-day. He had been home on furlough to vote, and was on his way back to the hospital, Mt. Pleasant. He arrived at the Lodge about 10 A.M., and wished a place to lie down, complaining that he felt quite ill; he was made as comfortable as possible, and rested for an hour or so, when he began to grow worse. I at once sent for a physician, but before he arrived, the poor fellow was dead. He was a fine looking soldier. His body was carried to Mt. Pleasant hospital and deposited in the dead house there. Unfortunately we were unable to obtain the address of his friends from him before he died. I have taken measures, however, to ascertain their address. The cause of his death, the physician stated, was probably heart disease. * * *

Mr. E. B. Cutler I sent yesterday to visit some of the hospitals in New England, to make arrangements to aid the patients in collecting such arrears of pay as they may have due them. Mr. Brown will proceed next week to make similar arrangements at Buffalo, N. Y.

RECORD OF VISITS MADE AT STANTON AND DOUGLAS HOSPITALS.

BY MRS. M. A. C.

Nov. 1, 1864.—To-day I have fairly commenced my winter work. Went this morning to Stanton Hospital, had a pleasant chat with the surgeon in charge, Dr. Wilson, who was willing to have me attend the hospital as "Sanitary visitor." He promised me his assistance in anything I might undertake, which would be of benefit to his men; he took me to the room of the "Sisters of Mercy," who received me kindly, and expressed their pleasure that the U. S. Sanitary Commission had appointed a regular visitor; went entirely through the hospital to-day, including twelve wards; found very few men comparatively, as all who are able have been furloughed, in order that they may go to their respective States to vote.

After taking note of the wants of the men, came home, resolved to do all in my power to administer to their needs, and to show them what the Sanitary Commission *is*, and what it is able and willing to do for them.

Nov. 2.—This morning made out my requisition and went to the "Office" 244 F street, where it was approved by the Chief Clerk, then proceeded to the Storehouse, hoping to find a goodly supply of the various articles on my list. But, alas! slippers, rags and drawers were among the missing. When *will* the people at home realize how much we need these things, and send us ENOUGH? However, I filled my baskets with something and started, and happy looked the men, and hearty were their greetings as I entered the wards, even though I was obliged to disappoint them in some of the things they had asked for. After distributing my supplies, went over to Douglas Hospital, directly opposite the Stanton, and had a talk with the Surgeon in charge there. He too, expressed his willingness to help me in my work. Went hastily over the hospital and found very few men, as in Stanton. Took down the wants of these, and came home, feeling cheerful and happy.

Nov. 3.—Went this morning to Douglas, with baskets filled with jellies, tobacco, pickles, suspenders, letter paper, envelopes, &c. As I was standing in one of the wards with my basket by my side, one fellow looked up and said, "I should like a pair of

those suspenders, Miss, how much is to pay?" I laughingly told him he was welcome to a pair without paying for them. He looked as if he wondered *who* I could *be*, coming there with such a lot of things to *give away*. I immediately explained to him that the Sanitary Commission furnished these things, and that they were most happy to do it, and left him—I *think far* more cheerful and hopeful than when I found him, for he then had the consciousness that there were some who, though, strangers cared for him. In the afternoon called at Stanton, found them comfortable.

Nov. 4.—Have spent the day in much the same manner as previous ones.

Nov. 5.—Have been with supplies to Douglas and Stanton hospitals. After distributing clothing, and sundries in the barracks of the former, was walking through the main building looking for bed 176, for whose occupant I had a woolen shirt. Meeting one of the "Sisters," I asked her to direct me to it. "What do you *want* of bed 176?" said she. I told her, when she turned to me and said, "You have no right to distribute clothing in the wards, Sister Superior says you are to leave nothing with the men excepting tobacco and letter paper." On thinking the matter over quietly at home, I came to the conclusion that the "*Sisters*" had "no right" to thus dictate to the Commission what they should give the soldiers, and what they should not, and went to the office and asked the Secretary what were his views. He thought as I did, and advised me to go to the Surgeon in charge, which I did, and came away well satisfied with the interview. He gave me authority to do as I pleased, to give the men anything I chose, excepting food and drink. So that cloud has passed and all is sunshine again. Hope I may not feel so unpleasantly any more about such a little thing, must learn to take the world as it comes.

Nov. 6.—Dark, dreary and rainy. Have been unable to make my hospital visits to-day, on account of the rain. Feel as if a long time had elapsed since I have seen my poor soldier boys. Ah! what a pleasant feeling that I can daily, or almost daily be among these poor suffering ones, and be the means, through others, of making them, in a measure, forget their pains and trials. They are doing everything for *us*, and shall *we* not do all in our power for them.

Nov. 8.—Still unpleasant, but I have been to Stanton, with baskets of reading matter, find that the men need more books than they can get. Hope the folks at home will not forget this, and will send us fresh supplies soon. Met one of the "Sisters" in the Hall who told me that one of the boys was "running down" for want of *pure brandy*. He had been taking poor whiskey, and the Doctor had decided that he must have something much better than that, and she, poor woman, was feeling very badly about it, and asked me if I could help her. I thought of the Sanitary Storehouse, but no *pure French brandy* could I see there. I thought of my money purse, no five or six dollars could I find there. *What can I do?* passed through my mind. I could see of no way of getting anything, when it flashed across my mind that I could go to the office for advice, where we poor visitors always go, at least I do. So off I went and presented my case to Mr. H——, there. Before I had time to think, he asked the Chief Clerk to get me one of those bottles of French brandy, issued only on special occasions, like the present one. Soon I was on my way rejoicing, and I had the satisfaction of seeing that poor sick soldier's face light up with joy, as he said, "Ah! *that* will make me live." Wish some one would send us a big case of this real brandy.

Nov. 9.—Have been to both my hospitals to day, but carried very few things; find shirts in great demand.

Nov. 10.—Went to Stanton for a little while this morning, took down a few wants, but as a general thing they are pretty well supplied for the present. Called at Douglas, and left an overcoat for a little boy, ten years of age, who had his shoulder crushed by a horse lying upon it. He is a bright, intelligent little fellow, and well deserves our sympathy and help.

Nov. 11.—Have been to Douglas, and distributed a few things, and taken down a few wants; found plenty of errands to do for the soldiers. It is a great deal of work to do to go to all parts of the city so often, but I enjoy it, for I know I am doing good. Found one poor fellow nearly gone in consumption, I fear I shall not find him alive to-morrow; I spoke some words of comfort to him, and did an errand for him for which he seemed very grateful. Did not get home until dark, felt tired, very happy and satisfied with my day's work.

Nov. 12.—Have visited both hospitals to-day, and distributed largely of sundries.

Found a few new men, some very sick. The man that was so low yesterday, is still alive; have been able, I trust, to give him some comfort. I feel to-night that the past week has been a pleasant and profitable one.

BOSTON.

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
No. 76 Kingston Street,
Boston, Oct. 20, 1864.

The report concerning the Special Relief Service of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, in this city, for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1864, exhibits the continually increasing scope and importance of the work, and its equally marked economical and humane results.

Since its organization, April 1, 1863, it has received at its depot, No. 76 Kingston Street, 23,240 soldiers, to whom aid has been administered as follows:

Furnished transportation, at Government rate, to	9,623
Furnished transportation, paid by the Commission,	219
Furnished transportation by U. S. Quartermaster,	934
Furnished carriage within the city,	4,075
Furnished special attendance to their homes,	100
Furnished lodging,	13,973
Furnished meals (total number of meals, 34,440),	17,222
Furnished clothing (total number of garments, 1,160)	550
Furnished aid in arranging papers,	182
Furnished aid in obtaining pay,	226
Furnished medical advice,	689
Wounds dressed,	3,178
Sent to hospital,	130
Referred to Local Relief Associations,	46
Re-enlisted,	27
Deaths,	6
Furnished Undertaker's services,	9

In addition to the above, the Hospital-Car Service between New York and Boston has been sustained, affording transportation to 11,751 soldiers, and giving as the whole number of soldiers aided, to Sept. 30, 1864, 34,991.

The recipients are apportioned to respective States as follows:

Maine, 9,336; New Hampshire, 1,186; Vermont, 180; Massachusetts, 8,887; Connecticut, 98; Rhode Island, 72; New York, 207; New Jersey, 6; Pennsylvania, 46; Maryland, 6; District of Columbia, 102; Ohio, 91; Kentucky, 14; Michigan, 10; Indiana, 10; Illinois, 26; Kansas, 7; Iowa, 13; Minnesota, 31; Wisconsin, 24; Missouri, 12; Tennessee, 3; North Carolina, 4; Louisiana, 6; Alabama, 4; Virginia, 2; Georgia, 2; Delaware, 1; California, 1; Mississippi, 1; Florida, 1; Arkansas, 1; U. S. Regulars, 971; U. S. Navy, 203; Veteran Reserve Corps, 535; Corps D'Afrique, 21; Rebel Army, 2.

34,440 meals have been furnished to 17,222 men, an average of two meals each.

9,623 orders for transportation at Government rate have been issued, covering an aggregate of 1,299,935 miles of travel, and resulting in a saving to the soldier of $11,440 86.

Back pay to the amount of $26,528 72 has been collected.

$137 16 has been loaned or given to 250 men, an average of $1 75 each. Of this amount, $165 78, or more than one-third has been returned.

1,160 garments have been given to 550 men, an average of two one-ninth each.

The whole expenditure has been $27,902 87, classified as follows:

Rent and taxes,	$1,037 49
Furnishing and repairs,	2,829 27
Salaries,	3,741 75
Travelling expenses,	257 57
Advertising,	303 92
Stationery and printing,	1,179 80
Postage,	36 00
Telegrams,	6 64
Hospital stores,	370 63
Superintendent's expense acct.*	15,220 41
Miscellaneous,	345 07
Hospital-car service,	2,574 32

The average cost per man of the service (including Hospital-Car Service) for successive quarterly periods since its organization, has been as follows:

First quarter ending	June 30, 1863,	$2 35	
Second "	Sept. 30, 1863,	1 28	
Third "	Dec. 31, 1863,	99	15–21
Fourth "	March 31, 1864,	73	21–44
Fifth "	June 30, 1864,	68	17–22
Sixth "	Sept. 30, 1864,	63	1–3

The accompanying tabular statements exhibit the comparative results of the service, for successive quarterly periods, from the date of its organization to Sept. 30, 1864.

* *Classification of Superintendent's Expense Account.*—Transportation, $1,468 62; Travelling expenses, $193 83; Meals, $11,566 51; Furniture, $70 59; Fuel, $157 42; Washing, $778 14; Salaries, $273; Money loaned and given, $420 06; Postage, $23 03; Sundries, $642 92.

For a fuller exhibit of its character and details, reference is made to the Annual Report, copies of which may be obtained at the Office of the Committee.

H. B. ROGERS,
JAMES M. BARNARD,
JOHN S. BLATCHFORD,
J. HUNTINGTON WOLCOTT,
Executive Committee.

CHARLES F. MUDGE,
Superintendent.

Statement, exhibiting the comparative results of the Special Relief Service of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, in Boston, Mass., for successive quarters, from the date of its organization, April 1, 1864, *to September* 30, 1864.

Quarterly Periods.	Number registered.	Daily average.	Total cost.	Average cost per man.	Average cost of meals.
1st quarter ending June 30, 1863,	833	9¼	$1,962.17	$2.35	.24 2-5
2d quarter ending Sept. 30, 1863,	2,217	24⅗	2,833 79	1 28	.26
3d quarter ending Dec. 31, 1863,	2,685	29¾	3,088.53	1.15	.31 1-2
4th quarter ending March 31, 1864,	5,455	60⅗	5,862.93	1.08	.31 1-2
5th quarter ending June 30, 1864,	5,416	59⅔	5,683.37	1.04 7-8	.33 1-2
6th quarter ending Sept. 30, 1864,	6,634	72⅓	5,897.26	.88 8-9	.39

Statement, exhibiting the comparative results of the Hospital-Car Service, between New York and Boston, for successive quarters, from the date of its organization, November 2, 1863, *to September* 30, 1864.

Quarterly Periods.	Number transp'd.	Total cost.	Average cost per man.
1st two months, ending Dec. 31, 1863.*	1,473	$1,064.33	.70 1-2
2d quarter, ending March 31, 1864.	3,432	666.55	.19 1-2
3d quarter, ending June 30, 1864.	3,405	373 86	.10 9-10
4th quarter, ending Sept. 30, 1864.	3,441	486 79	.14 1-8

Whole number transported, 11,751.
Whole cost, $2,574 32.
Average cost per man, 21 9-10¢.

Whole number of soldiers aided (including Hospital-Car Service) to Sept. 30, 1864, 34,991.

Whole expenditure, $27,902 87.

Average cost per man, 79 2-3c.

BY GEORGE A. BLAKE.

NEW ORLEANS, *October*, 1864.

* * * Everything is working finely in this department. By request of Major General Granger I have sent a large supply of stores to Fort Gaines, under charge of our agent, Mr. Miller, anticipating a concentration of troops in that region. I hope you will hear the announcement before many weeks, that Mobile is ours. * * *

The "Home" is what it should be. Mr. Howes is a capital superintendent. * * *

* [The Hospital-Car Service commenced Nov. 2, 1863, and the cost for the two months, ending Dec. 31, 1863, includes expenditure for first outfit of cars.]

WOMAN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF.

OUR SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT—NO. I.

TO OUR FELLOW-WORKERS:—Our usual semi-annual report is now due. Although our annual report, with its detailed account of supplies and money received and distributed, will be submitted to you next spring, as always, we do not propose to publish our semi-annual report this year. There are several reasons for this. One is the expense of publishing; another is, that the meeting which we held in this city on the 16th November, and to which delegates from all our Soldiers' Aid Societies were invited, assumed the form of a large public semi-annual meeting, the reports presented being not only those of our own Branch for the past six months, but of the work accomplished during that time by the whole Sanitary Commission. Another reason, and perhaps the most potent, for not publishing our usual six months' report, is that henceforth we are to have the privilege of addressing you directly, through the columns, and by every number of the Sanitary Commission Bulletin.

We have often felt the want of some such medium of constant communication, but the space of the New York city papers has always been too valuable to admit anything of this kind, and we have therefore been limited almost entirely to the little we could say through the medium of letter writing.

Our present plan is, by means of the Bulletin, to tell you what our work at the rooms has been during the fortnight; where your supplies have been sent to; what is most wanted. We propose to answer any questions of general interest we may receive from you; to make suggestions for making your work more easy and more effective; to give whatever we have of information or explanation about our work; to say what we can, of encouragement and cheer; to tell you where you and we have failed. We mean to speak very plainly about ourselves and yourselves, without flattery, without

fear of giving offence,—as one would speak, in all love and charity, to a tried friend, drawn very close by a common interest in a noble cause, working alongside of you year in, and year out, undaunted either by the magnitude or the length of the task ahead.

Let us hope that our work may soon be over. Let us hope so, because when it ends the war will end. At no other time during these three and a half years—since we have known one another—has the prospect been so bright for our country as now. Let us thank God that it is so. And as we look forward, and feel that we can almost see the gleam of returning peace, let us resolve that the short time we may still have to work together, shall be a season to be looked back upon, through long years of prosperity and peace, as one marked by peculiar devotion to our cause, as one for which we shall have abundant reason to be thankful.

Respectfully and sincerely yours,
LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER,
Chairman Committee on Correspondence.

November 9th, 1864.

THE COMMISSION ABROAD.

HANDSOME GIFT TO THE SANITARY COMMISSION FROM HON. ROBERT J. WALKER.

The following letter to Collector Draper, of New York, explains itself:

LONDON, No. 21 COCKSPUR STREET,
Oct. 22, 1864.

DEAR SIR:—The Hon. Robert J. Walker has authorized me to ship from London or Liverpool, to your care, for the United States Sanitary Commission, some thirteen or fourteen cases, containing most valuable pictures, etc. These pictures are a present from Mr. Walker to the United States Sanitary Commission.

Very respectfully, yours,
E. C. FISHER,
Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission.
To Hon. Simeon Draper, Collector, New York.

The pictures presented by Governor Walker to the Sanitary Commission are of the most valuable kind, having been procured by him in his recent European tour, at a cost of over ten thousand dollars in gold. Of course the purpose must be to make these fine works of art produce as much as possible for the Commission, and that most efficient organization will know how to make this large gift available for promoting the health and comfort of our noble army.—*Washington Chronicle.*

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMISSION.

In the last number of the BULLETIN, a few words on the "Life of the Commission" were presented to the reader. This was stated to be an idea, out of which has sprung a representative in the form of an organization; and like the cell which forms the nucleus of all life—it has been constantly reproducing itself in other organizations, which naturally, and by virtue of an inherent force, are coherent with the primal organism from which they came. The life-force in the original idea has produced a variety of forms of construction, all tending to the same purpose, and auxiliary to the first, through the subordinate branches. That these branches, which exist in our chief cities, and their auxiliaries in the several counties of the States, and in almost every town in all the States not visited by the war, should all be impressed with the *idea* of the Commission in the same way, is not to be supposed.

In its purity, it knows nothing but the highest good to the entire army, embracing the complete scope of the work in all its departments of inspection, supply, relief, &c., with all the details of each.

In its more limited sense, it comprehends only a part of the great plan. In some localities, the people do not reach the farthest boundaries, or the deepest foundations of the Commission's service, in their conceptions and plans. They may only think of supplies to meet the soldier's wants in the emergencies of battle, not knowing that an inactive army, in the quiet routine of camp life, is really more an object for skilful care and oversight, than an army in motion. In the fighting army, men are wounded and killed, and the quickest and commonest instincts of humanity are all aroused to perform the ministries which are their own natural expression. In the long dreary days and nights of winter, however, with frequent rains and snows, dull *ennui* languishes about the camp fires, and in the smoky tents, so that the thought is

uppermost with the most thoughtful on this subject, how to give a healthy moral tone, and thus preserve a vigorous physical life, to the hundreds of thousands who make up our armies.

Men in hospital who are dragging through lingering fevers, or resisting the exhausting influence of suppurating wounds,—nervous, irritable, and dissatisfied, claim a degree of personal care and moral support, which ordinary nurses, however faithful they may be in the *mechanism* of their work, are not able to supply.

The Government does not issue a page of reading matter to the army, and the men cannot procure it, except it comes to them from outside sources. The effect of a few pages of cheerful reading upon a discouraged patient, is sometimes a stimulant to his moral nature, just in the sense that stimulating medicine revives the failing pulses of his animal life. All these are questions which claim earnest thought and effort, that are not appreciated by all.

In other places the idea of special relief in some of its varied forms attracts the people, and they lay hold of it as the grand centre around which they will gather their strength and make their contributions. In such instances, the organizations, while they may be complete in themselves, are not in harmony with the spirit and life of the Commission. Concentration in, and diffusion from a common centre is involved in the ideal of our working machinery. Whatever interrupts the concentric flow, disturbs the harmony and impairs the symmetry of the whole; and whatever confines the distribution to sections, or to any limitation short of the entire army, is equally damaging to the completeness of the work. Organizations then, to agree with the *idea* of the Commission, must be based upon the same principle. Unity in existence, — concentration in effort, — equality in distribution.

The universal acceptance of the *animus* of the Commission, as the inspiration of all its auxiliary societies, may not yet be, in its full measure; but the time is at hand when the common sense,—the moral sense,—the religious sense—of the people, will accept the declaration as true, that they should acknowledge and practice the same *idea*, in the matter of their associated benefactions, as they do in their struggle for freedom and unity. That such is not universally the case now, is to be regretted. That States should be clamorous for peculiar privileges for State soldiers; that neighborhoods should be equally energetic for neighborhood soldiers, while the Nation is battling with a rebellion of State and neighborhood interests against national life and integrity, is an anomaly that illustrates, not the intentional disloyalty of the people, but their ignorance of the spirit and magnitude of the issue at stake in the present contest.

The organizations of the Commission then, should demonstrate to all minor and rival associations, the grand *idea* of unity in their joint labors. One centre, one treasury, one supervision, one purpose should mark the plan; and when it shall be complete, and the necessity for its existence shall have ceased, history will make it *one* with the Government and with the cause for which the Government called it into being.

The practical thought now suggests itself, that all local societies, all local interests, all homes, lodges, offices and officers, no matter where they may be, that are working in this behalf, should contribute their strength to the central power, and draw as they may need, from it again, to refresh and replenish their own work. Such is the genius of the cause. If branch associations, associate members, relief societies, church circles, social clubs, who work for the soldier, will lay aside local jealousies and harmonize in one purpose, and use one agency for the accomplishment of the unity of the Nation, they will be consistent in their subordinate action, with the high aim of the Government, in the general administration of its power in favor of union.

FROM NEW ORLEANS.

BY GEO. A. BLAKE, M.D.

STEAMER CAHAWBA, *Nov.* 2, 1864.

I have endeavored to meet the wants of the soldiers on the Florida coast, and have forwarded to them thrice during the past six weeks, shipments of vegetables. Mr. Stevens went in charge of the last lot, about one week ago, (fifty barrels onions and a general assortment of stores). Cheering reports of improvement in the health of the troops, come to me from every quarter. I send you by this mail, the New Orleans Times, containing correspondence from Brasos, which incidentally returns thanks to us for a supply of vegetables. I believe I have tickled the palate of every soldier at every post in the department, excepting Key West and Tortugas, with that succulent and savory vegetable, the onion. And I was glad to learn through you, that Dr. Newberry intended to send me another load.

I have bought no kraut for the troops, having fresh vegetables on hand until yesterday, when Lieutenant Colonel Clarke and the surgeon in charge of his regiment, 1st Michigan heavy artillery, formerly 6th Michigan infantry, stationed at Fort Morgan, made a strong appeal to me, as their men were suffering with scurvy; and I purchased 3 barrels kraut, at $16 per barrel. I shall buy no more unless the call is very urgent, hoping soon to welcome an arrival from Louisville. I purchased before for $8 per barrel; now the lowest price is $16, and two weeks ago sold for $25 per barrel, 40 gallons.

I forward with this, account of stock for 31st ult. In view of the shipment I recently received, and the requisition I forwarded on the 14th ult., I will make no special request for stores by this letter; will simply say that the larger portion of socks that we have on hand are cotton, and the demand for woolen is constant.

Mr. Stevens expected a tent with the last shipment. As it is something I know nothing about, will let him acquaint you.

FROM HILTON HEAD.

BY L. O. BEEBE.

STEAMER NORTHERN LIGHT,
HILTON HEAD, S. C., *Nov.* 13, 1864.

Steamer Fulton leaves for New York tomorrow, so I improve the opportunity to write. Arrived at the Head Tuesday morning. Went down to Fort Pulaski last night, and this morning the "Rebs" were transferred to the "New York" and "Gov. Leary;" our boat being too large to go up the river. Now we are on our way back to Hilton Head, with instructions to clean ship, take on coal and await orders. * * *

Col. Mulford said he didn't know how long we would remain. I saw Mr. Leggitt at the Head just a moment. He came on the "Crescent," reports all right with him. Have seen none of the others since we left Fortress Monroe. Shall write to Dr. Marsh at Beaufort, and undoubtedly see him before my return. To-day I will go to Hilton Head and ascertain who is there. * * *

FROM BEAUFORT, S. C.

BY M. M. MARSH, M.D.

Nov. 9th, 1864.

It may not be uninteresting to you to hear from this department.

In a military point of view, very little is transpiring. The condition of health, perhaps, as good as in any portion of this southern country, but nowhere has the same degree prevailed, as in the three years since the occupation by our forces. Fevers and congestive chills, more feared than fevers, prevail. Cold weather is our only certain remedy, and the mercury now stands at 87°. These sands become cooled at evening, and the moisture elaborated in the form of vapor during the day, is deposited in a shower of rain at night; thus rendering protection from atmospheric changes essential to health. And to this want of protection, quite as much as to scarcity of food, may be attributed the mortality prevailing among our unfortunate men in the Confederate lines.

PRISONERS.

The efforts of the Commission in this department at present, are directed almost exclusively to this class of men. You are aware, that early in July the Confederate authorities allowed us to send to prisoners clothing and the coarser articles of food. And with but a brief interruption, the way has been opened and widening to the extent of their limited means of transportation. We can assure you, that we believe the Confederate officials, here, desirous that supplies should reach the parties for whom they were designed, and to the extent of their ability have promoted this end; the commissioner receipting for them and considering himself personally accountable for

their delivery to whomever addressed. The gentlemanly demeanor of these officials has, if possible, increased our anxiety that peace may soon allow us to meet them as citizens of a common government.

An acknowledgement is due, in this connection, to the zeal of our own officials, to mitigate the sufferings of the unfortunate in Confederate prisons. It is not enough to say, that every facility has been extended us to minister to these men, but it is only simple justice to remark, that had the General commanding, and all in any way connected with the transfer of supplies been moved by fraternal impulse, they could not have labored more assiduously and earnestly. When peace is restored, may a grateful country remember these men. General Foster has arranged to send a boat twice a week with supplies. The last two meetings have occurred in Savannah river. The supplies sent during the past week, are annexed to indicate their nature and extent. 3,000 blankets, 520 hats, 1,020 shoes, 110 coats, 107 vests, 2,000 pants, 1,000 blouses, 2,040 shirts, 2,040 drawers, 2,040 pairs socks, quantity stationery, quantity tinware, 1,065 overcoats, 960 pounds of army beef stock, coffee, milk, farina, and other hospital stores.

A part of these were accumulated stores; a part, as the hats and overcoats, purchased from the quartermaster through an order from General Foster. And here it is proper to remark, that this is the second time when the supplies of the Commission having been exhausted, the General commanding, entering into the true spirit of its mission, has, by allowing the Commission to purchase at nominal prices, placed it, the prisoners, and through them the country, under obligation for his deep interest in the suffering soldier.

The public mind, not recognizing the fact that a large portion of all prisoners are quartered in the adjacent parts of the Confederacy, and consequently when all our means are expended it is but a tithe to a man; and further, that the arrangement between Lee and Grant is prospective, not actual, may become indifferent to the condition of these suffering patriots. A moments reflection will show a claim for increased beneficence. What has been done, is not at all commensurate with the pressing necessities of these men, as their begging letters daily indicate.

The Confederate authorities have opened wide the door, and we have the assurances of the recipients that the supplies are received by them; we have every facility in the discharge of our duties which the department can furnish; we only need supplies.

VALUABLE LETTER TO DR. J. S. NEWBERRY.

BY DR. A. N. READ.

BRANCH OFFICE,
CHATTANOOGA, *Nov.* 4, 1864.

After an absence of two months, I returned about the 1st of October to the work of the Commission. In Louisville, I called on the Assistant Surgeon-General, that I might ascertain where there was most need of the work of the Commission, and to obtain from him such aid and directions as he was pleased to give. He was cordial, spoke well of our work, and promised to write to Dr. L. D. Bristoe, Medical Inspector, on Gen. Sherman's staff, for the purpose of securing the necessary aid.

Through the aid of Major General Thomas, I obtained pass and transportation to Gen. Sherman, on the field. I rode to Chattanooga on hospital train, which was in good condition, cars and beds clean, and food abundant. There is daily change of the patients in the hospitals at Chattanooga, sending to Nashville, and receiving large numbers from Atlanta and intermediate posts. All the sick and wounded of the three armies are being brought from below as fast as possible. As there was a prospect of a general engagement with Hood's forces, I made every effort to secure a supply of such stores as would be needed, first having ascertained what could be furnished by the Medical Purveyor and Commissary. There is yet a probability that battles stores will soon be wanted, but at a point nearer Nashville than Chattanooga.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN.

On the 18th I visited the hospitals on Lookout Mountain. They were in excellent condition. There were two hospitals. No. 3, in charge of Dr. Jackson, and the officer's hospital in charge of Dr. Harlow. Both contained 800 patients,—mortality for the last three months less than two per cent. a month. The atmosphere was pure, the water clean, sky clear, as if just washed, and the forests of the mountain tops and sides gorgeous in their dying beauty. Many officers object to this location for a hospital—the top of a high mountain—but wood and water are so easily obtained, that fewer

teams are needed for the transportation there for 1,000 men than would suffice for the same number in the town, and the mortality is much less—partially due, no doubt, to the pure air and water, but principally to the fact that the worst cases are retained in town. This is especially true of No. 1, which has a much larger per centage of deaths. This is the hospital nearest the railroad depot, and thus receives the worst cases. Those who must be moved on stretchers are all sent there. One train alone brought from Atlanta 16 cases of amputation, 2 of resection, and 28 of compound fracture. There were treated in this hospital in May last, 6,304; died, 196; in July, 1,597; died, 227; in August, 1,156; died, 129; in September, 1,000; died, 95; in October, 1,901; died, 56. This hospital is in charge of Surgeon John H. Phillips, and five assistants; wood buildings in the south part of the town, on an elevation, near the river; has 683 beds, 800 cubic feet of air space per bed. Has 4 stewards, 11 ward masters, 68 male nurses, 8 female nurses, and 29 cooks, and more patients than the beds could accommodate. The wants of the hospital were vegetables and clothing, especially clothing, for those who were brought from the front and hurried forward to Nashville.

ATLANTA.

The last of October I visited Atlanta. There were about 4,000 patients there in hospital. These had received stores from the Commission, and before Mr. Hood took charge of the transportation, 142 regiments and 25 batteries had received about three rations of fresh vegetables, mostly onions—the beginning of the large amount which you had sent to supply all the army. The health of the troops in the field is improving, and has been since they began to obtain green corn, berries, and sweet potatoes. So far as I have been able to ascertain, scurvy has nearly disappeared.

Owing to the anticipated movements of our forces, I gave directions to break up our store-rooms and office there and at Kingston as soon as the sick were removed. Should a portion of the army go to Mobile or Savannah, I hope a boat load of stores will be sent them. Rev. J. C. Hoblit and D. A. Johnson I now expect will go with the army, to render such aid as they can—collect lists of casualties, and mark and locate the graves of those who fall. Mr. Bartlett and Mr. Brundrett have been to Huntsville and Athens, but did not open rooms, waiting further developments.

We have in Chattanooga, a good supply of vegetables, and but few other stores, more we hear are on the way, having received a telegram that twenty-five car loads would soon be sent from Nashville. Convalescents are arriving from the front in large numbers. The first train brought down here, after the partial opening of the road to Atlanta, 488 in number, marched several miles over the break in the road, not then closed up, and arrived in the evening. Fifty-six were sent to hospitals, the balance were quartered out without shelter, many without blankets. The captain in charge was not indifferent, but could find no better quarters. We went to his aid, gave the men a full supply of onions and crackers, and obtained shelter for them. As soon as the last one had passed into the building, rain began to fall, and continued during the night. Since that night, I believe all who arrive are provided with shelter. We add to the hard bread and meat which they receive as rations, all the onions they want, and some crackers.

HOSPITAL GARDENS.

The vegetables grown in the Hospital gardens have been distributed, excepting green tomatoes, fall radishes, and turnips. The green tomatoes are being made into pickles. My brother has had machines made for slicing them with onions, and so large is the supply, that the pickles thus made will pay for all that the Commission has expended for seeds, implements, and cultivating the garden.

Soon after my arrival, I sent a note to Surgeon Jones, Post Medical Directer, asking information concerning the value of the garden to the hospitals, and the propriety of continuing the work another year. I received the following testimonials.*

Most of the surgeons who drew for their patients vegetables in the spring and early in the summer, are now away on other duty. Could we hear from them, I have no doubt their testimony would be even stronger than these, as they received largely of the first fresh fruits after the deprivations of the winter. We are indebted to Major-Generals Thomas and Steedman for that aid and protection which has enabled us to succeed. The design is to submit to them the question

* To be forwarded.

upon the testimony of the propriety of another effort. The garden at Murfreesboro' of 90 acres, in charge of John Hanneman, has been a like success. The one cultivated at the Cumberland Hospital at Nashville, of 16 acres, was of essential service, and the surgeon in charge ask seed and implements of the Commission sufficient to enable them to plant one much larger early next spring.

As this hospital will be as permanent as the war, it seems to me very desirable that it should be furnished with a building sufficiently large for a chapel, library and writing room.

I start for Nashville to-morrow, to look after the present and prospective wants of the Army of the Cumberland, now gathering in the vicinity of General Hood's forces.

We have no difficulty now in obtaining transportation for stores, and all agents necessary for the work assigned us.

ANNAPOLIS JUNCTION, U. S. A. GEN. HOS., *Nov.* 16, 1864.

REV. J. A. WHITAKER,
Supt. Sanitary Commission, &c.

SIR :—Your request bearing date Nov. 12, 1864, desiring to know the condition of this United States General Hospital for supplies in amount sufficient to meet any demand, that the arrival of a large number of sick and wounded might require, is received. I am pleased to be able to state in answer that at no time, within my knowledge, has the hospital been in better condition for such an emergency, than at the present time. Roofs and furnaces have been put in *thorough* repair, and a most excellent sanitary condition exists. I enclose herewith a list of articles belonging to the Commission now on hand, to this you can add requisition for articles forwarded you under date of Nov. 15, 1864. * * *

The attention of the Commission to our wants at previous dates, and your present letter enquiring after our needs, require my most earnest acknowledgements.

And believe me, sir, very truly,
Your obedient servant,
C. BACON, JR.,
Assistant Surg. U. S. A., in charge.

MEETING AT NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

The people of New Haven, assembled on Sunday evening, the 13th ult., in Old Centre Church, to show their interest in the Sanitary Commission. The ordinary services in the several churches were omitted, and pastors and people met together, in token of their confidence in the cause which they have hitherto sustained so liberally, and of their determination to continue in the good work, so long as the demands of the army and navy may be made upon the country for supplementary aid. The venerable Dr. Bacon, pastor of the Centre Church, opened the meeting with appropriate religious services, and as his earnest prayers ascended in behalf of our country, and all her interests; of our soldiers and all their wants; of our Commission and all its labors, the multitude which crowded the grand old Church, seemed to be deeply impressed with a sense of the responsibility which rests upon all true lovers of the nation and the race, to renewed efforts and contributions in behalf of this cause. The congregation joined in singing, after which Dr. Bacon read an abstract of the report of the Ladies' Branch, in New Haven.

Rev. J. J. Marks, Rev. F. W. Williams, Rev. A. Cather, and Dr. Jos. Parrish, all of whom have been actively engaged in the service of the Commission, addressed the meeting, and furnished numerous facts and incidents to illustrate its work. The meeting was a success, and the faithful women who have labored so long and so well in New Haven, were greatly encouraged by the generous support of the community in this hearty interest in their work, and are now renewing their exertions to make the future even more marked by success than the past. The following extracts from their report will be read with interest:

Early in the winter, the waste pieces both of our flannel and cotton cuttings, were made into filling for eighty comfortables,—that much abused institution, the shoddy mill, enabling us in this case to make excellent use of what would otherwise have been lost to us. This is worthy of mention as showing that no small amount of material had passed through our hands, also that it is our habit to gather up "all the fragments that nothing be lost."

Later, an urgent demand was made for sheets and towels, when letters were sent to our auxiliaries asking their assistance in the purchase of material. They responded generously—many sending double, and some three and fourfold the amount asked for. The material was purchased, and the following articles made, washed, marked, and sent off, within the space of three weeks, viz: 1,000 sheets, 1,500 towels, and 1,600 handkerchiefs and napkins; and by the close of another week, the number amounted to 1,232 sheets, 1,921 towels, and 2,099 handkerchiefs.

Thus passed our winter and early spring, when in May the telegram from Washington, "send by express all the rags and bandages you have," sent a thrill through our hearts, causing us to realize as we never before had done, the direful necessities of the conflict raging at the "front." This message, with a request for material and help, read in the churches and published in the papers, brought to our rooms large quantities of old linen and cotton, and many earnest workers, who aided in preparing them for the hands of the surgeon. Cushions, pads, towels and handkerchiefs, together with all kinds of appliances for wounds, were gathered and made with great celerity, and all that busy hands and anxious hearts could do for the alleviation of our suffering brethren, was done, when tidings of the carnage of deadly combat in the Wilderness greeted our ears. Many touching evidences of sacrifice came to our knowledge, weeping mothers who had already offered up their sons, bringing their treasured garments to swell the sacrifice, "knowing," as they said, "that it would be what would have pleased them."

Heir-looms in the shape of linen spun and woven a century ago (in one instance 130 years) were brought in, and aged women who had toiled for soldiers in the earlier perils of our country, used their waning energies to swell the volume of contributions for the exigencies of the hour. Of the linen sent us which had so long been household treasure, we made towels and pillow cases with permanent inscriptions on each, giving its age, and by whom preserved and presented. It must be a pleasant thought for the soldier to dwell upon, in the weary hours of convalescence, that his comfort is deemed worthy of such sacrifice.

As an example of the systematic effort by which the Auxiliary Societies contribute so largely to the efficiency of our central agency, we would speak of one in this connection, which repeats on a smaller scale, our own mode of organization.

Eleven sub-societies, formed in as many districts of the town, collect donations of money and hospital supplies, and at weekly meetings, make into garments the material furnished by us to their General Society; the scale on which we purchase enabling us to supply them at better rates than they could obtain it elsewhere. These sub-societies report monthly their receipts, and the result of their labor to the General Society, which ultimately reports to us, and forwards to our rooms all supplies collected from the different districts. Various plans of subscription and taxation are resorted to for raising funds, and the success of these efforts is shown in the fact that within eight months, they have sent to our treasury, the sum of eight hundred and sixty-seven dollars ($867), and twenty barrels and boxes of hospital supplies.

In other emergencies we have made special appeals, which have been uniformly answered most satisfactorily. As the heat of summer strengthened and our brave soldiers toiling in the trenches fainted under its influences, a call came from their camps for fresh vegetables, fruits and anti-scorbutics of all kinds, not only for the sick but for the preservation of health and strength to those not yet compelled to surrender to the influences of exposure, malaria, and insufficient diet. Our readers need not be reminded of the Fourth of July contribution, made by our children and youth who sacrificed their usual enjoyment in explosives of all kinds, to raise a fund for the purchase of these much needed supplies. The Executive Committee, conferring upon the propriety of making the suggestion and discussing its probable success, ventured the hope that "as much as two hundred dollars might be realized in that way." Our surprise and gratification may be imagined, when the sum in the aggregate amounted to seven hundred and thirty dollars and thirty-two cents ($730 32)!

Our "cruse" has not failed us, and we trust will not, but there is no disguising the fact that our abilities are cramped, and our usefulness circumscribed by the necessity we are under of limiting our purchases by a scant treasury. The manufacturers are generous with us, deducting certain percentage on their wholesale prices; the ex-

press and transportation companies are obliging, and assist us all they can in their way; the press are uniformly ready to lend us their columns to communicate with the public—but we need a fuller treasury, and means to operate with more freely.

The Fairs held in our large cities had netted such large amounts that many persons, not appreciating the magnitude of the work, regarded the sums inexhaustible, and seemed to consider their duty ended in that channel.

While realizing fully that the field of work is sufficiently large to be occupied by both Commissions, we yet feel that the longer and more complete organization of the Sanitary Commission has given it advantages for benefitting the soldiers, and that experience will prove to any who engage in this work, that large expenditure is indispensable to accomplish the ends for which we labor.

Copy of a letter sent to Mrs. B., Hospital Visitor, by a friend of a soldier:

EAGLE, *Nov. 2d*, 1864.

DEAR MADAM:—At the request of my friend, Mr. D——, I will try and pen a few lines to you, to let you know that he arrived at our house one week ago last Friday. I think his journey was most too much for him, though he stood it much better than he expected; we were surprised to see him, for we feared he would not live to return. He is very thankful to think his life has been spared, and truly he has great reason to be. His limb is better than it was when he left the hospital, though it gains very slowly; the swelling kept going down in the foot, and yesterday morning he had it opened just below the ankle joint; it is very painful, but he bears his suffering without a murmur, I hardly think he would bear up under it if he had not an arm stronger than man's to lean upon. He has spoken of writing to you a number of times, but he is so weak—it is too much of a task; he can hardly say enough in your praise; he is truly thankful for the aid you rendered him. Sick and wounded, with no kind sister or loving mother to watch over him, he found a friend in you, though a stranger, and surely God's blessings will rest upon you for your kindness to him. And now, Mrs. B——, perhaps you would like to know what we are doing to help the Sanitary. We have not been idle the past summer, have met once a week, and done what we could in furnishing bandages and lint, &c.; have filled one firkin of butter and sent to the Soldier's Rest in Buffalo. Mrs. S——, the president, has sent us work most of the time. We have been making pickles, and are now drying apples.

Mr. D——, sends his best wishes to Mr. S——, and kindest regards to you, hoping you are well, and that your life may be spared for many years to come. We all unite in sending our best wishes for your happiness. I am truly your friend,

M—— B——.

Pike, Wyoming Co., N. Y.

NEW YORK MEETING.

We anticipate for next number of BULLETIN an official report of the Grand Council of Women from the different societies auxiliary to the New York Branch. It was a good meeting—large, spirited, cheering. The evening meeting at Cooper Union was addressed by Rev. F. N. Knapp, of Sanitary Commission, Rev. Dr. Adams, of New York, Col. Hawkins, of East Tennessee, and Dr. Bellows. Professor Hitchcock presiding.

The Council next morning was addressed by Dr. Bellows and A. M. Sperry, Relief Agent, from City Point, and by Mrs. Barker, Hospital Visitor, from Washington. A large number of delegates assembled from New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Long Island, and Massachusetts, and visitors were in attendance from other States. A basket full of reports was handed in, which required a committee to collate. Much good must result from such gatherings.

REPORT FROM DUVALL'S BLUFF, ARKANSAS.

BY BENJAMIN WOODWARD.

October 31, 1864.

Found that an invoice of vegetables and pickles, we sent from Memphis, had been received. Judge Bingham, the Ohio State Agent, and Mr. Moody, the Agent of the Western Sanitary Commission, had sent a part of the supplies to Little Rock. They had given out a part to hospitals and regiments at this post, and retained the greater bulk of them for my orders. I had written Judge Bingham "that if he found them much needed here, to issue them on his own responsibility." I find from his vouch-

ers, that his issues have been most judicious. There are 120 sick here in General Hospital, 50 in the Quartermaster's Hospital, and a greater number in the different regiments. The surgeons acknowledge the benefits which they have received from Sanitary stores issued by the Western Sanitary Commission. Some of these stores came from the U. S. Sanitary Commission, as we had no agent on the ground. I talked with officers and men of the 3d Minnesota regiment. When the regiment arrived here in May last, it was 900 strong—now there are but 96 men fit for duty. 54 have died from disease. Scurvy, diarrhœa, and intermittent fevers have been the prevalent diseases, as they are in all commands here. These men say, that when vegetables or other supplies have been received here, "they have been issued by the Commissary Sergeant of the regiment, and that all the men have shared equally." Patients in the hospitals, and men in all the regiments unite in the expression, "that they are fairly dealt by, and that though many have died, it has not been from neglect or misappropriation, but from actual destitution of supplies," and "that they are satisfied that what few vegetables have been given out, have been the means of saving many lives." Soldiers statements must always be taken with some grains of allowance, for they cannot always know what has been received, and though they may intend to be truthful, may be mistaken; but when they unite in saying "they believe all has been done for them which it was possible to do," we are bound to believe them. The demand for vegetables is imperative. The market prices for vegetables here are so fabulous, that no hospital can accumulate a fund sufficient to purchase them. Prices are: potatoes, $20 per barrel; pickled cabbage, $60 per barrel, or 30 to 35 cents per pound; onions vary from 20 to 40 cents per pound; butter, $1 per pound; cheese, 90 cents per pound; common vinegar, 90 cents per gallon, and even at these prices are scarcely to be had. Sometime the present season, Lieut. Col. ——, of the —— regiment, made a speech at ——, Michigan, before a meeting called in behalf of a Soldiers' Aid Society, in which he stated "that his regiment had received nothing from the Sanitary Commission." Inquiries were sent here where the regiment has been quartered. The vouchers in the hands of the Western Sanitary Commission prove that the regiment has received large supplies during the time it has been here, and I took pains to find numbers of men of the regiment. They all say the Surgeon has issued them freely as soon as received, and they feel satisfied with the honesty of the issues. The vouchers are now on their way to the Aid Society at ——, with statement of the men who reside there. Thus one slander after another is nailed. One of those vouchers shows that at one time twenty barrels of potatoes, and a good general supply was issued to the regiment.

The 9th Kansas Cavalry is here, and have many sick, but they have just arrived, and have not been within reach of sanitary supplies. Company L of this regiment is composed exclusively of Caw Indians. A finer body of men was never seen, and the officers of the regiment say they are the best and most reliable scouts, and most splendid horsemen.

The Christian Commission has an agency here, under the care of Rev. Mr. Mattis, of St. Louis. They occupy two large tents, filled with books and writing material. The soldiers speak in the most kindly terms of them and their work. The Sanitary Commission has in Captain Gombert, the Post Quartermaster, a warm and efficient friend, ready at all times to aid in every way in his power. I am indebted to him for personal attentions, and the hospitalities of his table and quarters while here.

I would call attention to the need there is of a "Soldier's Home," or "Lodge," at the Bluff. This is the point of ingress and egress of the army in Arkansas, and its base of supplies. All soldiers furloughed or discharged from the service stop here. There is no place even of shelter for them. Dr. Moody is very anxious that a home should be put in immediate operation, and if an agent of ours should be sent there, he could have the management of it. Winter is near, and if such an enterprise is thought best, no time should be lost. Accommodations for one hundred men are needed.

THE GENERALS AND VEGETABLES.

Maj. Gen. Smith said, in a letter:—"Tell the Commission that these men need vegetables, lemons, &c., more than even those in the hospitals, and I will send teams for anything the Commission can give." Generals Burnside, Warren, and Hancock said the same. The officers of the ninth army corps headquarters declined to receive their share, and

said: "Give them all to the men, they need them more than we do." After the distribution through the entire army, affording the men a ration of vegetables for ten days, the officers reported a marked improvement in their condition. General Grant has also given the most cordial co-operation and ordered increased facilities of transportation.—*Rev. W. W. Patton.*

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4th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.

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The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, State House, New Haven, Conn.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 244 F Street, Washington, D. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Distribution, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 46 Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

U S. Sanitary Commission, Harper's Ferry, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Parole, Md.

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Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST.

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U. S. Sanitary Commission, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, N. Y.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 59 Fourth Street, Pittsburgh, Penna.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

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"The Home," No. 374 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

"Special Relief" Office, 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

"Soldiers' Rest," Buffalo, Exchange street, opposite R. R. Depot.

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SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

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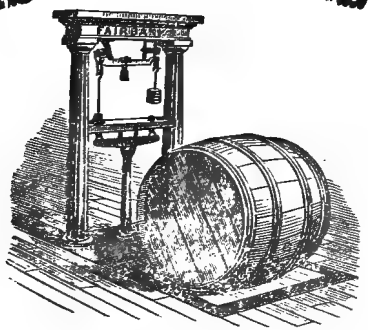
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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

COME TO THE SOLDIER'S AID.

BY MRS. E. G. D. POWELL.

Come to the "Soldier's Aid,"
Mother and wife and maid.
There's a soldier away at the South
Whose lips have been pressed to your mouth,
With mutual kisses and mutual vows,
As father or son, as brother or spouse,
Who, lying now in his blood and dirt,
Would weep with joy for a fresh clean shirt.
O say, shall that brave one fret and grieve
When here is one, only wanting a sleeve,
At the rooms of the "Soldier's Aid."

Come to the "Soldier's Aid,"
Mother and wife and maid.
On that soft pillow, a mother's breast,
A little hand was accustomed to rest;
That self same hand, once so soft and white,
Is lying now in a dreadful plight;
Nothing is left but the palm and thumb,
Which by turns is burning, aching, or numb;
To add to his pain he has not a sling,
But a kerchief almost reduced to a string,
While here is an easy one, partly made,
At the rooms of the "Soldier's Aid."

Come to the "Soldier's Aid,"
Mother and wife and maid.
There's a soldier "learning to walk alone,"
With a crutch in place of a broken bone;
Can gentle compassion and sympathy bear
To hear this sad truth—the other is bare!
Wanting a slipper, aye, even a sock,
When here in the room is plenty of stock,
Waiting for fingers to mend or to make.
O come, for that suffering soldier's sake,
To the rooms of the "Soldier's Aid."

Come to the "Soldier's Aid,"
Mother and wife and maid.
On the same pillow at night with thine
A noble head has been wont to recline,
And dreams of beauty oft visited too,
Like meteors glancing through fields of blue.
That head and heart with its hopes and aims,
That replied at once to our country's claims,
Is tossing now in delirium wild,
Pleading patriotism undefiled;
Mixing it all with kind thoughts of thee,
Like the debris of a raging sea.
The hospital wards are overrun
With many a wounded husband and son;
And not a cot or pillow is there
For that tossing head in its wild despair.
Here are feathers, and a yard of tick,
With scissors, thread and needle; come quick
To the rooms of the "Soldier's Aid."

Come to the "Soldier's Aid,"
Mother and wife and maid.
For know that leg, that arm, and that head,
Is suffering now in our own limbs stead.
List the ungarnished tales of woe,
As through the West the guerillas go,
And would they not scatter, and scathe, and peel,
These Northern States with their iron heel,
Were there none to keep the insurgents back
From their work of death on their bloody track.
They stand in the fore front's deadly fight,
That we in quiet may sleep at night;
O then gratefully, mother and maid,
Come to the rooms of the "Soldier's Aid."

Come to the "Soldier's Aid,"
Mother and wife and maid.
There's a sweet refrain to the terrible song,
To the thunder of war that rolls along;
Soft and sweet as the tones of a lute,
When the shocking canon and shell are mute;
A sweet refrain of a helping hand,
That follows the war-shout over the land;
Dressing and nursing with oil and balm,
Or soothing the spirit with prayer and psalm.
Mother and maiden, sister and wife,
We may not join in this bitter strife,

But may flow into this song of love,
Caught from the angels, bending above,
At the Commission's side we may stand,
They to bind up, we to make the band,
At the rooms of the "Soldier's Aid."

Come to the "Soldier's Aid,"
Mother and wife and maid.

There is still another motive to press:
To educe in our own hearts tenderness,
Like His who in agony blessed the thief,
And sent the son to his mother's relief.
If you bind the infant's limb or hand,
From all exertion by gyve or band,
Will the bones grow firm and the muscles swell,
And the mind in a vigorous body dwell?
Thus if no acts of goods are performed,
Will not the spirit become deformed?
Hence, would we grow in each Christian grace,
Let us seek the good Samaritan's place;
Cherish all promptings to neighborly love,
After the pattern of those above,
Where can we do this, mother and maid,
So well as we can at the "Soldier's Aid."

Correspondence.

ATLANTA, GA., *Oct.* 4, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Sec. Western Dept. U. S. San. Com.

SIR.—I think it due the agents of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, who have shared with us, the toil and hardships of the campaign, as well as to the people who have generously given each their gifts; while it is a personal pleasure to acknowledge the numerous obligations and favors which they have conferred upon our sick and wounded.

At no period of my service (more than three years) has it been my fortune to see the supplies which the Commission furnish, so steadily provided for our hospitals, and so invariably on hand during and immediately after an action. It is true, that regiments have not, to any great extent, been supplied with extra stores, but this could not be done with the limited transportation at command, besides which, I doubt the practical utility of such an attempt during a campaign. Since we reached Atlanta, a large quantity of vegetables have been issued to the regiments, who were greatly in need of them, and could obtain them from no other source. But in respect to the sick and wounded, of whom we had a large number, I believe that the Commission has done everything possible to alleviate their sufferings, working in the most direct and systematic way, through the *Special Agent* attached to each corps. If each one of these gentlemen did his work as faithfully and systematically as the one attached to our corps, (Rev. J. C. Hoblit,) certainly no more could have been done, for the whole heart of the man is in his work.

The work which these agents at the front have to do, is no small or easy job. You, accustomed to the regularity and method of secure civil railroads, have no idea of the crowd and haste, and weary watching lest the train should come or go when least expected, which must be endured to get these supplies through to the field hospitals. Nor have you to dread lonely rides to the rear, to hasten up supplies when the army has pushed ahead, in expectation of a battle, most lonely because in dread of capture.

Besides this, they furnish data of the sick, wounded, dead and missing, after every action, which at Chattanooga, Nashville, or Louisville, is to answer the inquiries of hosts of anxious friends. I must ask that people will, for their own interests, bear in mind that these records are reliable, obtained on the field, and in field hospitals, often from the wounded themselves, their comrades, or the head-board of the soldier's grave, and by men who understand their business, and are permitted to go where strangers are not permitted to come. It will save many weary hours of travel and anxiety, if the people will consult these records, and take the advice of the men who have them in charge.

Finally I wish to express to the members of the Commission with whom I have been brought in contact, my gratification at witnessing the reciprocal courtesy and cordiality existing between them and the members of the Medical Department of the army, each recognizing the other as a co-laborer in the common cause of humanity.

N. C. BENNETT,
Surgeon U. S. V., Medical Inspector 20th Army Corps.

FROM REV. J. C. HOBLITT.

BATTLE-FIELD RELIEF AGENT.

ATLANTA, GA., *Nov* 10, 1864.

The hospitals have all moved to the rear, as far back as Chattanooga. The last of the sick left to-day. All who were not fit for immediate and hard duty were sent away, and the remainder were ordered to be prepared for a fifty days campaign. We have given out every thing that would be of any service on the march. We had but little to send back to Chattanooga. The army will get a good supply of antiscorbutics as they march through the country. The men are in excellent spirits and health; only a few cases of scurvy. With the advice of Dr. Read I have decided to go with the army;

Mr. Johnson goes with me. We have at no time failed to have a representation with the troops in the field, and to give up now we cannot.

It is true we can do nothing with stores, but never has there been a movement where we could be of more service in the Hospital Directory Department than now. There will be a long time of *suspense and weary watching for letters*, but no letters will come. After awhile Sherman and his noble army will be *heard from*. Mothers will then anxiously look for letters from their sons, and wives from their husbands, but there are many mothers and wives and friends who will be doomed to disappointment; no letters will come from their soldier friends. After waiting a reasonable length of time for letters, they will make inquiry at our Hospital Directory at Louisville, and it is my object, having gathered a complete list of the deaths, casualties and missing on the campaign, to be able to report to you, so that Mr. Holbrook can answer the multitude of anxious ones who may crowd his office.

I know what I am undertaking. It is no easy or small enterprise. There will be much to be endured in such a winter campaign as this will be, and yet I am not willing, while this work is entrusted to my care, to let the interests of the Commission suffer, or fail to serve the cause of humanity, simply that I may have ease and comfort. I am well prepared for the march, and before this reaches you, we will be fairly on our way, somewhere. There is not not a doubt but Gen. Sherman is about entering upon the boldest and most glorious campaign of the war; if not burning his ships behind him, at least destroying his communications. When we come again to the world without, and have communication with you, I will hasten to make my report for the benefit of multitudes of inquiring friends after soldiers in the Army of Georgia.

The last train of cars leaving Atlanta for the North will carry this letter to you. Hoping to see you early in January, I bid you, farewell.

REPORT FROM LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS.

BY BENJAMIN WOODWARD.

Nov. 2, 1864.

To Dr. J. S. Newberry,

Asso. Sec., Louisville, Ky.

Arrived here on the night of the thirty-first ult. Met Dr. Wyeth, Agent Western Sanitary Commission. He has received all the goods forwarded to his care from Duvall's Bluff, in good order, except the loss of a barrel of onions, broken open and contents stolen. The Western Sanitary Commission has had an agency here since September, 1863. During the time, the hospitals have been moderately well supplied; and the issue books and vouchers show that all the regiments within reach here, shared in the distribution. Surgeon Weeks, so well and favorably known in Louisville, is the chief of hospitals for the department of Little Rock. He is the warm friend of Sanitary Commissions, and speaks decidedly of the benefits which they have conferred upon the army. He furnished me the statistics of the sick within his department; which, at the last weekly report, amounted to 3,274 infantry, and 1,535 cavalry. It is not proper to state where most of the sick are, for at some posts the number is greater than that of the well. I could not get to Pine Bluff, the Arkansas river being too low for even the smallest boats. Last week's report from that post, showed 780 in hospitals, and a much larger number in hospital quarters. The last official report from Fort Smith was for August 27, there were then 476 white, and 186 colored soldiers in hospitals, and entirely destitute of

VEGETABLES.

Scurvy, diarrhœa, and malarious fevers are the predominant diseases through the State. It is impossible to overestimate the importance of sending vegetables to this department. There is no post that has suffered as much from scurvy as Pine Bluff, very few vegetables having reached that point. The hospitals at Little Rock have an arrangement with the Agent of the Western Sanitary Commission, by which they are well supplied with all that is needed so far as their hospital fund will go. The mode is this: at the end of each month the fund, with an invoice of what is needed, is put into the hands of the Sanitary Commission agent. He sends to St. Louis, and expends the fund in that market.

GOVERNMENT TRANSPORTATION.

The government provides all the transportation, so that the articles are delivered in Little Rock for just what they cost in St. Louis; making a saving of over three hundred per cent. I took especial pains to examine into the working of the system,

and so well does it work, that I earnestly recommend a trial of it by hospitals at other points, distant from good and cheap markets. This arrangement leaves the Sanitary Commission free to expend its energies on the troops in regiments, which are the great sources of disease. We have now at Little Rock 106 barrels of onions and cabbage, pickles and crackers, and 24 boxes of codfish, milk, syrups, sugar, &c., which is destined for Pine Bluff. A dispatch was sent to the commander of the post, and he answered it, saying, "I will send a train of ten wagons and an ample guard, on Friday, the 4th inst., to bring the stores to the Bluff." Dr. Wyeth will go with the train, and see to the proper distribution, and will report to me on his return. I cannot too strongly urge the appointment of an agent to this field; who should be stationed at Duvall's Bluff, and whose duty it should be to go with all stores to the points where they are to be sent, and see to their proper distribution. An active, prudent man, could work in harmony with Dr. Moody, of Duvall's Bluff, and Dr. Wyeth at Little Rock, the agents of the Western Commission. These gentlemen are the only agents on this wide field, assisted by detailed men.

VEGETABLES WANTED.

Wherever I go, the surgeons say, "Send us all the vegetables possible. The men in the field *must have them or die;* but do not send pickled potatoes, they are a waste of money. And *send no canned fruits*, send them *dried*." Milk intended for this part of the country, should be put up four or six boxes in one large box, and no label on the box to designate what is in it; for the temptation to steal is so great, that even when it is sent as medical stores to the purveyors, it may be broken.

GENERAL F. STEELE.

I called on General F. Steele to thank him for the facilities granted. He remarked, "The obligation is on my side. Had it not been for the Sanitary Commission at Vicksburg, our army would have suffered much more than it did. We found the agents of the Commission and their stores, always on hand when most wanted, and during my campaign in this State my army could not have existed without them; for they fed and took care of the sick, and cheered and comforted the well, and I always feel when I meet Sanitary agents, that they are my personal friends." On the 4th of October General Steele issued his general order No. 242, a copy of which I enclose; giving every facility to the agents of different Commissions.

ILLINOIS STATE AGENTS.

It has been claimed that the Illinois State agency has to a great extent, supplied the wants of this department; and that Colonel Robb, the Illinois State Agent, has acted as forwarding agent for the Western Sanitary Commission. I have made every inquiry in my power of agents, surgeons, and quartermasters, and can find no evidence of a dollar's worth having come from those sources, except one box in April last, directed to the 26th Illinois Volunteers; which was not, and had not then been in this field. I was told at Memphis "the Col. kept this part of the army supplied." I have made my reports from this trip, lengthy, perhaps too much so, but I wished to give as many facts as possible, in order that you may as fully as possible, understand the field.

FROM FORT SCOTT.

BY J. R. BROWN.

November 7, 1864.

I have just come into this Post from Mound City, where we have over one hundred wounded men whom I helped to pick up on the battle-field near that place. There, as at Westport, I had with me sanitary stores first on hand, and I assure you that your Commission was duly credited for what was done for the suffering wounded soldiers. I have been with the Medical Director and his corps until my supplies were exhausted, and I was obliged to return to Leavenworth for a supply, which I had to buy, mainly on account of shipments from Chicago being delayed. I have been furnished with as many ambulances as I wished to carry hospital stores to points where the wounded could be gathered and cared for; and now as the army has gone too far South for me to reach them, I am desired to take charge of a train of ambulances conveying the wounded up to Leavenworth, as they are able to be moved. I find over two hundred sick and wounded in this hospital, a train having just come in from Newtonia with wounded.

From present appearances all the hospitals in Kansas will be filled for the winter, and I shall have all that I can do. My health is good, and I am just where I like

to work. I have had no better bed than I could make on the ground or in an ambulance, since Price's raid reached Westport, and I never slept sweeter or worked harder.

Price's raid cost many valuable lives, and caused much suffering, but the noble manner in which he was met at the border of Kansas and followed on that border beyond the State, has saved our people, and done great credit to our military forces..

My freedmen and refugee work will now be mainly done by others, as you proposed, and I shall not be compelled to neglect my sanitary work.

Will you write me often ?

FROM MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE.

BY BENJ. WOODWARD.

Nov. 10th, 1864.

After a long, tedious trip, I arrived here from Little Rock, to-day. Enclosed I send you results in the form of reports. It has been an expensive trip, but I made it as little so as possible. I send you an account of money expended. You will find two items of wine and food for sick soldiers. The circumstances were these, When we arrived at the mouth of White River, a lot of very sick men were put on board to come to hospitals at this city. They were in charge of Assistant Surgeon Curtis, of the 96th Illinois Volunteers. Nothing was provided for them but army rations, which they could not eat. I consulted with Dr. Curtis as to what was best, and then went to the steward of the boat, and had farina cooked with milk, and good soups made for them. He charged me only the cost of the articles. I got wine from the bar for some. I think some of them would not have lived to get here, had it not been for this aid. I do not know that under the "rules" this can be allowed me, if not I am willing to pay the whole; were I again situated in the same circumstances, I should do the same. It was a clear case of men perishing for want of food. I shall go to Vicksburg in a few days. Mr. D. B. Carpenter, will start in a few days for Duvall's Bluff and Little Rock, with a good invoice received here by the ill-fated Dunleith. I think him just the man for that field.

LETTER FROM ORPHEUS EVERTS, SURGEON-IN CHIEF, 3D DIV. 2D CORPS.

HEADQUARTERS, 3D DIV., 2D CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

War, as manifested upon the plane of political organizations, whether it be waged for conquest or in defence of established privileges, is, in the abstract, but a violent manifestation of selfishness. The act of war, in its influence upon individuals engaged developes all the inherent love of self, which society, home, and civilization constrain, and which regeneration displaces with a higher love. From the Major General, jealous of his stars, and too often conscious of the fiction through which they were obtained down to the pitiable private, who has mutilated his own body to escape from danger, which is more dreadful to him than a life of secret shame, we throw to the surface like a shell all the selfishness of our nature, and wear it just underneath our uniform. Nor is war in its influences confined to the armies in the field. Politicians, contractors, speculators, all classes of community are pervaded with various manifestations of the same results.

But as nature and the plane of the senses constitute the basis and highway of the spirit's progress to higher life, and what seems to us so terrible, death, is but separation from these; so war externally, and a state of combats internally, with peace, rest, as their object and ultimation, constitute the normal condition of man here: and war, with all its horrors, cruelties, and manifestations of the evils of man's nature is closely allied to, and brings into active relations the highest virtues.

To say nothing of individual acts—the special heroisms—the martyr-like devotion of rare men, whose deeds reward themselves, without promotion, or worldly recognition, what a great compliment to this war has been the great redeeming feature of our people, the U. S. Sanitary Commission. In an age of political corruption—of falsehood and pretence—in a land where "shoddy" seems to reign supreme, and selfishness is revelling in boundless lust, we find these are but the superfices, the thin rind of the fruit, and underneath are patriotism, benevolence, and Christian charity.

Three years and a half constantly in the field in close contact with all the evils which war developes and puts in active operation, the knowledge of this great fact, that whole communities, from one end of the land to the other, had organized themselves, without regard to sect, or church, or locality, into a great family, alike in blood and in affection; standing to the soldiers in the field without distinction of State or regiment, as brothers and sisters, fathers and

mothers, bestowing with the same liberal hands gifts of comfort and of healing to all, has been to me a constant inspiration; and has done more to redeem the age, and our people from the appearance of utter selfishness and greed than all other manifestations combined. It cannot be possible that the Commission needs testimony of its usefulness at this day. When truth requires a witness, and charity a trumpeter; when mercy and love are matters of doubtful virtue; when faith wears the garments of denial, and asks impertinently if there is a God; one might expect to hear a question raised respecting the propriety and usefulness of the Sanitary Commission: not otherwise.

Nor does the need, the unmistakable demand for this institution reflect the least discredit upon the Government. The Government performs its functions toward the army well. But unless the Government created an additional department and adopted the Sanitary Commission with its peculiar features as a part of itself, it could not supply the place of the Commission by any possibility. Convert the Commission from a spontaneous benevolence to a governmental machine, and it would lose the essential essence of its virtue: the relation which it occupies toward both people, home, kindred, and the suffering soldier, far away, at a moment when all his nature is yearning from its depths toward that heaven with inexpressible need! It would be as different as compulsion is different from volition—as different as obligation is different from love—as different as the ministration of a paid and professional priest to the soul of the dying is different from the ministration of angels sent from the throne of the everlasting Father. The men, too, whom the Commission has placed in the field, so far as my observation extends, are worthy of it—among whom none are more worthy than the field agent of this corps, Mr. Holbrook, of Keene, N. H. Everybody knows "Uncle John," who needs no praise. These men come nearest me now, and so I mention their names. And now, to the good people at "home" let me say, and let my voice be the voice of experience and conscientious observation from the beginning of the war, through every campaign of the Army of the Potomac, bearing witness from every battle-field, *let not your exertions in behalf of the Sanitary Commission be relaxed for one moment* until the end is peace, declared in triumph through the land.

SLANDERS.

It has always been the policy of the U. S. Sanitary Commissson to conduct its vast business with reference to the great responsibility imposed upon it by a generous and confiding people. Conscious of its integrity of purpose, and of its accuracy, even in the smaller details of business, it has not often taken time to notice complaints that may have been made concerning its members and its management, unless they have been direct and tangible. Jealousy, rivalry, prejudice, disloyalty, have each and all of them contributed their portion of abuse and invective, and hitherto they have been allowed to pass with but little, if any thought or notice. Under the garb of sincerity, and with the appearance of earnest concern for the welfare of soldiers, some people have allowed themselves to do the smallest things that humanity is capable of, in order that they may divert the interests of societies or communities, away from the channel opened by the Commission between the people and the army. A remarkable feature in the opposition to the Commission, has been its covert character. But few, if any, have had the courage to make an open assault upon it, while very many have found means to insinuate that evils exist, and to allow false statements to be received as true, for the apparent purpose of gratifying some jealous fear or unfounded suspicion.

We believe that if the Commission conducts its business on false business principles, if it distributes its supplies wastefully, if it pays its agents extravagantly, if it is an unfaithful or an unwise steward of the benefactions of the people, the people ought to know it; and those who believe it, ought to be honest enough with themselves and the truth, considerate enough of the public good and the good of the army, loyal enough to the government which has authorized and encouraged this work, to undeceive a trusting public, whose proud privilege it has been to do as a nation never before did, with its resources in a time of war. They should

do it, not by presenting partial statements to suit a purpose; not by uttering in private, for facts, what they are afraid to say in public; not by appealing to morbid sympathies, and encouraging groundless fears; but by an open, face to face, christian appeal; just as we appeal to the moral sense of the community against gambling, drunkenness, dishonesty in trade, extravagance in living, and everything else that deteriorates manhood and enervates society. Let such a course be pursued. We give below some correspondence, which will explain the reason for the foregoing remarks.

NEW YORK, *November* 20, 1864.

REV. HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President U. S. Sanitary Commission.

MY DEAR SIR:—In conversation with Mr. J. C. H. this morning, he informed me that there were reports of the gravest character afloat, affecting some member of the Sanitary Commission, which were hushed up for fear of their effect on the public. He said that he knew the person, but would not disclose his name. I inferred, though he did not so state, that the charge was of pecuniary delinquency.

I know that it has been always the practice of the Commission to examine thoroughly into all charges brought against any person connected with it, and I trust that you will demand an explanation in this matter.

Very truly yours,
G—— G——.

NEW YORK, *November* 21, 1864.

J. C. H——, ESQ.

DEAR SIR:—The enclosed note explains itself. Will you permit me to ask the name of the person referred to in your conversation with Mr. G., and the nature of the grave charges brought against him? Being wholly ignorant ourselves of the report referred to, it is very necessary that we should be able to meet the slanderous rumor with all the directness possible. As the U. S. Sanitary Commission has always invited the closest scrutiny into its pecuniary affairs, it seeks to confront any accuser who dares to impugn the integrity of any member of the Board. I cannot doubt your friendly desire to afford us any light you possess, or can throw upon a subject of so much importance.

Very respectfully yours,
HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President.

NEW YORK, *November* 22, 1864.

SIR:—Your note of yesterday, enclosing a note addressed to you by Mr. G. G., has just reached me. In answer to it, I inform you, that I regard what passed, as being in a private conversation with a person with whom I had an intimacy, and that I certainly did not intend what I said should go any farther. Second, that the report alluded to by me did not refer to any instance or charge of "pecuniary delinquency," either by the Sanitary Commission as a body, or by any member of it. This was merely, as Mr. G. states in his note to you, "inferred" by him. Your obedient servant,

J—— C. H——.

REV. HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President of the Sanitary Commission,
823 Broadway, New York.

NEW YORK, *Nov.* 23, 1864.

J—— C. H——, ESQ.,

SIR:—I have been shown your reply to Dr. Bellows' note in reference to the conversation which passed between us at the Astor House.

On a little reflection, I think you will admit that a charge affecting the official character of men with whom I am associated, is one that I cannot consider as confidential. I did not understand you to make it, and I certainly should not have received it as such.

The information was volunteered by you. You asked me if I had heard the charges against the Sanitary Commission, and on my reply in the negative, stated that there were grave ones, affecting the character of one of its members, which were hushed up for fear of their effect on the public. You refused to give his name indeed, but your remark that the charges did not concern any one that you or I were specially interested in, in no degree assured my mind, for I have a deep interest in the character and conduct of the Commission itself, as well as in the fair fame of its members. It is these anonymous slanders that associations and individuals have to dread. It is the whispered insinuation, for which no one is responsible, and the point of which is intangible, that ruins reputation and thwarts worthy objects. This is not the first time that the Commission has had to demand specified charges and avowed names, and has failed to get them. When you informed me of these rumors, I wrote at once to the President of the Commission to demand an investigation, as it was my duty to do. As

he has invited it, and you do not see fit to further it, I can only conclude that these charges have no better foundation than the others.

I am glad to find that the charge is not one of pecuniary delinquency. I "inferred" it, because I could conceive of no other way in which the official conduct of any member of the Commission could be involved.

I have the honor to be Sir, your obedient servant,

G—— G——.

Mr. J. C. H. is quite willing to say in a "private conversation" to an intimate friend, what would injure in that friend's estimation and in the estimation of all *his* friends to whom the same "private conversation" might be repeated, a member or members of the Commission, and through them, all others who are at work in the same body. He did not refer to "*pecuniary* delinquency," but to some other delinquency, which is not yet discovered.

Again, we give below an example of another kind of covert attack. A soldier writes a letter to his wife, for publication in a paper known as the "North Branch Democrat," and published at Tunkhannock, Pa. The letter is dated at "Camp near Petersburg, Aug. 4, 1864," and the following extract from it concerns the Sanitary Commission.

Among the many humbugs which have grown out of this war, there is none that ranks higher than the much vaunted Sanitary Commission, the labors and charities of which have been so eulogized by subborned newspaper correspondents and others. It would be but just to the public, which has made such liberal contributions to sustain it, were some person well acquainted with the manner in which the Sanitary Commission business is conducted here, to make an expose of the proceedings of its agents, so that those who have flattered themselves that they were sending luxuries and comforts to the sick and wounded soldiers might be *gratified* with a knowledge of how their charities had been dispensed and who reaped the large share of the benefits disposed of. At City Point, there are now lying some four or five vessels loaded with sanitary stores, and I am informed that an entire wharf is devoted to the business of the Commission. It has, besides, vessels at Fortress Monroe, Norfolk, and in every harbor in possession of the United States army. These vessels are loaded with every variety of clothing suitable for army use, tin ware, canned fruits, fresh vegeale, tables, wines, brandy, gin, whiskey, rum, porter, cider, and every other known stimulant, in endless quantities. There are printed forms, for requisitions, furnished to the officers of the different organizations throughout the army, and all that is necessary to procure a wagon load of anything desired is to fill out one of the blank forms, naming the articles desired, sign any M. D., or mule driver's name to the bottom and load up your wagon. As a consequence, few of the articles furnished by the Sanitary ever reach those for whom they were intended. The army officers furnish their tables with luxuries, get fuddled on the stimulants, and draw their shirts, drawers, &c., from this source. The coarse varieties of food—"sauer kraut," pickles, cabbage, onions, &c., fall to the share of the men, but come so seldom and in such diminished quantities that they only furnish cause for grumbling, and are not received with any degree of thankfulness whatever. I do not doubt but that the Commission has accomplished some good among the hospitals, but nothing in proportion to the demoralizing influence it has exerted in other quarters, and if the whole arrangements were confined entirely to the hospitals, or wiped out of existence, it would be an absolute blessing to the army. As it is, it is only a whiskey shop on a large scale, furnishing employment to scores of idle loafers, and a very convenient purveying establishment for army officers, whereat goods are furnished, to their class free, for which the too credulous public pays. Hereafter, if you have anything to bestow upon your country's defenders, send it direct to some acquaintance in the army who will need and appreciate the favor; but, by all means, give the Sanitary Commission the cold shoulder. It is an arrant imposition, as at present conducted, and the public should know it.

Now see the correspondence concerning it. On August 29, the paper reaches a friend of the truth, who informs the Commission as follows:

I send to your address, to-day, a most

infamous letter from "Clint," a soldier in the army. The name of this man who signs his name "Clint," is D—— C. K——, 3d N. Y. Independent Battery, Artillery Brigade, 6th Army Corps. I thought it entirely proper that you should be informed of this letter: the author should be rebuked.

When the letter was forwarded to our agency at City Point, Dr. A. McDonald, in charge of the work of the Commission at that place, issued the following instructions to Mr. J. W. Johnson, the experienced Superintendent of Field Relief Corps:

Mr. Johnson will please see "Clint," and find out what he has to say about Sanitary matters.

Just nail Mr. "Clint," if you can, and make him retract this wholesale lie, if possible, over his own signature.

ALEX. McDONALD.

MR. JOHNSON'S REPLY.

HOSPITAL, 2ND CORPS,
Nov. 18, 1864.

MY DEAR DOCTOR:—During the early part of October, I called on D. C. K—— respecting an article which was attributed to him, and published in a paper you had sent to me.

In presence of his captain he admitted that he was author of article signed "Clint," stated that it was a private letter to his wife, not intended for publication. On being pressed for facts on which his statements were founded, he said he could not recollect any special act, but had made his statement from general camp rumors, which he supposed were true. He told me that he would write a letter for publication, and have it ready in a few days.

I called on him on the 16th, when he replied that he had been busy with his papers, and had not time to write it. I then placed the matter in Mr. Holbrook's hands, requesting him to see him frequently and if necessary his captain also, and to continue urging him for it. This has been done without success, as you will see by Mr. Holbrook's letter, to which I refer you for later particulars.

J. WARNER JOHNSON,
Superintendent.

DR. ALEX. McDONALD, City Point, Va.

Mr. Holbrook's letter makes the following disclosures:—

1. That on his first visit to "Clint," he said he was *too busy* to write what he had stated to Mr. Johnson; viz., that he was not in possession of any testimony to substantiate his charges.

2. That on the next visit, he had made up his mind that he would not write a letter acknowledging his mistake.

3. That he would not write it because it would be made use of by Mr. Johnson or the Sanitary Commission.

Thus "Clint" writes a letter, making grave charges against the Commission, without any evidence to sustain them; refuses to admit the injustice he has done to himself and the Commission, because his admission would be used in justification of the truth.

This correspondence has been presented to show just how the thousand rumors that frighten timid and jealous people, arise; how little foundation they have; how little importance is to be attached to them, and to remind our friends that they whose faith in the Commission may be shaken by such stories, have a feeble faith. May it be strengthened.

THREE MONTHS IN THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

NO. III.—FROM PORT ROYAL, VA., TO WHITE HOUSE LANDING ON THE PAUMUNKEY.

The loading up of the steamers with the wounded ones, which commenced on Friday evening, was continued throughout Saturday, and by midnight all of them were cared for, and those of our Relief Agents not detailed to go on the transports with the wounded, were resting on the Kent, the Mary F. Rapley and other vessels, of which we had quite a fleet. During the day upwards of one thousand contrabands, of all ages and sizes, had gathered on the dock, asking to be taken to the land of freedom. Each one carried some article of household use, and it was very gratifying to see our government so mindful of them, a fine vessel was set apart for their use, for which favor they showed their appreciation by holding, at midnight, a service of praise and prayer to God, their deliverer; reminding one strongly of the song of Miriam on

the thither side of the Red Sea. A more beautiful scene was never before presented on the Rappahannock than the full shining moon witnessed that night. Not less than thirty vessels riding at anchor, or made fast to the improvised docks; away up stream lay the transports freighted with precious cargoes of maimed and suffering patriots; below us were the liberated slaves,—the unwitting cause of all this suffering and death,—rejoicing in a prospective condition, of which they possessed only the most vague ideas, while between the two, hovered that minister of mercy and love, whom God evoked from his favored ones in this and other lands, and personified in the U. S. Sanitary Commission, and which through myriad channels was night and day performing its heaven-born mission among all colors and conditions.

THE SABBATH.

The Sabbath dawned serene and bright, and at 9 A.M., we started down the river. As the day wore on, one by one of the agents appeared on deck, refreshed and cheerful. Among the company on board was Dr. Briggs, of California, who had come from that far off State to witness the workings of the Commission, and though he had been with us but a few days, he so thoroughly gave himself up to the work of charity, as to win the praise of every agent. This gentleman, Mr. John A. Anderson invited to conduct religious worship. He accepted, and the service was held. His text was from Luke xiv. 12–14. It was a discourse eminently practical and inspiring, for he spoke of the peculiar position occupied by his auditors in relation to the fearful contest they are now waging, and if he spoke with great fervor it is not at all surprising, for was he not just from the most terrible scenes a man can dare to look upon? For many weeks the sermon and its surroundings were the theme of numerous conversations. In that particular I was highly gratified, for I had been led to believe, therefore, that the U. S. Sanitary Commission was a godless institution, yet to my astonishment I found most of my companions God-fearing men and women. There was not a song of Zion I commenced singing but was well-known and ably supported by the ladies and gentlemen on board. Nor was this all, on board the other vessels divine service was also held, and on our downward trip it frequently happened, that as the vessels neared each other for the respective commanders to counsel together, both ships company's would join in singing some familiar hymn. Thus was the time spent until we arrived at the White House landing, at 6 P.M., on Monday, May 30.

WHITE HOUSE, VA.

It was a truly desolate looking place, hallowed as it had been by its associations with Washington. As I viewed its charred walls and devastated tombs, I could not help exclaiming, "O secession what hast thou not wrought?" As we were early on the ground no wounded had yet reached there, but fresh troops were being pushed to the front rapidly, and we were soon made aware that their commissariat was in some way defective, for many of the brave fellows were going hungry away. Almost in the time it takes me to tell it, the utensils were on shore, coffee was made and the work of feeding commenced. We also discovered a lot of sick soldiers scattered around over an area of four miles, these were gathered up and properly cared for. While engaged in this good work the smiling month of May left us, and as the dawn of the first June morning sent forth its greetings, an installment of three hundred poor wounded ones reached the landing at White House.

J. J. B.

THE NEW YORK MEETING.

MEETING OF DELEGATES FROM THE SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETIES.

A meeting of delegates from the various Soldiers' Aid Societies of New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, parts of Massachusetts, Vermont, New Jersey, and Canada, was held in the hall of the Cooper Institute, Wednesday evening, Nov. 16, 1864, under the auspices of the Woman's Central Association of Relief. There was a large attendance, principally composed of ladies who are always foremost in works of benevolence. Over the platform was a large diagram, furnished by Dr. Bellows, President of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, exhibiting the organization and different agencies of the Commission.

Professor Hitchcock, in accordance with the announcement, assumed the Chair, and having called the meeting to order, called on the Rev. Mr. Duryea, of the Reformed Dutch Church, to open the meeting with prayer. Mr. Duryea then offered prayer

for the nation, the army, and the efforts made in its behalf.

Professor HITCHCOCK proceeded to explain the object of the meeting; he said:—It is neither fitting nor needful that I should stand long between you and the gentlemen who have come here this evening fully charged with important information pertaining to the great interest which has called us together. What the Sanitary Commission is doing, and what it has done is known to every person on this continent, perhaps, we may say, is known to every person in the whole length and breadth of Christendom. The Society at whose call we are convened this evening, The Woman's Central Association of Relief, is simply an organization tributary to the Sanitary Commission. It is, we may say, one of its tap-roots. It is through this organization that large amounts of needed stores have been sent forward to the army, over all the field. This tap-root has its many fibres running through the soil in the country around about, and those fibres are here to-night, namely, these auxiliary societies from Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, and other localities which are represented by delegates to this Convention. And I suppose I do but justly interpret the opinion of this New York City Society, and of these kindred helping societies, when I say that the work in which they are engaged, is not merely a work of mercy, but also of patriotism as well. They have devoted themselves to this work not merely because the soldiers are wounded, sick and suffering, but because the hearts of these women are in the cause for which these men bleed and suffer. So that this instrumentality has been yielding nutriment to the patriotic sentiment of the country, as well as affording relief to the soldier.

These societies are convened this evening that they may compare notes, see what has been accomplished already, and take counsel in regard to the future, which also offers its burdens, because none of us can be so sanguine as to suppose that we have quite reached the end of this sad chapter yet. Would to God that the only men on this continent who can make peace would make it by grounding their arms, by saluting the old flag, by accepting the old protection of the nation's laws. (Applause.) But these only possible peace makers on the continent are resolutely bent on war, and so long as that is their choice there is nothing left for us but to fight it through. (Applause.) I speak this not vauntingly, not in the military spirit at all, for that is not the mood of mind in which we are met. We are met to consider the mercies which pertain to this work, to contemplate the burdens which are still to rest on our shoulders, and to gird ourselves for those tasks which are still before us; and while we welcome these ladies from the tributary societies which represent so many States, we are under the sad necessity of saying to them, go back to further labors, for other months, for another year—it may be for other years, so long as God permits this wanton rebellion to exist. While our brave boys are standing at their guns, we have only to stand behind and care for them when they fall, and nurse them when they are sick; they fighting to the end of this sad illiad of our woes, we caring for them to the end. And here on this altar we lay ourselves afresh, be it for one month, for two months, for six months, for one year, for two years, for three years—until peace comes by righteousness which God can approve. Until that supreme hour, so long as our boys have to fight, we will care for them. (Applause.) That is our resolve to-night.

You will be addressed by several gentlemen who understand, from long and intimate acquaintance with the work, all the necessities of the case. Mr. Potter, will now make a brief report.

Mr. HOWARD POTTER then read a list of the various Soldiers' Aid Societies represented at the meeting, and handed in to the Chairman the reports of the delegates present, and a short report, from which it appears that the Women's Central Relief Association had expended in purchasing material, flannel and other things the sum of $29,329 31, of which the different societies had contributed nearly one-half. It had also received the following articles:—cotton shirts, 17,180; flannel shirts, 24,212; cotton drawers, 9,258; flannel drawers, 11,836; socks, 6,776; slippers, 2,564; wrappers, 1,336; handkerchiefs, 46,444; bed sacks, 5,008; pillow sacks, 4,910; pillows, 3,844; pillow cases, 6,912; sheets, 9,012; bed quilts, 2,067; towels, 13,711; bandages, 79 bbls.; old cotton, 139 bbls.; dried fruit, 202 bbls.; jelly, 2,185 jars; pickles, 4,500 galls.; whisky, 403 bottles; brandy, 3,726 bottles; blackberry brandy and cordial, 9,816 bottles.

The supplies have been distributed by the Supply Committee during the summer to Washington, Baltimore, and Harper's Ferry, (for Gen. Grant's and Gen. Sheridan's armies), to Norfolk and City Point, to Newbern, N. C., Beaufort, S. C., and New Orleans. It has also filled requisitions for several U. S. steamers and the naval stations at Key West and Pensacola. The military hospitals in this vicinity have made frequent, but small demands, which have generally been complied with. All these goods have been given out, either upon the order of the Sanitary Commission, or upon requisitions from Surgeons.

The New England and New York State Soldiers' Homes in this city have been so efficiently conducted that the claims upon the Special Relief Committee have been but small, being chiefly directed to the relief of a few cases of extreme suffering from sickness and wounds.

The Corresponding Committee has distributed during the past six months, 29,717 copies of the "Sanitary Commission Bulletin" and reports, at an average expense of $1\frac{1}{5}$ cents a copy.

The Treasurer reports the receipt of $38,318 82 which have been expended by the several Committees.

Mr. F. N. KNAPP, Associate Secretary of the Sanitary Commission for the East, was then introduced to the Convention. He said:

My friends, I suppose what is wanted of me to-night, is to give to those who represent the aid societies, tributary to the Sanitary Commission, in order that they may carry it home to their various organizations such information concerning the use that is made of the stores put into the hands of the Commission, as will give assurance that their work is not in vain, that the supplies do reach the soldiers, for whom they are intended, and that the needs of the soldiers are known to those who have charge of these supplies. It is not required of me, I apprehend, to present to you the magnitude of this undertaking, and the greatness of the benefit that it confers upon the needy soldiers of the army and through them upon the country, for the sake of inspiring new zeal, but simply to tell you how we do the work, so that you may be able to answer the questions which are constantly put by those who are so anxious to do all the good they can, that they become skeptical in regard to the good that has been done by the Sanitary Commission.

In the first place, I will state in general terms the principles upon which the work is done. The design is to secure the greatest good to the greatest number, by the most equal distribution of the supplies that are placed in our hands. Our work is first to distribute the supplies which are sent to us; secondly, to purchase other supplies with the means furnished; thirdly, to meet cases of special distress arising out of emergencies and exigencies where the ordinary provisions for relief do not suffice.

It is proper to state that we do not pretend that our working is perfect, or that there are no mistakes made in the issuing of these supplies. Some of them do not get into the hands they are intended for, and some wants are not met. Our agents are not at every possible post in the field; and we do not pretend that every person connected with the Commission is so devoted to his work that he will allow nothing but the thought of the best interest of the soldier to influence him. Ours is a human undertaking, and conducted by human agencies, therefore we cannot guard against misuse and abuse in every instance. But I know we can give you assurance that in the main, the object for which you are laboring has been accomplished, and that the amount of good that has been done, is vastly larger than you yourselves hoped for when you were at work, or than you even now suppose. For only those who have been on the field, and in the hospitals, know, or can know, the twentieth part of the blessing that has attended this instrumentality.

The question is frequently asked, and it was repeated to me to-night, since I came from the adjoining room. How do you distribute these supplies in such a way that you know they reach the soldiers? I will tell you briefly through what process they get there, and by what safeguards they are protected in their transit.

HOW THE SUPPLIES REACH THE SOLDIER.

An invoice is sent, say to Washington, of supplies which are on the way to one of the storehouses there. As soon as it reaches Washington it is copied into an invoice book, numbered, recorded and filed. A corresponding number is entered into a larger book, with the name of the place from which it is sent, the party who sends it, the party who receives it, the date of its being sent, the date of its arrival, or if it does not arrive, the statement of the fact,

and the probable time that it may be expected, so that it may be looked out for. A copy of the invoice is then put into the hands of the Receiving Storekeeper, as he is called, who receipts for the same, and becomes responsible to the office for the goods. If they do not arrive, then he makes a minute of it, and search is made for the proper person upon whom the responsibility rests. When the goods arrive notice is sent to the office, and they are entered among the stock on hand, and the Chief Clerk becomes responsible for them. They are then issued by him upon such requisitions as we think insures their getting to the places where they are most needed. These requisitions are written orders upon the Storekeeper. He is not allowed to issue anything without giving a receipt for the same, and he brings every day to the Chief Clerk, an account of what he has issued the day before, as well as what he has received, together with a statement of the stock on hand. He sends on his receipts to the Chief Clerk, who thus has a constant check upon the person who receives the goods at the Receiving Storehouse, and upon the person who issues them at the other storehouse.

CAUSES OF COMPLAINT.

After passing from the hands of the Chief Clerk, the supplies are distributed with a careful scrutiny on the part of the Chief Clerk, of the actual needs. The demands may be greater than the supplies on hand, or than the Chief Clerk feels justified in issuing. In that case, he distributes according to his judgment, where the need is greatest, rather than where the demand is greatest, and with reference to an equal distribution. There is a constant necessity for cutting down the requisitions of the surgeons, and from friends in the hospitals. This, of course, creates ill feeling and complaint on the part of those who cannot get all they want, at the various posts. Many complaints arise from this cause.

HOW GOODS ARE DISTRIBUTED.

When the goods are brought to the vicinity of the hospitals where they are required, the Hospital Visitors, (to whom reference may be made, as doing a most admirable work), look out for them, and make sure that they reach the soldiers in the several wards of the hospital. Of course, it is impossible for them to follow each garment or every morsel of food, but they can keep a general supervision, and they give us constant assurance that they reach those for whom they are intended. For these Visitors give not merely an hour's attendance, but go from bed to bed and find out what the men want, and what they have got.

FIELD DISTRIBUTION.

The supplies in the field are distributed very largely by the agents of the Commission personally, to the men, so much so, that during the recent campaign in the Army of the Potomac, for illustration, thousands of barrels of fresh vegetables, and over two hundred tons of fresh tomatoes were distributed to the men in the trenches, and in the camps, by our own agents. They saw the men receive them, and in the majority of cases, saw them eat them.

The garments are also distributed by our agents personally. Often, of course, they cannot see to giving them to the individual men, but they carry them into the wards, and it is there known that the Sanitary Commission has brought so many garments for so many of the most needy men.

I can assure you that we do know that in the great majority of cases at the front, where, of course, there is less possibility of a careful detail of supervision, the articles given out do reach the men. Nearer Washington and other principle depots of supplies, receipts are taken so far as it is possible upon regular requisitions, indorsed by Brigade Surgeons, and there is a degree of restraint put upon those who call for issues, which gives us assurance that they reach their destination. That restraint however, or red tape, as it is called, is relaxed when the emergency requires it. After three years of experience, a proper mean has been found between undue restraint and a too free scattering of supplies, so that now, I believe, if a shrewd, honest business man were to investigate the matter, although he would, of course, find occasional misuse, he would say, in view of the humanitarian as well as the business side of the question, that the method adopted is perfectly satisfactory. I say this after large and careful observation.

AFTER A BATTLE.

As an instance of relaxation, I will refer to the fact that immediately after a battle no restraint is placed upon the issues. We then rely upon the honesty of the men employed. A man for instance, whom we be-

lieve or know to be honest says, "Under yonder tree are gathered twenty wounded men; in that barn are forty more; they have been without food and blankets since morning, and the Government supply will not reach them before night. Will you intrust us with your supplies to carry to them?" In such cases we say, yes. If possible, we receive from them without delay, receipts, and then our agents pass round from point to point and see that the supplies reach the men. It is at such times that the restraints are most likely to be removed. Amid such scenes of suffering men are not likely to do wrong and abuse their privileges. It it is not in human nature to be selfish at such times.

BETWEEN THE FIELD AND HOSPITAL.

When the wounded soldiers are gathered at intermediate points between the battle-field and general hospital, then these restraints are so far removed as to make sure that the wounded shall not suffer, if we can help it, for want of supplies. This was the case at Belle Plain, Gettysburg, Fredericksburg, Winchester, City Point, and various other places. It is the policy of the Commission not only to go out and meet the wounded with supplies, but to anticipate their needs; in other words, to wait for those needs to occur. Therefore it is that in some instances supplies have been lost and captured by the enemy. In nineteen out of twenty cases where we have waited days, weeks, and sometimes even months to meet emergencies, we have not waited in vain. I mention this, because we have had many inquiries why we did not wait until the need arises and not keep such a reserve on hand; why we kept agents waiting anticipating battles, as at Martinsburg and Winchester; why we spent the people's money in that way. We do so because we know it is better to spend a thousand dollars in waiting than to have a thousand men suffer by waiting themselves; and because we know that one life saved to the army and to some home (for we put the army always before home) is worth a thousand dollars spent in waiting. (Applause.)

WHY ARE SUPPLIES AT HOSPITALS?

Another question naturally asked is in regard to the propriety of giving out supplies to the men after they have reached points where the Government can help them. And this question suggests also another broader one, namely: Why is it that at this period when the Government is doing so much, sanitary supplies are demanded at all? Are not the needs more imaginary than real? I was requested to refer to this to-night.

Our experience is that the needs do continue, and that they will continue so long as the army is in the field—not merely comforts that friends at home are anxious to supply, but real wants which must be supplied to maintain muscle in the arm of war—that it is not merely a call of humanity, but a wise and provident policy, giving strength to the army. For example, as soon as a man is wounded and carried from the battle-field to the place where the wounded are gathered, it is assumed that he will be immediately transferred to Washington. But it is found that many must remain on account of the seriousness of their wounds. In the meantime others are brought in, until what was intended as simply a temporary hospital or shelter for the men, becomes by degrees a large and permanent place for gathering the men. The Government meantime does not see fit to make arrangement for a permanent hospital, and, consequently, the men do not receive the provision which the Government usually affords. In that way the agency of the Sanitary Commission comes in and benefits the soldiers largely.

TRANSFER OF WOUNDED.

So, in the transfer of the wounded, the Government assumes that adequate means are at hand to make the men comfortable until they reach a certain station, whereas it frequently happens that a train is started with only one quarter of the blankets necessary to keep the men from suffering, and with insufficient supplies of food and attendance, because the Government agents posted there had not power to draw supplies for these temporary purposes. One train which I accompanied from Winchester to Harper's Ferry was five miles long. A wagon broke down at such a point that the rest of the train not being able to pass it was delayed three hours, so that we did not arrive till midnight, and but for the provision furnished by the Commission many of the men would have suffered from hunger.

HOME COMFORTS.

The spirit which we endeavor to inspire in every new agent who joins us in this work is this: to feel that we are not ourselves, but that we are you—that these sup-

plies are not merely so many blankets to cover the soldiers and so much food to feed them, but they are home blessings to the soldier. If there is one single thought more than another which we endeavor to impress upon the hearts of our working men, it is to try to make the soldiers feel that the blankets and the food come from home. There is a healing power in this consciousness more than I can tell. It is not merely sentiment, but reality, as we who have had experience in this work can testify.

ISSUES.

We have issued about 30,000 blankets, from 50 to 60,000 cushions, of which the Government supplies almost none; 43,000 bed-ticks, to be filled to meet emergencies in temporary hospitals, and but for which the soldiers would have had to lie for days and sometimes weeks on the floor or ground; from 50 to 60,000 pillows, 130,000 pillow cases, about 20,000 pillow ticks, to be filled with hay or straw, 60,000 quilts, 119,000 sheets, 255,000 towels, 300,000 pairs of drawers of different kinds, 275,000 handkerchiefs, over 400,000 shirts, different kinds, 230,000 socks, nearly 40,000 wrappers, 30,000 cans of meat, and about 30 tons of canned milk. Many of these articles are not furnished by the Government at all. An account is kept of every article issued, and constant reference is made to the record.

SPECIAL RELIEF WORK.

This special relief department is doing not merely a supplemental work to the Government, but a work which the Government has never undertaken and probably never would undertake. We have, in fact, the whole work in our hands—that of caring for soldiers where, but for us, no provision would be made. Since the commencement of our work we have received in our Homes over half a million of men, and spent over half a million of dollars. We have 20 or 30 Lodges in different parts of the country, wherever they are wanted. We have now engaged in this work forty or fifty agents. The expense is large, it is true, but we believe it is justified.

My friends, if I could only convey to you the feelings of the soldiers, their constant, grateful expressions for what they receive from the hands of the Commission, you would be able to carry home with you the conscious assurance that the gifts which your various societies are furnishing are blessings to the wounded and suffering soldiers. (Applause.)

REMARKS OF COL. RAY HAWKINS.

After speaking of his wounds and privations, he said, as he was not yet able to return to the front, he felt like doing something for the cause.

I consulted some gentlemen about the Sanitary Commission. Their answer was, "We would like to give money to that cause if we only knew that the soldiers would get it." "Well," said I, "my friends, there is one thing very certain: if you don't give they will never receive. It is your duty to give, and trust to Providence that the soldiers get it."

I began to work and worked on, and suffice it to say, that during the past six months I have established in the States of Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Kansas, over 300 Auxiliary Aid Societies. (Applause.)

I believe there are few towns now in Illinois, Indiana, or Ohio, that have not an aid Society. Even in Missouri, which has suffered so much from the rebellion, the loyal ladies are contributing their mites to the Sanitary Commission. And even in Kansas, in the city of Lawrence, that was burned by Quantrell's men, and is rebuilt with board cabins, the loyal ladies had established an aid society, and were at work for the soldiers. (Applause) And throughout the entire West they hold their society meetings regularly, every week, one day being devoted each week to the soldiers. They make drawers, shirts, handkerchiefs, towels, bandages, and lint. I saw aged women, with trembling, palsied hands, picking linen to pieces, and making lint for the wounded boys.

If the ladies and gentlemen present tonight, could only visit the hospitals at Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Atlanta; if you could go into the wards of the hospitals and see the sick and wounded boys when the Sanitary agent comes along, and distributes on each side, as he passes through, such things as the boys need to make them comfortable and happy; you would be assured of the success of the Commission. Perchance some poor boy gets a little box of some delicate article, and finds the name of some dear friend at home labelled on it. Perchance the name of a sister or a mother is written upon the parcel, and he turns

over in his couch and says, "John, my sister has not forgotten me, though I have been so long away." If you could only see those countenances light up with gratitude towards the loyal people of the North, and especially the ladies that are engaged in this noble enterprise, you would feel amply repaid and rewarded for your kind efforts at home. While they have been guarding your homes at the front, they rejoice to know that you have been caring for them, and toiling for them around the midnight lamp.

The Sanitary Commission, I may safely say, has done as much good to the cause of liberty and humanity as would have been effected by thirty thousand recruits sent into the field. (Applause.) If you succeed by nursing in saving or curing one sick or wounded veteran, so that he is able to return to his regiment, it is equal to five raw recruits. For while every one of the five may make a good soldier, it takes time to do it. You can't expect to take a man right from the plow and make a soldier of him immediately. Send him to the front, into the swamps of the South, and the chances are that in a few days he is taken sick and removed to a hospital, because he has not become acclimated, as the veterans have.

REMARKS OF DR. BELLOWS.

I do not know how your hearts are affected by hearing these words—the Army of the Cumberland, the Army of the Tennessee, the Army of the James, the Army of the Potomac—bandied about from lip to lip, in connection with the Sanitary Commission; as if it were an every day thought, a simple and easy thing, that a benevloent, spontaneous association like ours, should have a nation in its arms, and an army spreading all over this vast continent, the object of its daily solicitation and its care. For one, I feel a devout, a humble, an inexpressible gratitude to the Almighty God, who has permitted an association to come into being, and to organize an enterprise that for three years has been sustained by the people of this country in carrying on a work so sublime in its magnitude, so vast in its reach, so infinite, I might almost say, in its details, so deep, so high in its motives, spreading so far; and yet, in the magnificent scope of its enterprise, not forgetting the least duty or opportunity in which the soldier could be helped, from one end of this vast field to the other, and the largest ever occupied by armies and for the longest time in which such vast armies were ever before on a field of war. There is a grandeur in the work which the people of the United States have undertaken, and in which the women of America have performed so large a part, an enterprise which has united the whole people in one great work of benevolence; which now has stretched itself from one end to the other of this vast continent; as well known on the slope of the Pacific as it is here on the Atlantic. The hearts of those people, three thousand miles from yours, are beating in the strictest unison, combined and united in one perfect plan, working with you as if you were sprung from them, a wheel in the same coach; so that their sympathies, affections and intelligence, correspond absolutely, with perfect, practical exactness to yours, in the objects, purposes and modes of operation connected with this Sanitary Commission. I cannot tell you the emotions of joy, and pride, and national glory which filled my soul after sailing six thousand miles around our continent, to find on the Pacific coast American men and women feeling precisely as we did, and not only expressing our own familiar national thoughts and ideas, but uttering our humane and philanthropic sentiments in regard to this Commission, in the identical style and with the identical feelings that I had left here at home. It gave me a conception of the more than collossus thought that could stride this continent, rest its feet on opposite shores, and poising itself, could reach down from its extended limbs to one common heart which animated a pair of corresponding arms that were active in the great ministration of love to our great American army. (Applause.)

And when I find the same ideas filling the hearts and souls of the men and women on both sides of the continent, from the farthest north down to the deepest south, except where the angry blood of rebellion and secession stops the progress of human sentiments and ideas, then I extend my eye, and in all parts of the world, in all languages, rejoice to hear sympathy expressed for this great American work. It occupies the thoughts and feelings of journals in French, German, and English. I picked up accidentally, on my own study table, as I left this evening, a powerful review in the best English Medical Journal on the work of the American Sanitary Commission. I picked up the London Globe, and there were three columns devoted to the Sanitary

Commission. I took up the London News, and found two columns devoted to it. And in all of them were expressions of amazement and surprise that the semi-barbarous people of America, who were incapable of self-government, and were going to rack and ruin on account of their ignorance of the principles of law and government; had yet succeeded in producing, through this organization, such results that they stood before the world, in this particular alone, as a type of a civilized community and a christianized people. (Applause.) Don't you think that we have, all of us who have sustained this enterprise from the beginning, some right to pluck up courage and thank God, and determine to go on to the end; making this work, to which we have pledged ourselves, from this time forward, more effective, more skillful, more humane, more tender, more generous, more complete. (Applause.) I, who have studied this matter, and have been in a position to know the character of its work, pledge myself to you that, if it is not well carried on, if it is not all that it ought to be, in point of prudence, of exactness, of thorough fidelity on the part of agents, it has these imperfections not from the want of the most prayerful, the most intense, the most constant devotion on the part of those who have this business in hand. This country does not know, and it is not important it should know, and certainly I am not here to boast that I know, the men who have worked shoulder to shoulder, hand in hand, with me since the beginning of this war. But I know their daily toils and their daily anxiety in regard to the pecuniary burden that has pressed upon them. I know how solemn they have felt their responsibility to be in organizing the general operations, in which every dollar spent becomes a matter of anxious investigation. Every bill must be passed in our daily session, every point scrutinized, and every guard and every caution invented and applied, that human ingenuity can search out, to secure a wise expenditure of the money placed in our hands.

And do you know what pulling and hauling we have had with our active agents in the field? Mr. Knapp has spoken to you. I wish Dr. Newberry, who represents the Western Department, had also spoken to you. The agents in the field, who see the suffering, are rummaging at our stores to pull out supplies; wanting to spend more money, telling us the work is not half done, and that they need a great deal more of every article and more liberty to spend. They pull at our heart-strings and resources of treasure and supplies in every shape and form; and here we stand, the guardians of the people's money that has been put into our hands, checking them, cutting them off, cautioning them, beseeching them not to make such heavy requisitions, sending down people to inquire if they cannot do with less. And thus, between this upper and nether millstone, this business is ground out with pain, anxiety and controversy, such as the apostles had together. We have this strife among ourselves, and what is it for? It is a strife between those anxious to be faithful on one side to the soldier, and on the other to the people, who supply the necessaries and means of helping the soldier.

And then we hear criticisms made by idle tongues that don't know what they are talking about, by persons that have never been down and investigated the matter; and if they had, could not know much better than before they went the facts of the case —persons who stick their heads into a barrel, and then pretend to give wise counsels about a business that must be studied like a profession to be understood. I deny that anybody knows and is competent to criticise the operations of the Sanitary Commission, who has not devoted his time for months to it, any more than he is competent to criticise the business affairs of Stewart, or any other mercantile concern whose dealings amount to millions, and whose trade extends over a whole continent. How do you think he would value the criticism of one, who, after looking into his books of account for half an hour, should feel himself competent to inform the public that his business was not conducted in a way satisfactory to them? (Laughter.) I assure you, so far as I am concerned, and as the gentlemen of the Sanitary Commission are concerned, we have profound peace in our consciences as to our designed fidelity to the vastest trust, perhaps, that has ever been committed by the benevolence of any people on the face of the earth, to a small number of men. We feel this to our heart's core, and God send the time when the burden can be lifted from our shoulders and hearts, and we can give back to the people the trust that they have confided to our hands. Meanwhile, I ask you to trust us a little longer. We shall not run away, and the time will come when

you will have an opportunity of looking very closely into all our affairs.

But let me say, we have very little to complain of after all, and I take it, no more criticism or jealousy exists than must inevitably attend the organization and operations of an institution so extensive, so ramified, and that has so much in its hands. Therefore, grateful for the confidence that the women and men of the country have reposed in us thus far, we say that we have succeeded, and we are succeeding, and we are confident that we are going to succeed to the end of the last chapter and page of this great war in which we are engaged. Dear California, so far off that she cannot see us, trusts us with her young fresh heart, as if we were real apostles sent down from heaven, and pours out her gold and silver into our hands. When I went there I found not a particle of distrust. The only question was, What means shall we adopt to do more for the Sanitary Commission? (Applause.) And her people went to work to do about twice as much as they had ever done before, and when I left there they had about a dozen agents in the field establishing Aid Societies in every town of fifty inhabitants throughout the whole coast, so that there will not be a little agricultural hamlet in all that region that will not, in the course of the next three months, be forwarding its means into our hands. When I proposed to establish dime societies there, "Dime!" said they, "you mean half-dollar; that is the least anybody here is willing to give." (Laughter.) Only yesterday we received a "gold-telegram," informing us that we could draw from the banks $16,000 in gold, the first instalment on the new arrangement, probably the product of a single month of labor. Two thousand more came from a little place called Nappa, where they must be all pretty wide awake, I think, in spite of the name. (Laughter.) Such is the spirit that prevails there and should prevail here. You are more occupied here, called upon in a great variety of ways to give, but let us hope for still greater success in our efforts here in this cause.

Let me say to the lady delegates, that they may be particular and minute in their inquiries. Put me in the witness-box to-morrow. We promise to tell you the precise truth and give you all the information we have in our power to give. Continue in the good work in which you are engaged. After you are satisfied with your explorations, return to the fields from which you came encouraged, and with the blessing of God, the smiles and approbation of all good men, the gratitude of the army, and the admiration of your country, go on aiding the gracious Commission, and flooding the resources of this Central Aid Society with the stores that we so much need. For remember, that a few months ago that 80 per cent. of all our supplies were in kind, but now we have come to the pitch when 80 per cent. are bought with the people's money. I tell you it is a sad state of things when we are obliged to go into the market and buy supplies. Hitherto seven millions of all we have distributed have been gifts in kind, about three millions is all we have received in money. We shall spend it all very rapidly if the people do not wake up to the duty of sending in, as they have done in times past, supplies in kind. It is from your aid societies that we must find that life blood that shall enable us to continue our work to the end. Don't fail us; don't let the country fail us in this great and glorious work. (Applause.)

Prof. HITCHCOCK then introduced the Rev. Dr. Adams.

The Rev. Dr. ADAMS said: If I were to ask this audience in what respect the speeches of Dr. Bellows and Mr. Knapp differ from the medical department of the government, I suppose you would respond that they need no supplement. I had come here with the intention of saying a few words, more in the way of expressing my interest in this subject, than in any supposed necessity for arguing with any who are skeptical concerning it. But at this late this hour I think the best favor I can render to the audience, is not to detain them with any remarks.

The doxology was sung and the convention adjourned.

LADIES MORNING MEETING.

In an upper room of the Cooper Union the delegates met on the following morning, to listen to details of the work from persons officially connected with the Commission. The meeting was largely attended, and greatly interested in what was said by the several speakers.

Dr. Bellows read a letter from Dr. Gordon Buck, of New York, regretting that he was unable to attend the meeting, and paying a high tribute to the work accomplished by the Sanitary Commission.

A large diagram, representing the various branches of the Commission, was placed behind the platform, by means of which the workings of the Commission were explained.

Dr. Bellows said that the most important part of the work was represented by the ladies who furnish the stores and supplies. He also explained the character of the organization. The central depot is at Washington, where the Board holds stated meetings.

The Central Committee, which consists of five members, is stationed in this city. It had been found necessary to compose the Committee of men who could meet frequently, and therefore it was necessary that they should reside here. This Committee, which has entire charge of the Commission when the Board is not in session in Washington, meets daily at three o'clock. Recently, two members have been added, one fron Boston and one from Philadelpeia, who meet with the Committee twice a month.

The General Secretary is the executive officer, and lives in New York. He frequently visits the field, and makes himself acquainted with the work performed, and the manner in which the officers of the Commission perform their duties. The Standing Committee also visits the field from time to time, and inspects the work of the Commission. The General Secretary reports to the Standing Committee.

The speaker said that the wisdom and skill of the founders of the Commission was proved by the fact that it has remained unchanged since it went into operatian. The method and plans upon which it was formed were carefully designed, and founded on study and experience; and there has been no occasion to alter its workings. It is not a sentimental humane association, designed to embarrass the work of the government, nor to enervate the soldier, but to encourage the medical department of the army, and to help the government, the army, and the country.

In speaking of the workings of the Commission, the speaker said that it had not been the object of the Society to keep itself before the people more than was necessary to accomplish its work. He believed that much was done by the Commission for which the government received the credit, and he was willing that the credit of its labors should go to the government.

The Commission is divided into two departments, the Eastern and Western, with principal depots at Washington and Louisville. Each department is under the direction of an Associate Secretary, who guides and controls the several agents under his supervision.

The speaker said an experienced and capable man was constantly employed in buying stores for the Commission. In this city a committee, consisting of Messrs. A. A. Low, Jonathan Sturges, and W. B Astor, examine the financial condition of the Commission at stated periods.

Dr. Bellows explained the workings of the office in Washington. He said that it was opened at daylight, business commencing at seven o'clock, and closing at eleven P.M. During the night a servant answered the bell, and supplied all proper requisitions. From this depot fifteen army posts and general hospitals are daily supplied with stores. Besides the daily calls from hospitals, there are at least one hundred applicants for individual relief, together with philanthropic ladies who solicit goods to distribute among sick and wounded soldiers. Each of these applicants has to be attended to, requiring much time and labor on the part of those employed by the Commission. In addition to the business transacted at the Washington office, general intelligence is given to strangers seeking information. It is, in fact, a general encyclopædia of military knowledge, to which hotel-keepers and others direct persons inquiring for regiments, brigades, or divisions. Lists are kept of all the surgeons in the various departments. There women, wives, fathers, boys, and others, go to learn of their friends.

The Home, which is near the railroad depot, has several hundred beds, where soldiers who have become separated from their commands, or for other reasons, having no place to sleep, are accommodated every night. There are twenty-five similar Homes throughout the country (although not so large), including those in Georgia.

As many as five hundred persons have visited the office in Washington during one day, on business.

The speaker explained the rigor of the army regulations, and the difficulty experienced by men in obtaining necessary supplies, which were at hand, but which could not properly be provided according to regulations. He said that these restrictions on the part of the government were necessary. Dr. Bellows added, that if the government

had twice as many officers, and five times as many supplies, it could not do the work now done by the Sanitary Commission.

A lady handed the speaker a note, asking him to give some information in respect to the salaries paid to the officers of the Commission.

Dr. Bellows said that the Commission did not often employ volunteer agents, and that they did spend a good deal of money on salaries. They must have men who would be under rigid discipline, and would perform the work required of them. They did it to be economical. The Board received no remuneration, and the largest salary paid is to the General Secretary, who must be a man of ability, and whose entire time is given to the service. Fortunately, they had thus far been able to get men for moderate salaries. They employed from two hundred to five hundred men at an average of two dollars a day, less than was paid to mechanics.

The address of Dr. Bellows was interesting throughout, and at times eloquent.

At the close of his speech, the audience was addressed by Mrs. Barker, Hospital Visitor from Washington, and A. M. Sperry, Auxiliary Relief Agent from City Point. The meeting was in every respect a success, and the delegates separated with good cheer in the work, retiring to their homes renewed in spirit and purpose for future work.

DELEGATES

Present at Soldiers' Aid Society Council, New York, November 16 and 17, 1864.

ASSOCIATE MANAGERS.

Miss F. Arnold, Eastern Westchester Co., N. Y.
Mrs. W. D. Hamlin, Eastern Oneida Co., N. Y.
Mrs. George Letchworth, Northern Cayuga Co., N. Y.
Mrs. Wm. Starr Miller, North Western Dutchess Co., N, Y.
Mrs. E. H. Redfield, Western Orange Co., N. Y.
Miss G. B. Schuyler, South Western Westchester Co., N. Y.
Mrs. Emma P. Thurber, Onondaga Co , N. Y.
Mrs. C. E. Bacon, Northern Fairfield Co., Conn.
Mrs. Benjamin Douglas, Middlesex Co., Conn.
Mrs. John Olmsted, Hartford Co., Conn.
Mrs. Lydia R. Ward, South-eastern Fairfield Co., Conn.
Mrs. Eliza Howard Powers, Paterson, N. J.

NEW YORK.

Annandale, Mrs. J. C. Cruger.
Mrs. Ab Staatz.
Mrs. C. E. Sands.
Mrs. John Bard.
Ashford, Miss Jane Losee.
Auburn, Mrs. C. H. Merriman.
Mrs. Kirby, Samaritan Society
Belfast, Miss Mary Truesdell.
Broadalbin, Mrs. C. S. Jerome.
Brooklyn, Mrs. J. S. T. Stranahan.
Mrs. S. B. Caldwell.
Mrs. G. B. Archer.
Mrs. N. Burchard.
Mrs. J. Emery.
Mrs. Halliday.
Mrs. W. J. Miller.
Miss Manning.
Miss S. A. Perkins.
Miss M. Stranahan.
Mrs. Jesse Smith.
Mrs. W. Cornell.
Mrs. W. C. Goddard.
Mrs. F. E. Taylor.
Mrs. D. S. Mills.
Mrs. J. S. Turner.
Cape Vincent, Mrs. H. A. House.
Dobb's Ferry, Mrs. J. M. Ackerman.
Miss A. A. Hotchkiss.
Dunkirk, Mrs. O. S. Winans.
Ellenville, Mrs. George A. Dudley.
Mrs. William C. Derby.
Mrs. Alfred Neafie.
Garrisons, Miss Arden.
Mrs. H. W. Belcher.
Mrs. W. S. Livingston.
Mrs. F. Livingston.
Glen Cove, Miss E. Valentine.
Miss E. Coles.
Miss E. Craft.
Gloversville, Mrs. M. Lebar.
Mrs. E. W. Burlingame.
Goshen, Mrs. E. A. Redfield.
Harlem, Mrs E. B. Haddem.
Mrs. E. H. Gillette.
Mrs. J. L. Colby.
Harrison, Mrs. David Haviland.
Mrs. Joseph Park.
Mrs. James Griffin.
Mrs. W. F. Haviland.
Miss Sarah Griffin.
Miss M. Leaman.
Mrs. Grady.
Irvington, Mrs. Thomas.
Mrs. Crosby.
Mrs. R. M. Blatchford.
Mrs. Brown.
Miss Dutcher.
Miss Mulhollen.
Kingston, Miss Angela Tappan.
Leonardsville, Mrs. Isaac Brown.
Mamaroneck, Mrs. A. N. Locke.
Miss M. E. Knapp.
Miss J. Halsted.
Mrs. E. T. Stanley.
Mrs. J. P. Lyon.
Newburgh, Mrs. E. Hasbrouck.
Mrs. L. P. Dodge.
North White Creek, Mrs. Moneypenny.
Nyack, Mrs. John G. Gunn.
Oblong, Miss Mary S. Cline.
Miss Clara C. Reed.
Palisades, Mrs. Greenleaf.
Mrs. Park.
Peekskill, Mrs. Dr. Stewart.
Miss Mills.
Mrs. G. F. Hussey.

Potsdam, Miss C. S. Partridge.
Poughkeepsie, Mrs. Richard Bayley.
Miss Julia N. Crosby.
Pulaski, Mrs. A. C. Burton.
Miss M. J. Ingersoll
Rhinebeck, Mrs. Stephen Schuyler.
Mrs. William Cross.
Mrs. W. Starr Miller.
Mrs. Lewis Marquat.
Miss Eliza S. Bowne.
Schenectady, Miss Maria Potter.
Singsing, Mrs. Ryder.
Mrs. Pentz.
Mrs. Cunningham.
Mrs. Woodruff.
Mrs. Campbell.
Mrs. Smith.
Miss Snowden.
Miss Van Cortlandt.
Miss Carpenter.
Miss Ludlum.
Somers, Miss Sarah Brown.
South Brooklyn, Mrs. E. Shapter.
Mrs. J. Miller.
Mrs. S. B. Caldwell.
Syracuse, Mrs. Emma P. Thurber.
Tappan, Mrs. F. B. Lewis.
Tarrytown, Mrs. William S. Wilson.
Mrs. G. S. Davis.
Mrs. Wheeler.
Mrs. McCutcheon.
Miss Hoffiman.
Reformed Dutch Church, Mrs. Frank Vincent.
Miss F. A. Thompson.
Miss A. D. Cobb.
Troy, Mrs. J. Lansing Van Schoonhoven.
Upper Red Hook, Mrs. Mooney.
Utica, Mrs. William Hamlin.
Waterloo, Mrs. Col. Barton.
Waverley, Miss Mary Turner.
West Winfield, Mrs. Walker.
Miss H. Stout.
White Plains, Mrs. R. Berrian.
Mrs. J. J. Clapp.
Miss A. Silliman.
Miss P. Underhill.
Yonkers, Mrs. G. Hilton Scribner.
Mrs. Cyrus Cleveland.
Mrs. S. Hibbard.
Mrs. J. Lawrence.
Mrs. Davidson.
Mrs. Brett.
Mrs. Leib.
Mrs. Clapp.
Mrs. Rich.
Mrs. Walsh.
Miss Walsh.

CONNECTICUT.

Bridgeport, Miss Lydia R. Ward.
Miss Sarah C. Ward.
Central Waterford, Mrs. D. P. Rogers.
Mrs. Edmund Darrow.
Cheshire, Mrs. Mary J. Doolittle.
Danbury, Mrs. C. E. Bacon.
East Bridgeport, Mrs. L. E. Nelson.
Mrs. S. C. Kingman.
East Haddam, Miss Lucretia Brainerd.
Mrs. Jehiel Williams.
Georgetown, Mrs. Sturges Bennett.
Greenwich, Mrs. Mark Banks.
Mrs. J. H. Linsley.
Hartford, Mrs. John Olmsted.
Lakeville, Mrs. M. H. Williams.
Mrs. S. S. Robbins.
Mrs. M. H. Robbins.
Middletown, Mrs. Benjamin Douglas.
New Haven, Mrs. A. N. Skinner.
Miss J. W. Skinner.
New London, Mrs. Albertson.
Salisbury, Mrs. L. B. Werden.
Southington, Mrs. E. C. Jones.
Mrs. Joshua Fletcher.
South Manchester, Mrs. George W. Cheney.
South Norwalk, Miss H. Aymar.
Miss Emma Cape.
Miss Mary Hill.
Westbrook, Mrs. A. A. Spencer.
Miss Sarah E. Burr.
Wethersfield, Miss Fanny Stanton.

RHODE ISLAND.

Newport, Mrs. Berry.
Providence, Mrs. Hoppin.

NEW JERSEY.

Camden, Mrs. H. S. Miller.
Dover, Mrs. E. Lindsley.
Mrs. Dr. Condict.
Elizabeth, Miss Baker.
Jersey City, Mrs. Wilbur.
Mrs. Sauzade.
Keyport, Mrs. H. E. Bishop.
Mrs. H. H. Seabrook.
New Providence, Mrs. Jarvis Johnson.
Mrs. Daniel A. Valentine.
Orange, Mrs. Theron Baldwin.
Miss Hillyer.
Miss Anne Tierson.
Paterson, Mrs. Henry Clark.
Miss Mary Quin.
Mrs. A. Stoutenborough.
Mrs. E. H. Powers.
Plainfield, Mrs. Rev. T. S. Brown.
Mrs. Dr. C. H. Stillman.
Miss Mary E. Coon.
Rahway, Miss W. Edgar.
Miss G. Degraw.
Miss Shedden.
Red Bank, Mr. Dunnell.
Shrewsbury, Mrs. L. C. Williams.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Holyoke, Mrs. William G. Porter.
Mrs. J. M. Burns.
North Egremont and Great Barrington, Mrs. Sullivan.
Shelburne Falls, Mrs. Dr. A. H. Taylor.
Stockbridge, Mrs. Jonathan Field.

VERMONT.

Brattleboro, Mrs. Davenport, Assoc. Man. N. E. W. A. A.
Rutland, Mrs. Ripley, Assoc. Man. N. E. W. A. A.

MICHIGAN.

Detroit, Mrs. Stearns.

CANADA.

Toronto, Mr. George H. Folts.
Miss Mary E. Folts.

Number of Soldier's Aid Societies represented, 92. Number of Delegates, 213.

We shall be glad to have made known to us any errors or omissions in the above list.

HOSPITAL GARDENS.

BY M. C. READ.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., *November* 19, 1864.

In sending you a final report of the issues from the hospital gardens at this place, I cannot deny myself the gratification of a brief reference to a few of the military and medical officers whose hearty co-operation has rendered it so eminently successful, since without their aid and protection, nothing could have been accomplished.

To Dr. Perine, at that time Medical Director, we are indebted for bringing the subject to the attention of the General commanding the Department, who readily granted all necessary orders to protect us in the possession of the premises, and to prevent all tresspassing.

LOCATION.

The grounds were chosen after a careful reconnoissance of the whole neighborhood, in company with Dr. Salter, who was requested by Dr. Perine to make the selection. A fertile tract was found, bordered on one side by the Tennessee, on one by Citico Creek, while a continuous woods from which a fence could readily be made, skirted the other sides. It was situated near the town, at a point where no military roads were required, and when in any possible attack or defence of the post, it was scarcely possible hostile forces would ever cross it.

TOOLS.

As soon as the grounds were selected, details were furnished on the orders of Maj. Gen. Steedman, then Post Commandant, to fence and work it. He authorized us to replenish our stock of tools by impressments from the country, and the tools thus gathered were promptly repaired, and others made to order by Capt. H. M. Smith, Quartermaster in charge of Government shops.

HORSES.

When in the early stages of the enterprise, the want of horses seemed likely to cause an entire abandonment of the work, permission was obtained to select such as might be *made* serviceable, from the corrals of disabled animals, and these under careful treatment so improved that all the work has been done by them, and at the close of the season, we have seventeen serviceable animals, any one of which is worth more than they all were when taken from the corral. Through the assistance of Capt. Clark, Quartermaster for the hospitals, we obtained these animals and forage for them, and have received constant and almost daily assistance which was indispensable to success.

CONVALESCENTS.

To Drs. Cloak and Salter, successively Medical Directors of the Post, we were indebted for constant favors; and in the midst of the season when details could not otherwise be procured for the necessary care of the crops, through the kindness of these officers, arrangements were made to send convalescents from the hospitals for light duty at the gardens, who went into a temporary convalescent camp, were worked as they were able to work, fed freely upon vegetables, gradually inured to exercise and exposure, and after a few weeks, forwarded to their regiments, better fitted to endure the hardships of the camp, than if they had been sent directly from the hospitals.

To all of these officers, to the commanding officers of the colored troops, and to many others, have we been indebted for that constant assistance, without which the work could not have been prosecuted, and which has been uniformly rendered with that hearty good will, and with such expressions of interest in the work as proved that its value was fully appreciated.

Copies of reports made to the Medical Director of the Post, from the Surgeons in charge here, have already been forwarded to you, and the table enclosed will show you the aggregate issues from the garden, a good supply of winter radishes and turnips yet remaining to be gathered.

We have furnished seeds for several regimental, brigade, and headquarter gardens, and in some instances, tools for their cultivation.

PICKLES.

The pickles we are making at the rooms from the unripened tomatoes, after sending to the hospitals all that could be put up there, would sell in any of the Northern markets for more than the entire cost of the gardens, while the cash value of the vegetables issued, estimated at a price less than one-half the rates charged by citizens, who have peddled their vegetables during the

season, is, as you will see, over $66,000, which in a pecuniary point of view may be taken as the profits of the enterprise.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION.

The vegetables were distributed on the principle that the sick and wounded in hospital should be first supplied, then that all the sick and convalescent out of hospital should be reached, and whatever surplus there should be at any time after these demands were met, should be distributed to all the troops in and about Chattanooga. As opportunity offered, occasional supplies were sent during the campaign to the hospitals toward the front, but of necessity, the most of them were distributed here.

The value of these issues is not to be estimated in dollars and cents. The first wounded brought to Chattanooga were supplied on the day of their arrival with fresh vegetables from the garden, and from that time daily issues, Sundays excepted, have been made throughout the season; while during much of the time no vegetables could possibly have been obtained if this source of supply had not existed. And, as by universal testimony, a generous supply of vegetable food is indispensable to the recovery of the sick and wounded, who, during an active campaign, have been supplied only with the ordinary portable rations, the restored health of many soldiers, and the lives of many actually saved, should be taken as the net profits of the work. For the value of this return, there is no possible pecuniary estimate. Let the wife or mother, or children of the soldier who has been restored to them in health, estimate if possible the value of the supplemental aid, without which the best attention and the highest skill might have proved unavailing, and his return have become impossible.

For this year the work of the gardens is nearly finished. Most of the ground has been plowed for spring planting, and the men are repairing the tools and putting everything in order for early work.

GARDENER.

Mr. Wills, the gardner, has labored with untiring energy, has taken a commendable pride in the garden, and has achieved a success worthy of his efforts. His headquarters are a model of taste, commanding a view of the greater part of the grounds, and are erected upon a symmetrical Indian mound, the slopes and top of which have been covered with a profusion of flowers. Its beauty has commanded the admiration of every visitor, and the demand for the gardener's papers of seed for flowers, have been exceeded only by the demand for his vegetables.

A report of the yield of the garden, and copies of the reports from the surgeons in charge of the hospitals here, have been forwarded to General Thomas, and I doubt not he will authorize the continuance of the work another year, if this point is to be occupied as a military post.

The experience of this season satisfies me that such gardens are both economical and indispensable, and that the convalescents of the army, if properly organized, could be made available for the cultivation of vegetables sufficient for the entire demands during the summer, and with great benefit to the health and habits of the men.

SUPPLIES ISSUED.

Abstract of Issues from the Hospital Garden of the U. S. Sanitary Commission at Chattanooga, Tennessee, April 15 to November 14, 1864.

Lettuce,	1,289 bush.	Turnips and winter radishes,	7½ bush.
Beets,	1,563 "	Cucumbers,	2,693 doz.
Onions,	1,407 "	Summer squash,	5,526 no.
Mustard,	1,496 "	Cabbage,	10,761 heads
Potatoes, (Irish)	904¾ "	Table corn,	107,562 ears.
Radishes,	715 "	Okra,	1,717 doz.
Peas,	442 "	Peppers,	958 "
Snap beans,	431 "	Melons,	1,668 no.
Lima "	148 "	Winter squash,	312 "
Tomatoes,	1,269 "	Pumpkins,	1,152 "
Sweet potatoes,	384 "	Flower seeds,	5,779 papers
Spinach,	133 "		

Estimated value at Chattanooga, $66,375 70.

The crop of winter radishes and turnips remain to be issued.

ORDER OF MAJOR GENERAL THOMAS.

CHATTANOOGA,
Nov. 24, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Sec. Western Department U. S. Sanitary Commission.

MY DEAR SIR:—Enclosed you will find copy of General Thomas' order for the cultivation of the gardens at this post, for the coming season.

Mr. Wills will return North soon, and will make out lists and amounts of seed required. It is important that the seeds be purchased and forwarded, so that the work can commence early, and go on without interruption. I will write to-night to Mr. Newton of the Agricultural Department, and secure a supply from him, but of course not a large amount. Shall make immediate efforts to enrich the gardens on the mountain. Yours truly,

M. C. READ.

HEAD QRS. DEPT. OF THE CUMBERLAND,
CHATTANOOGA, TENN., *Nov.* 23, 1864.

Special Field Orders, No. 321.

Extract.

* * * * * *

IV. The protection heretofore furnished the Sanitary Commission, in the cultivation of abandoned lands, for the benefit of hospitals, &c., is hereby renewed, and its authority extended over the brigade garden on Lookout Mountain.

Every preparation will be made for keeping the gardens under its control, in full cultivation for the ensuing year.

* * * * * *

By command of Major Gen. Thomas,
SOUTHARD HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant General.

MR. READ,
Agent Sanitary Commission.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS AT RED RIVER.

BY JOHN STEVENS, JR.

NEW ORLEANS,
Oct. 25, 1864.

DR. GEO. A. BLAKE,

DEAR SIR:—At the invitation of Col. Dwight, Commissioner of Exchange, I left in the steamer St. Marys for Red River, landing on the 21st inst. My boxes had an assortment of articles, such as stimulants, milk, beef stock and farina, with reading matter and many other things which would be acceptable to men who had tarried long in rebeldom, where they entered scantily furnished on account of sudden capture, and where they lived six months or more, without any additions in the way of comforts.

We had some one hundred and fifty well clothed and well filled rebels, who evidently had enjoyed their stay in the city, even if it had been forced.

Reaching the mouth of the Red River late Saturday evening, it was not till next morning that we were able to communicate with the rebel commissioners, and about noon, two of *our late* steamers came down the river with the white flag at the "fore," and the red and white ensign aft.

A band, playing Bonnie Blue Flag, worked a response from our excursion boat, which joined us, with General McGinnis, from Morganzia, in the way of all good national airs, which were sweet music indeed to the crowd of poor, dirty, ragged creatures that crowded their decks, and whose ears had too long been accustomed to their hateful tunes. Real good Anglo-Saxon hurrahs would fill the air, contrasting pleasantly with the rebel yell which one has to hear to appreciate.

The preliminary forms having been attended to, the exchanges were made, and those who had suffered a long imprisonment were free once more.

THE OLD FLAG.

The color bearer of the 48th Ohio, many of whose regiment were captured at Mansfield, had, when surrounded, stripped his flag from the staff, and secreted it around his body. When in the stockade in Texas, it being rumored among the rebels that such was the case, a diligent search was made for it, but our men had shrewdly buried it. After resting some time in rebel soil it was dug up, and only slightly soiled, and stitched into the jacket of one of the captains, under the lining, and thus it passed *its* captivity. On the way down the river the men secretly made a flag-staff, so that the very instant they stepped on board our boat, after the exchange, they drew out from its long hiding place their good old flag, spreading it to the breeze. The effect can be imagined better than described; shouts, yells of defiance, and tears of joy followed, with no doubt many thanksgivings to God for His mercy in thus sparing them, to witness this triumph.

Most of the men, physically, were in good condition. Some dozen or more were, however, suffering from chronic diarrhœa, and my attention was soon directed to them. Some hot broth and stimulants relieved them, but death had marked several for his own. One died in a few hours. There was no regular medical attendance at their place of confinement, and although not as cruel as in some other places, yet there was more neglect than humanity would allow. A great many had died of scurvy, and no means had been taken to prevent it. As for clothing, there was not a whole decent garment in the crowd. Most were not even protected sufficiently for the season. As soon as we were settled, I had pails of milk punch ready for those who seemed exhausted, which with soft crackers, was relished much. Getting a sergeant there, we distributed onions to the different messes. On our way home opened a box of newspapers, magazines, and a bundle of Testaments, with other little books, which were greedily seized; also writing paper, envelopes and

pens; so that all could send home the good tidings of their deliverance.

About 4 P.M. on Monday we landed our motley crowd at New-Orleans, where they were cared for by the officers of the department.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION AND OUR RETURNED PRISONERS.

BY D. J. BRIGHAM.

With seven other agents of the Sanitary Commission, I started on Thursday, October 27, for Fortress Monroe. Arrived there Friday afternoon, not knowing where we were going or for what purpose. We were there told that our destination was Savannah River; that we were all to go on different ships, each taking a quantity of Sanitary Commission stores on board, to be issued to our prisoners, on their return to Annapolis.

On Tuesday, November 1, we received orders to go on board the different ships with our stores, so as to be in readiness to start at any time. We then divided the stores, giving to each one a share proportionate to the size of the vessel on which he was ordered, and in a short time I found myself on board the *Gen. Sedgwick.*

Arrived at Port Royal on Saturday, November 12. On the 15th we went to Beaufort, came back to Port Royal the 17th.

On Sunday, November 20, we started with the whole fleet for the point of exchange in the Savannah River. Opposite Fort Pulaski the river is filled with sunken vessels; no ships have passed above this obstruction till within a few weeks. By means of a skillful pilot we passed it in safety, and arrived at Venus Point, where the exchange is taking place.

I went on board the *New York* (which was then receiving our prisoners) and there witnessed a scene of misery beyond anything I ever conceived. Many of our men were unable to walk. Most of them were barefooted, many of them without underclothing, and their thin, wasted forms were covered with dirt and vermin. When they found themselves on our vessels, their eyes, before without expression, were lighted up with new brilliancy; it seemed like the dawning of a new existence to them. When the hard-tack and coffee were given them, they were wild with joy, and each vied with the other in the quantity he could dispose of. Although it was with pain we witnessed their misery, yet a feeling of happiness, that I have seldom before experienced, came over me on seeing their sufferings in a measure alleviated.

We expected to get our load the next day, but did not until Tuesday, November 22. I had my stores placed where I would have access to them easily, and about noon we received five hundred men, and started at 2 P.M. for the North, having on board a surgeon, to whom I reported as directed. We had a strong wind in our favor and went along very fast; were soon out to sea. I gave out 40 blankets, and by the Surgeon's direction a large quantity of Government blankets; also gave out numbers of tin-cups.

Wednesday, November 23, awoke very sick, the vessel rolling and pitching terribly. I went forward, and the mate and I, with eight men detailed to help us, and the cook, raised some stores from the hold. The men were then given a breakfast of army bread and coffee. I then brought up a quantity of canned milk and tomatoes, and gave them to the cook. For dinner they were given meat, pickles and "San. Com. soup," as they called it, made of tomatoes, onions, meat and crackers. Nothing tasted so good to them as pickles and vinegar. During the day I gave out the shirts, socks, slippers and other goods. Every man who received these articles was in a very destitute condition, in fact almost naked. I also gave out considerable medicine, liquor, &c., according to the surgeon's directions. Went to bed as soon as dark; was completely exhausted, having eaten nothing during the day; was soon rocked to sleep.

Thursday awoke quite refreshed; found the storm had abated. The men were mostly well and feeling in good spirits. I made the acquaintance of a great many prisoners; and many a tale of hair-breadth escapes, recaptures, rebel cruelty and intense suffering was told. Many were intelligent men, who appreciated the service of the Commission highly. They said that one-third of the stores sent them, reached those for whom they were designed, the balance is given to those in rebel hospitals. The sea was perfectly calm during the rest of the voyage over, and the men seemed to enjoy it very much.

Friday, had a beautiful ride up the bay. The day passed off nearly the same as before. Arrived at Annapolis at 2 o'clock A.M. Went to the wharf at 7, and immediately commenced landing the men. All were given new clothes; and, except eight,

who were carried to the hospital on stretchers, were marched to Camp Parole.

List of Sanitary Stores forwarded to Fortress Monroe to accompany Expedition to Savannah for released prisoners.

1,500 pairs, wool socks.	120 bot. old Maderia wine.
1,020 wool shirts.	4,800 lbs. tomatoes.
1,020 wool drawers.	20 barrels, onions.
2,000 pocket hankerchiefs.	20 kegs, pickles.
1,000 towels.	150 tin cups.
200 blankets.	10 spit cups.
40 pillows.	21 lanterns.
36 military caps.	80 lbs. candles.
300 pairs, slippers.	24 wooden buckets.
200 lbs. crushed sugar.	5 wooden firkins.
200 lbs. green tea	50 doz essence ginger.
25 boxes, chocolate.	369 lbs. tobacco.
3,827 lbs. crackers.	1,000 envelopes.
1,008 lbs. condensed milk.	3 reams of letter paper.

Special Relief Department.

SPECIAL RELIEF—ONE WEEK.

BY J. B. ABBOTT.

I respectfully submit the following report of the "Special Relief" work accomplished under my charge for the week ending Nov. 19th, 1864:

Number of pay accounts of discharged soldiers taken for adjustment,	22
Number of bounty claims taken,	4
Number of cases for back pay taken,	60
Number of applications for the pay of soldiers who have become prisoners of war, taken,	11
Number Naval claims taken,	6
Number of pension claims filed,	26
Whole number of cases taken,	129
Whole number of cases adjusted,	78
Whole amount collected,	$7,586 61
Number of drafts forwarded,	19
Amount of the drafts sent,	$1,837 03

My attention having been called to the fact, that there are a large number of soldiers in the Hospital at Buffalo, New York, who have from four to ten months back pay due them, and no way of obtaining it, as no payments are made at that hospital, I at once commenced to investigate the matter, for the purpose of securing the patients their pay, if possible, which they need very much, as many of them have families dependent upon the small monthly pittance they receive from the Government. I first applied to the Paymaster in charge of the Department at New York, who referred me to the Paymaster's statement at Albany. He informed me that the Medical Officer at Buffalo, had not furnished the Pay Department with rolls on which to make a payment. Having received this information, I sent Mr. Brown to Buffalo to investigate the matter there. He was treated very courteously by the Medical Officer in charge of the hospital, who assured him that measures should be taken to insure a speedy payment of the patients in his charge, and gave him every facility for taking the cases of those who claimed back pay, for which we obtain certificates that will enable the men to be mustered for all the pay due them. The result of our investigation has been very satisfactory, and the prospects are now, that the soldiers there will no longer have reason to complain as heretofore.

CASH ACCOUNT.

Cash on hand Nov. 12th,	$49 80
Cash returned from loan,	12 00
Expenditures,	75
Cash on hand this date,	61 80

The amount of work accomplished at the Homes and Lodges is less than usual, this week.

There have been furnished at Lodge No. 4, lodgings to soldiers,	289
Meals to soldiers,	1,912
Meals to others,	643
Whole number of meals given,	2,555
Number of soldiers and soldier's friends admitted at the Alexandria Lodge since the last report,	128
Number of meals given to soldiers,	247
" " " to soldiers' friends,	84
Number lodgings furnished to soldiers,	117
Number lodgings furnished to soldiers' friends,	28
The number of soldiers and soldiers' friends admitted at the Home in Baltimore, since last report.	82
Number of meals given to soldiers and their friends,	386
Number of lodgings,	112

HARRISBURG.

Mr. C. C. Brown, whom I temporarily assigned to the charge of the Soldier's Rest at Harrisburg, Mr. Ferguson, the Superintendent, having gone home on sick leave for a few days, reports:

Number of meals given for the week,	55
" " lodgings furnished,	51

A. H. Trego, Courier, reports eighty-three sick and wounded soldiers assisted and waited upon in transitu between this city and New York, during the week. The number thus aided is unusually small.

In conclusion, I take the liberty to suggest the importance of a Lodge at Newbern, North Carolina, where I am advised by those who have visited that military post, that one is very much needed. I trust that measures will be taken to establish a lodge there, through the Agent of the Commission stationed at that post.

BY JULIUS NICHOLS.

The following is the report of the sick, in Home Hospital, for the week ending 20th instant:

Permanent cases treated, . . .	15
Transient cases treated, . . .	42
Wounded men dressed, . . .	92
Total, ...	149

BY H. WOODS.

The following is the report of the "Home" for the Wives and Mothers of Soldiers, for the week ending Nov. 20th, 1864:

Whole number admitted, . . .	37
" " meals, . . .	370
" " lodged, . . .	144

BY P. J. M'HENRY.

The following is the report of "The Home" for the week ending Nov. 20th, 1864:

Whole number admitted, . .	748
" " lodgings, . .	1,223
" " meals, . . .	2,854

Representing the following States:—Maine, 50; New Hampshire, 37; Vermont, 7; Massachusetts, 83; Rhode Island, 6; Connecticut, 19; New York, 197; New Jersey, 22; Pennsylvania, 158; Delaware, 5; Maryland, 9; Virginia, 1; Ohio, 32; Indiana, 8; Illinois, 15; Michigan, 91; Wisconsin, 6; Iowa, 2.

BY J. ADDISON WHITAKER.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *Nov.* 21, 1864.

I herewith respectfully present my report for this District, for the week ending this date.

Office duties have been more pressing than usual, on account of large quantities of stores arriving every day, in view of the expected arrival of ten thousand paroled prisoners from rebel prisons.

I had previously been informed by the surgeons in charge of the hospitals what each of them would need, to add to the comfort of the unfortunate men. Consequently as the stores arrived from day to day, I made immediate distribution of them, according to requests of the surgeons. In this way, I avoided a large accumulation in the storehouse, and by the end of the week, with the exception of kandkerchiefs and towels, so far as the Sanitary Commission's work extends towards supplying the District, we were ready to welcome home our long absent ones, who have so patiently, and patriotically endured the privations of rebel prisons.

During the reception and distribution of the stores, the office has at times been filled with visitors, some to have their cards renewed at the "Home," some to have their cards approved for admittance, some waiting conveyance to "Soldier's Cemetery," where, perhaps, just a few hours previous a husband, son, or father was interred.

Some wanted information about collecting deceased relative's back pay, bounty and pension. Dozens of poor soldiers who have been prisoners, and whose families are really suffering for necessaries of life, were waiting to hear whether I could not procure certificates for commutation of their rations while they were prisoners.

Letters of inquiry also came, written by friends at home, who wished to anticipate the arrival of the "Flag of Truce Boats."

Thus the week passed leaving the impression on our hearts, at least, that we had done another six days good work.

I have received, issued, and have on hand, stores as statement per paper "A."

Camp Parole continues to open a wide field of usefulness to our agents. It affords me great satisfaction to review our work there from week to week. Our agents are not inactive, I assure you. Being well supplied with everything needed in our work, they are ready to reach forth a helping hand to our poor suffering soldiers, the moment they arrive. And what a satisfaction it must be to their friends at home to know that the Commission has so magnanimously provided for almost every little want they may have on their arrival.

Divisions numbers 1 and 2, U. S. General Hospitals, are visited regularly by our Agent, Mr. Miller. He is kindly welcomed by officers, and gladly received by the men.

I regard the presence of an agent in these

hospitals as most essential to our work, and the welfare of the men.

"The Home," as you will see by report this week, is not so much crowded as heretofore, nevertheless, affording to many a sorrowing heart a place of retirement and rest. I regard the report as quite interesting this week.

In conclusion, allow me to express my thanks to you and your Assistant for the promptness with which you have enabled me to meet the requisitions of the surgeons of the different hospitals, your reward at present may be that *we are ready for the boats!*

Statement of U. S. Sanitary Commission Stores issued by Addison Whitaker, Superintendent Annapolis District, for the month of Nov'r, 1864.

ARTICLES.	U. S General Hospital, Div'n 1.	St. John's College Hospital, Div'n 2.	Camp Parole.	College Green Barracks.	Annapolis Junction Hospital.	Special Relief.	Whole Amount.
Wool shirts,	658	300	124		48	20	1,150
Wool drawers,	216	120	124		30	15	505 pairs
Wool mittens,	98	50	100		48	1	297 "
Wool socks,	396	180	96			16	688 "
Cotton shirts,	50		48				98
Cotton drawers,			48				48 "
Slippers,	20		23			2	45 "
Shoes,			6			3	9 "
Suspenders,	288	240	123		24	4	679 "
Handkerchiefs,	625	170	750	700		26	2,271
Towels,			960	678			1,648
Rye whiskey,	6	6			6	12	30 bottles
Brandy,	25	2			6		33 "
Black'y Brandy,	12	12	30			6	60 "
Sherry wine,	12	1				2	15 "
Bay rum,	16	12	6			2	36 "
Jamaica ginger,	96	60		192			348 "
Dried apples,	5	2		3	1		11 bbls.
Ass'd dried fruit	1	1	1				3 "
Boston crackers,	4	3	4	3	1		15 "
Chocolate,	35				35		70 lbs.
Farina,	8				8		16 "
Beef stock,	24	66	24				114 "
Cann'd tomatoes			96				96 cans.
Condensed milk,	72	96	48		48	48	312 "
Fine combs,	432	456	518	1152		15	2,558
Coarse combs,	432	432	504	1152		15	2,520
Writing paper,	8	4	7	8			27 rms.
Envelopes,	3500	2000	3450	4000			12,950
Steel pens,	144	144	288	144			864
Lead pencils,	144	144	144	576		24	1,176
Penholders,	144	144	169	144			601
Writing ink,	4		15				19 qts.
Quilts,		110	40				151
Sheets,		50	24				74
Blankets,			5			2	7
Cushions,	75				45		120
Crutches,	25	25				1	51
Water beds,	1	1	1				3
Air cushions,	2	4	2		1		10
Tobacco,	232		132				364 papers
Bandages,	25		20		25		65
Thread,	6	6	18	10			40 lbs.
Spit cups,	12						12
Needles,	12	5	39	10			66 papers
Scissors,	6						6 pair
Pillows,		25	22			3	50
Corn meal,		1	½		½		2 bbls.
Soap.	12	12	22				46 lbs.
Corn starch,			50		25		75 "
Bed ticks,			54				54

FROM WASHINGTON, D. C.

BY J. B. HOLT, HOSPITAL VISITOR.

I have the honor to submit the following report for the week ending Nov. 19, 1864: Have visited during the week the hospitals at Alexandria, 20 in number, not including two at barracks. Have also visited Fort Lyons, Fort Williams, Forts Ward, Albany, Woodbury, Strong, Fairfax Seminary, and Invalid Corps hospital at Freedman's Village, Arlington Heights. Have written very many letters (evenings) for soldiers in regard to State bounties, &c. Have, by writing to friends and citizens, in towns where the men were arrested, obtained testimony showing that in two cases the arrests were illegal, the men never having enlisted. The men have been sent home to their families, after being confined in prison and sick in hospitals for many months. I have given much information in regard to back pay, bounties, transfers, &c. The supply in storehouse the past week being more abundant than for some weeks, I have been able in consequence to do much more for the comfort of the suffering, making my work much more pleasant. In consequence of a ride to-day of some fifteen miles, I will beg you to accept this meagre report.

PROFESSOR SILLIMAN.

The New Haven *Daily Journal* is before us. It gives a column to the name and virtues of Professor Benjamin Silliman, Senr. The following extract is noticed here, as bearing upon his interest in the U. S. San. Com.:

His last appearance in public was at the meeting on Sunday evening, which was held for the Sanitary Commission, by his interest in which his patriotism, his humanity and his public spirit were all illustrated in this last public act which proved the occasion of his death.

We remember to have seen Professor Silliman at the meeting referred to, and we well remember his remark at its conclusion. Taking us warmly by the hand, he said:

"I am now satisfied that the interests of our soldiers will be well served. New Haven is safe for the Sanitary Commission."

Such was the testimony of this great and good man. A Christian, ripe in years, in experience, in hope.

GENERAL SHERIDAN AND THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

The Sanitary Commission has received the following letter from Gen. Sheridan:

HEADQUARTERS MIDDLE MILITARY DIVISION,
IN THE FIELD, *November* 13, 1864.

J FOSTER JENKINS,
General Secretary U. S. Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR:—Yours of October 31, advising me of my having been elected an associate member of the United States Sanitary Commission, is received.

I have the honor to thank you for the compliment paid me, and in behalf of the sick and wounded of this army, to acknowledge the many benefits derived from your charitable association.

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PROTECTIVE
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JAMES BROWN,	WILSON G. HUNT,
WILLIAM H. ASPINWALL,	ROBERT L. STUART,
JAMES GALLATIN,	ALFRED PELL.

Apply in person or by letter, to
HENRY GREENFIELD, *Secretary*,
35 CHAMBERS STREET, New York.

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.

2d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.

3d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.

4th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows;

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq, New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
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The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, State House, New Haven, Conn.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 244 F Street, Washington, D. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Distribution, Va.

U. S Sanitary Commission, No. 46 Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Harper's Ferry, Va.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Parole, Md.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, City Point, Va.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Newberne, N. C.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Beaufort, S. C.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, New Orleans, La

Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, N. Y.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 59 Fourth Street, Pittsburgh, Penna.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Columbus, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

"Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C., where assistance is rendered in procuring Pay, Pensions, Bounty, Prize Money, and arrears of Pay and Bounty, and in various other ways.

"The Home," No. 374 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

"Special Relief" Office, 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

"Soldiers' Rest," Buffalo, Exchange street, opposite R. R. Depot.

HOSPITAL CARS.

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No. 19 Green Street,
BOSTON, Mass.

Important Information for Soldiers and Sailors who have lost Limbs.

The "PALMER" ARM and LEG are now furnished for the mutilated heroes of the Army and Navy, and I have the pleasure of presenting extracts from official letters from the Surgeon-General, which will gratify numerous applicants, who, in the past, have been led to believe that they must accept an inferior limb, or have no aid from Government.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * * IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.
C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20. 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

To B. FRANK. PALMER, LL.D., 744 Broadway, New York.

The Best PALMER LEG is furnished THE SOLDIER FREE
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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

No. 29. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY 1, 1864. No. 29.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No.* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

A VOICE FROM PRISON.

It is not an uncommon thought among the poor fellows who lie in Southern prisons that they are forgotten by friends at home. Long absence, distance, oppression, starvation, disease, suffering, combine to depress their spirits in many instances; and despairingly, they give way to the thought that they are forgotten. Such was the case with a poor boy of sixteen years, who had been captured, and who under the weight of his distress wrote the following lines, which have been copied from the original manuscript by a lady friend, who has been visiting the returned prisoners at Annapolis.

WILL YOU LEAVE US HERE TO DIE?

Will you leave us here to die
When our country calls for men?
We came from forge, and store, and mill,
From workshop, farm and factory,
The broken ranks to fill.
We left our quiet, happy homes,
And ones we loved so well,
To vanquish all the Union's foes,
Or fall where others fell.
Now in prison dread we languish,
And it is our constant cry,
O ye, who yet can save us,
Will you leave us here to die?

The voice of slander tells you,
That our hearts were weak with fear;
That all, or nearly all,
Were captured in the rear.
The scars upon our bodies,
From musket ball and shell,
The missing legs and shatter'd arms,
A truer tale will tell.
We have tried to do our duty
In the sight of God on high.
O ye, who yet can save us,
Will you leave us here to die?

There are hearts with hope still beating
In our pleasant Northern homes,
Waiting, watching for the footsteps,
That may never, never come.
In Southern prisons pining,
Meagre, tatter'd, pale and gaunt,
Growing weaker, weaker daily,
From pinching cold and want.
Here brothers, sons and husbands,
Poor and hopeless captives lie.
O ye, who yet can save them,
Will you leave them here to die?

From out our prison gate,
There's a graveyard close at hand,
Where lie ten thousand Union men,
Beneath the Georgia sand.
Scores on scores are laid beside them,
As day succeeds to day,
And thus it ever will be,
Till they all shall pass away;
And the last will say, when dying,
With upturn'd and glazing eye,
Both Love and Faith are dead at home,
They have left us here to die.

MILITARY PRISON HOSPITAL,
Andersonville, Ga.

REPORT ON EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

BY RICHARD T. J. FALCONER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *Dec.* 2, 1864.

Having returned from the Exchange Expedition, I have the honor to submit to you the following as a report of my work as Relief Agent of the Commission.

Our party of agents—eight in number—left Washington, on board the *Manhattan*, Thursday, Oct. 27, and were at Fortress Monroe on Friday noon. We were obliged to remain there until Tuesday, Nov. 1, when I received a permit from Lieut. Col. Mulford, Assistant Agent for Exchange, to proceed with sanitary supplies to Hilton Head, S. C., on board steamer *Kanark*. (The other agents were same day assigned to different vessels of the fleet lying off the fort.)

We remained off Fortress Monroe till Tuesday, Nov. 8, when we started for Hilton Head, at which place we arrived Saturday, Nov. 12. By Sunday all the transports were anchored at Hilton Head. When we arrived at the furthest point of our expedition,—the place for the exchange—Col. Mulford came aboard the *Kanark*, and informed us that a rebel flag of truce boat would be down with prisoners Saturday, A.M., Nov. 26, and that the *Kanark* would have the first boat.

We were much cheered to see the men as they came in the rebel boat Saturday morning, and when they gave three hearty cheers for our flag as they passed some of the vessels. They hauled up alongside of the *Star of the South*. The men were there washed, put aboard the *Crescent*, clothed, and by Sunday noon, over 500 of them were aboard the *Kanark*. In the afternoon of Sunday we were underway. The men were put under charge of a sergeant, who immediately formed them into messes. My work soon began; and while their first meal was being prepared I distributed 400 handkerchiefs and 100 towels. The crackers, onions and pickles were open to the men. At first they received pickles and onions at messes, but when we saw that there were sick who needed them so much more than the others, they were given to them. The steward assisted me in giving out the wine and condensed milk prepared for them to drink, as also the onions and pickles. He worked very energetically among them, though suffering from sea sickness. The supply of wine, pickles and onions was sufficient to the time we reached Annapolis.

Most of the men were in a good condition when we arrived at Annapolis. Some few were badly attacked with scurvy and diarrhœa. Socks, drawers and blankets were distributed among them as needed.

MORE ABOUT THE PRISONERS.

BY L. V. BEEBE.

STEAMER NORTHERN LIGHT,
CHALESTON HARBOR, *December* 8, 1864.

The *Varuna* leaves to-morrow or next day for Annapolis, and not knowing when we may go, I improve the chance to write.

We came here on Monday. Yesterday morning we received 227 men—skeletons—from the rebels. All the exchanged men who are not very much enfeebled are sent on other boats, only the worst cases being put upon this. It is the same story of starvation, scurvy and chronic diarrhœa. These cases are very low, and many will not live to reach Annapolis—already 7 have died. I am very busy amongst them, and I tell you the supplies are gratefully received. "There comes the Sanitary man," and "God bless the Sanitary Commission," are expressions which ring in my ears all day. Onions, pickles and tomatoes are THE things. Not an article but what will be well appropriated here. Dried peaches, and little bits (very small) of cheese are relished in a manner that would astonish you. But the cry for onions and the avidity with which they are received and devoured beats all.

I have made a "tour" amongst them this evening, and have promised them bean soup with onions and tomatoes in it. Soft crackers too, and every man a pickle: and you may believe I have left them in high spirits in this "heaven" as they call it. Of course I am governed entirely by the Surgeon's instructions about issuing and when. The officers and crew, as well as the nurses, of which there are but few, all assist me very cheerfully. Fearing that my onions and tomatoes would not hold out, I made a raid on Leggett, and increased my stock materially.

As this is the "Hospital Ship," and may be detained here indefinitely, and as his boat will receive well men, and will not have them over four or five days, I thought best to draw on his stock. I am very glad I am on the "hospital" ship. There is hard work, to be sure, but I flatter myself that I can meet it. I have no idea when we shall leave, but I *think* we must go on Sunday or Monday, as we are nearly out of

coal, and we ought to have our compliment of men by this time.

ARMY OF THE SHENANDOAH.

BY S. BUDLONG WESTCOTT.

MARTINSBURG, *Nov.* 1, 1864.

Since my last report we have had some of the most interesting and difficult labors to perform that I have yet seen in the Commission's service. Up to October 22, the wounded have been coming in small numbers, at no time exceeding three hundred, and I found on examination that the Medical Department was fully prepared to receive them. But on the 22d a train of wounded came in without notice. There was not room in the hospitals for nearly all of them, and they had to be placed in private families. Many of these not having supplies for such a number, came to the Commission for tea, coffee, crackers, clothing, bedding, and such other things as we had. I issued freely to all in need, according to the number and their wants. The families were surprised; and I have since heard several of the citizens and soldiers express admiration that the Sanitary Commission was such an institution, and able to do so much. October 23, another train of wounded arrived. With the valuable assistance of Mr. Quail, who came on duty this day as Relief Agent, we were enabled to furnish refreshments to all. On the 26th, 27th, 28th, and the 31st, more arrived, and each time were put directly on the cars and forwarded, part to Cumberland, part to Baltimore, the same night of their arrival. Mr. Quail, with the assistance of Mr. Breed, and several other Relief Agents, who came timely to hand, distributed hot milk punch and crackers to each and all of the wounded sufferers, for which they expressed the most unbounded thanks. James Byron, Co. E, 18th Connecticut, with many thanks donated one dollar to the Sanitary Commission, which you will find enclosed. Our individual relief continues about the same as in last report.

BY NATHANIEL SEAVER, JR.

WINCHESTER, *Nov.* 23, 1864.

CONDITION OF HOSPITALS.

I feel warranted in saying that the condition of our hospitals has greatly improved. In no ward now, is there the least lack of any article of clothing or hospital furniture. Our issues of this kind are only such as are demanded by the ordinary wear and waste of hospitals. But few patients have been received since the battle of Cedar Creek, and meanwhile patients have been transferred to the rear, so that the number now in Winchester is about one-third of that which was here in the early part of October. Our stock of goods has been ample, and surgeons' requisitions have been promptly filled. At times, owing to some disarrangement of the Government machinery, we have been called on to furnish the whole supply of stimulants for this quarter, and to the extent of our means, have responded to the call. Surgeons and patients all join in praising our Commission.

GENERAL SHERIDAN.

Even no less a person than the gallant General who commands our army in this Valley, recently grasped my hand, while visiting our tents at Sheridan Hospital, and said with a quiet earnestness which showed how deeply he felt what he spoke, "I am under great obligations to your Commission, I do not know what I should have done without it." These tents,—there are *two now*,—are a success. Mr. Corbin is on the ground, and ready day or night to respond whenever a surgeon makes a call, or a fresh arrival of wounded and sick demands his attention. The Surgeon in charge furnishes him with every accommodation needed, and the proper officers detail a tent guard, or an ambulance, when he is called away. The Hospital Post Office has also been placed in his charge, so that the Sanitary tents are at times literally surrounded by ward masters, nurses, and convalescents.

A CONTRAST TO BELLE ISLE.

As humanity is the first rule of civilized warfare, we have not in our distributions, overlooked the sick and wounded prisoners, who now comprise one-fifth of our hospital inmates. Many a poor maimed son of the South, has so far forgotten his contempt of the "Northern Mudsills" as to bless the Sanitary Commission, in my presence. Poor, misled fellow-countrymen, I know they are sincere, and lest some Northern man or woman, with more feeling than reflection, begrudges this stewardship of their bounties, let me say that every arm-sling thus bestowed helps to strengthen a growing respect for the North, and every crutch branded in deep letters "Sanitary Commission," is a vote for peace, and a plea for the humane treatment of more than one brave brother who now lies in a Southern prison.

BY GEO. A. MUHLECH.

HARPERS FERRY, VA. *Dec.* 13, 1864.

I have just returned to the Ferry from Martinsburg, where I have made a final settlement of all accounts, and have had the rest of our property removed to here, turning over some small items to the hospitals at Martinsburg. * * * Having paid off all accounts at this agency, I shall leave for Winchester to-morrow morning, in company with Mr. Hammer, who has come down to get supplies. The pressure on the Commission just now, has become very great from all sides. The very severe cold which has set in so suddenly explains this pressure. If more warm underclothing, socks, mittens, stimulants, crackers, canned milk, and farinaceous food are on hand I would most urgently request you to order it up without delay. The army in this valley, I am sorry to say, are far from being in a proper condition to breast the rigors of a winter which commences so suddenly. Two days ago an officer came in from "Opegnan Crossing," stating that his own brigade are suffering most intensely for the want of shoes, blankets, socks, mittens and underclothing. If this statement is correct not *one-tenth* of those men have any other cover but their india rubber blankets. I have despatched an agent to the spot with blankets and a small number of woolen shirts, drawers and other help to the extent of my ability.

Matters at Winchester remain unchanged. Although of our six thousand wounded but few are left in the hospitals, and that all those who can bear transportation are immediately forwarded North, there is nevertheless but a slow decrease in the number of patients. The *sick* take now the place of the *wounded*, and if the weather, even for a short time, continues as severe as it is now, there will be a large increase on the hospital lists at all points. It is necessary for the safety of our supplies sent from the Ferry to Winchester, that an agent be permanently stationed at Stevenson's depot (five miles north of Winchester,) the terminus of the road. I will furnish him tent and stove; and for the post I shall select one of our strong, hearty and active agents. * *

Mr. Seaver has been unremitting in his labors. He deserves the gratitude of the Commission in its fullest sense. His assistance has been invaluable to me in every branch of the work. I shall sadly feel his loss now that he is on the eve of leaving this department, where his great heart and splendid mind have worked as few have done. Mr. Quail, the excellent old gentleman, is also leaving us. His work at Martinsburg has been as constant and devoted as it was done quietly and modestly. His name, as well as that of Miss Harris, will be kindly remembered forever by hundreds of poor, brave fellows, whose sufferings they alleviated. Mr. Quail has not only fed and attended our sick and wounded, but he has besides cared that their dead comrades were properly buried, and their graves neatly marked with head-boards bearing the proper inscriptions. In many cases he has filled the functions of chaplain, and said the last prayer over the grave of the brave.

As to Mr. Westcott, who returns home in a few days, I say with pleasure that he has most faithfully administered the agency at Martinsburg.

RELIEF TO WOUNDED REBEL SOLDIERS IN THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY.

From the report of Mr. J. V. Hammer, Field Agent of the Commission in the 19th Army Corps, dated Winchester, Va., November 18, 1864, we take the following interesting account of aid rendered to rebel soldiers lying wounded outside our lines.

On the evening of the 17th word was brought to Acting Superintendent Seaver at Winchester, by the Provost Marshall of the 19th Army Corps, Capt. N. C. Inwood, that a body of these men were lying in a very destitute condition one and one-half miles beyond our picket lines at Newtown, Va. Capt. Inwood requested aid for them and promised an escort sufficient to protect the stores and men in reaching the town.

Accordingly our agents and the Sanitary Commission wagon, with an assortment of stores, started the next morning for the 19th Army Corps headquarters, where they were joined by Capt. Inwood and the escort. Reaching Newtown they found the men, eighteen in number, quartered in a church, in charge of one of their own surgeons, Dr. Carter. They were all severely wounded, many having amputated limbs. Their condition, as represented by Capt. Inwood, was found to be one of the utmost distress. The object of the visit was made known to Dr. Carter by Mr. Hammer, and our assistance proffered. No notice of the intended relief had been sent, nor had it been expected. It came as a sudden surprise.

The surgeon-in-charge "could hardly give expression by words, of his gratitude to the Commission for its timely aid;" and the men, "with moistened eyes," joined in grateful thanks for the relief thus brought. Stores were left with them, and the party returned in safety to Winchester.

It is thus that our noble Commission endeavors to carry on its work of mercy, fulfilling the law of Christ, unmoved by the spirit of revenge that cries out for "retaliation." "If ye love those that love you, what thanks have you."

KANSAS NOT FORGOTTEN.

LETTER FROM MR. J. R. BROWN.

LEAVENWORTH, *Nov.* 18, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Secy. U. S. San. Com., Western Department.

DEAR SIR:—I have again returned from below to Leavenworth, and am gratified to find very liberal shipments of Sanitary stores, just arrived from Chicago and St. Louis. The special effort made by our Kansas people to raise relief for those wounded in the struggle for the defence of Kansas against Price's merciless horde, together with the goods I was compelled to purchase to meet the exigencies of a case which would admit of no delay, added to the shipments I have received, and those I have noticed as on the way, will make an ample supply for the present.

I have received many most encouraging letters, evincing appreciation of our work. Copies of two please find enclosed.

Our hospitals in Kansas, from present indications, will be full of sick and wounded for the coming winter, and some faithful agent of the Commission must be actively engaged in this field.

The letters referred to consist of the

TESTIMONIAL OF SURGEON VAN DUYN.

U. S. GENERAL HOSPITAL,
FORT SCOTT, KANSAS, *Nov.* 15, 1864.

MR. J. R. BROWN,
Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR:—I am in receipt of a good supply of clothing and sanitary stores for the relief of sick and wounded soldiers and refugees at this post.

Their arrival was most timely, as they came on the eve of the recent battles on the border, when the hospital was crowded and our supplies inadequate.

It is in such emergencies that the inestimable value of the great charity of which you are a worthy and faithful agent, is so happily felt.

The benefactions of the Commission, and your own efficient service, here, and on the field, and in the hospitals on the border, have been appreciated and highly valued by both officers and men.

Please accept for the Commission and yourself our grateful acknowledgments.

Respectfully, your obedient servant

A. C. VAN DUYN.
Surgeon U. S. Vols.

TESTIMONIAL OF SURGEON TWISS.

POST HOSPITAL, MOUND CITY, KANSAS,
Nov. 16, 1864.

OFFICERS OF U. S. SAN. COM.

GENTLEMEN:—Having been on the field of battle with the army of the border, from Lexington, Mo., to Mine Creek, Kansas, and having witnessed the sufferings of the soldiers at the several places where battles were fought, it affords me great pleasure to attest to the timely and efficient aid of the Sanitary Commission. Mr. J. R. Brown, agent of the Western Department, was with the corps of surgeons, and worked incessantly in getting in the wounded, and in furnishing food and clothing at a time when it could not otherwise have been obtained. The Commission have reason to congratulate themselves that they have so efficient an agent in this department. He has secured the confidence and good wishes of all by his application to his duties, and I am glad to add my testimony in his favor.

I am very respectfully,
Your obedient servant.

E. TWISS.
Surgeon 15th Kansas, Cav. Vols.

Tennessee.

BY R. BRUNDRETT.

NASHVILLE, *Nov.* 25, 1864.

Since my last report Mr. Tone, Mr. Drake, and myself left for Pulaski, on the 17th, with a large supply of vegetables for general distribution at that point and Columbia, which was accomplished previous to the evacuation of Pulaski. Never in our experience has so large a supply been distributed at any one time, or given such general satisfaction. The entire army, officers and men, have had an abundant supply of potatoes, onions, pickles, kraut, and other vegetables, sufficient for several days, of which Mr. Tone will report in detail.

Upon the evacuation of Pulaski, we left

on the last train and arrived the same night at Columbia, where we were kindly cared for by Dr. A. J. Comfort, surgeon of the post.

After getting a list of deaths, from October 1 to November 21, we left for the depot, where we found Mr. Tone and Mr. Drake, who had preceded me two days. They had distributed a large supply at that point, and had on hand still three car loads to distribute, so soon as the troops settled down.

I left for Nashville on the evening train; indications were that a collision would take place between the opposing armies at or near Columbia, and that supplies would be needed for battle purposes. I shall return in the morning to the front, and, to the best of my ability, will keep you informed as to everything connected with our mission.

Please find enclosed list of casualties and deaths in post hospital at Pulaski, since last report up to 23d, also list of deaths in post hospital at Columbia, to same date. Enclosed also Dr. Failor's complimentary notice of the workings of the Sanitary Commission.

NOTE.—According to Mr. Tone's detailed report, he issued as follows, from November 7 to November 21, 1864.

	Kraut & Pickles.	Onions.	Potatoes.
Columbia,	2,799 Gallons.	344 Bushels.	47 Bushels.
Stevenson,	840 "	135 "	15 "
Johnsonville,	1,117 "	564 "	51 "
Pulaski,	11,716 "	1,733 "	94 "
	16,472	2,776	207

TESTIMONIAL FROM SURGEON FAILOR.

PULASKI, TENN., *Nov.* 25, 1864.

MR. ROBERT BRUNDRETT.

DEAR SIR:—To day, while passing through the various regiments composing the army now concentrating at this point, I was struck with wonder when I saw the profusion of supplies which they had received from you as agent for the United States Sanitary Commission. Regiments from Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Illinois, Iowa, and every other State represented, were equally supplied. Looking at the amount issued at this place, a person would suppose that the North had emptied its gardens and cellars to furnish sufficient for this *one* issue; but having been with the troops during the entire campaign, I know that this amount, however large it may appear, is nothing compared with the aggregate issued by the agents of the Commission during the campaign. At Cleveland, Dalton, Resaca, Kingston, Dallas, Ackworth, Kennesaw, during and after the siege of Atlanta, the troops were fully supplied, whenever an opportunity offered. You have my personal thanks for the interest taken by you in supplying the sick and wounded of the 3d division, 4th Army Corps, with vegetables; and I feel confident that with the aid of these, we were enabled to treat much more successfully, all the diseases that came under our notice.

I learn that you are going to Ohio in a few days, and feel that you will find more pleasure, during your years of retirement from active life, in reflecting upon the noble nature of the work in which you were engaged, during the progress of the rebellion, than from any other personal consideration; for be assured, the fervent, hearty "God bless you," of many a brave soldier, has been uttered in your behalf.

I have often wondered if the people of the North were fully aware of the magnitude and importance of the work undertaken by the United States Sanitary Commission. The season now approaches when we will again hear of Sanitary Fairs, and of increased activity on the part of the "Soldiers' Aid Societies," when during the long winter evenings, the northern farmer will sit by his bright blazing fire, his cellar filled with plenty. When, during the leisure that follows a summer of toil, thoughts of absent loved ones will enter every family circle. These thoughts will culminate in a resolve to send souething to their brave boy, and the next thing discussed will be by what channel shall we send? If I could enter that family circle, then I would say to them, "give of your stores to the United States Sanitary Commission; for if the past is a guarantee for the future, no matter where that loved boy may be, whether in camp, trench, or hospital, he will get what you send." I sincerely trust that the Commission will receive the whole contribution of the people.

It is the interest of the contributor and the soldier, that the channel through which supplies are sent, shall be sufficiently comprehensive in its detail, liberal in its endowment, and energetic in its execution to reach the soldier at all times, and in all places. The United States Sanitary Commission now does this, its organization is complete, its agents have experience and understand the magnitude of the work to be performed, and it should have the united support of a magnanimous and patriotic people.

That the army endures more, suffers less

from sickness, and is in every way more efficient, under a full and regular supply of vegetable diet, has been so often shown, and is so generally admitted, that the arguments in its favor need no reiteration by me.

Wishing you and the Commission abundant success,

I am very respectfully, your friend,

B. M. FAILOR, 19th O. V. I.

Surgeon-in-charge of Hospitals, 3d Division, 4th A. C.

BY BENJAMIN WOODWARD.

MEMPHIS, TENN., *Nov.* 28, 1864

I have just returned from Vicksburg, Natchez, and intermediate points. At Vicksburg found Mr. J. G. Brown, who has a good supply of most kinds of stores. He is an earnest, faithful worker, and enjoys the full confidence of the military and medical authorities. The troops at Vicksburg are in far the best condition of any that I have found in this department. The same is true of the hospitals. The McPherson hospital, Surgeon Edwin Powell, in all its arrangements, police, and general management, comes nearest to my own ideas of a "perfect hospital" A billiard table, devoted exclusively to the use of the establishment, a gymnasium fitted with all the necessary appliances, for the use of all the inmates, and a well selected and valuable library, add much to the health and comfort of the patients. The light diet kitchen, under the charge of a lady from Kalamazoo, Michigan, furnishes all the requirements in that line. The "fund" not only keeps the hospital clear of debt, but enables the surgeon to buy nearly everything necessary.

BUTTER.

One thing only is absolutely required, which cannot be purchased, and that is butter. This article of diet is not so much a luxury as a *necessity*. Experience proves it to be one of the most perfect restoratives that can be given convalescents, while in cases of diseases of the lungs, and suppurating wounds, it is invaluable. Wherever I go, butter is asked for, and I am of the opinion that for hospital use, no one article is more valuable. At Vicksburg I found Mrs. Governor Harvey, of Wisconsin. She devotes her whole time and means to the soldiers, by whom she is regarded with love and veneration. While I was in her room a poor emaciated creature came in, who was going home on a furlough, which she had procured him. A few kind words, a quilt to keep him warm, and a greenback in his hand to purchase any little luxury he might want, and he started home with a tear in his eye, and a blessing on his lips.

NATCHEZ.

From Vicksburg I proceeded to Natchez. Here I found one hospital, with 118 patients, poorly provided for in articles of diet. There are but few white troops there, but a large force of colored. While I was there a squad of soldiers, belonging to the 29th Indiana Volunteers, came to the Sanitary Commission rooms, asking for shoes, socks, and shirts. These men had been sent from Morganza, on a scouting expedition, and were in a destitute condition. Several of them were barefoot and ragged. There was no way in which they could draw from government, being on detached service. Their wants were fully supplied, and they left on another scout, with cheers for the Sanitary Commission. Finding what was needed there, Mr. Marsh, agent of Western Sanitary Commission at Natchez, accompanied me to Vicksburg, and I gave him a small stock of stores to take back with him. Natchez is so small and unimportant a post, that I think an agent is not required there, as Mr. Marsh will act for us, the most perfect harmony and good feeling existing between the two Commissions. At Goodrich's Landing, Milliken's Bend, and one or two other minor posts, the want of vegetables is great. Mr. Brown made a shipment to some of those points while I was there, and will attend to the wants of all. There is pressing demand for woolen shirts, under shirts, and socks. Can you not send some? The stock of cotton shirts is ample. I wrote you some time since that "Mr. Carpenter had gone up White River with a large invoice." I told him "if possible, to go to Fort Smith." Letters received from him show that the Arkansas River had so risen, that he could proceed there. "He has done so, and taken all the goods with him." I rejoice that it was so. Mr. Grant will leave on the first boat, with stores for the mouth of White River, and an invoice will be sent to Helena in a day or two.

EXTRACTS FROM "CLEVELAND BULLETIN."

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., *Oct.* 30, 1864.

* * * I have taken occasion upon this trip, as I have frequently heretofore, to look into the workings of that huge benevolent association, the United States Sanitary Com-

mission. I find it as ubiquitous, as humane, as charitable, as life-saving, as indispensable as ever. On every hand, both in the army and upon all the lines of communication, its presence is felt. Every hospital train, whose easy beds and rapid transit save unnumbered throes of mortal anguish to wounded heroes, rattles its praises. Every long delayed letter, retained for want of a pre-payment of sufficient postage at home, when it reaches the weary and home-sick soldier at the far off "front," endorsed "Paid by U. S. Sanitary Commission," tells of its ever watchful care for the nation's defenders. Let those who have contributed to the support of this noble Commission feel assured that their contributions fulfill their object. I have seen many applications of the contributions of the people of Huron County and other localities, and KNOW that they have been honestly, justly, and wisely used to the end for which they have been given. The members and agents of the Commission are live, earnest, working, Christian men; men who have succeeded in life in their own business, and who are not, consequently, engaged in the work to gain a livelihood, but through patriotic and charitable motives. I wish I could give your readers an adequate idea of the number of ways in which the Commission dispenses charities and renders assistance to the soldiers; but I cannot. One of its most impoptant successes has been achieved through the medium of its Sanitary Gardens, of which in this department it has four, viz: one at Murfreesboro, one at this point, one on Lookout Mountain, and one at Knoxville. These are intended to furnish supplies for the various hospitals in their respective localities. That at this place consists of about one hundred and twenty-five acres, and has been a great success. There have been gathered from it during the season, about twenty thousand bushels of produce of various kinds, worth at this point, as estimated, fifty thousand dollars! All this has been accomplished at an expense to the Commission of less than three thousand dollars! The other gardens have been more or less successful, according to the various circumstances of adaptation of soil and climate, supply of seeds and implements, etc., which have surrounded them.

I am fully persuaded,—and I have been "in this army" over three years—that owing to the efforts of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, many, yes, very many valuable lives have been saved, and untold suffering has been avoided. Let this work go on!

Let the loyal people of the land sustain this noble enterprise! and then, after this dire struggle shall have ceased, and peace shall again smile upon our distracted country, it will be recorded that not the least in the great work of saving the republic, was found, erect in all its purity, noble in its charity, and resplendent in its practical christianity, the United States Sanitary Commission.

It is expected that the road to the front will soon be repaired, and the trains be running as usual. I shall endeavor to take the first train through to Atlanta.

C. P. WICKHAM,
Major 55th O. V. I.

OFFICERS' HOSPITAL, LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN, CHATTANOOGA, TENN., *Aug.* 26, 1864.

I take advantage of a short sick leave, which seems to be a regular episode in the the middle of a summer's work at Chattanooga, and is a very pleasant one when spent on these breezy heights, to send you some of my impressions of the Sanitary Commission work.

In the first place although I expected to find that the Commission was doing a great work among the soldiers, I was not prepared for the extent to which it seems to be regarded as a regular branch of the service, and to have in its care the comfort and even the life of the sick and wounded. I have talked with many private soldiers on the subject, sometimes without making known my own relations to the Commission, and although some have grumbled at what they believed to be its abuses, I have found scarcely any one who has not given it credit for being essential to the army.

A very intelligent corporal, who had no other interest in the Commission than as a former recipient of its bounty, having been lately discharged from the service, expressed to me his own views and what he believed to be the views of all who had properly considered the subject. "As long as a man is doing full duty in his company the government usually takes full care of him, but as soon as he drops out of the ranks from sickness or wounds, he is thrown upon the Sanitary Commission. He is clothed hastily in the field hospital from the Sanitary stores, he lies upon a Sanitary bed and whatever he receives that a sick man can possibly eat or drink comes from the same source. As

the hospital arrangements now are, not one in ten of those who now recover could do so without the Sanitary Commission. But because it issues on the requisition of surgeons and other officers, instead of distributing at once to the patients, the latter suppose that everything is furnished by their own commissary, and they abuse the Commission while accepting its favors without knowing it." I myself have known the most blatant grumblers go off crestfallen on being shown the mark of some Soldiers' Aid Society on the clothing which they were wearing.

The question is often asked whether the Commission is not doing much that government ought to do, and which its incompetent officers have neglected, True there has been some of this, but it grows less every day. But whatever government ought to do there is much which it leaves to the Sanitary, which will not be done without it, and which the army cannot spare. Whatever is lost or converted to unworthy uses, the soldiers themselves have told me that they considered to be amply repaid by the good accomplished by the rest.

Visitors who have been staggered on first coming down here by the apparent confirmation of unfavorable reports, have afterwards said, as indeed many soldiers tell them, that there is no department under strictly government management in which the loss is not greater. I have never felt so keenly as now the necessity of supporting the Commission promptly and liberally.

The above is an extract from a letter received at this office from a gentleman of this city who visited the front as our special agent.

THREE MONTHS IN THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

NO. IV.—AMONG THE WOUNDED AT WHITE HOUSE LANDING.

On the second day of June the wounded began to arrive, and seeing heavy work ahead, the cargo of the Kent was discharged into the Hoboken, and that steamer left for Baltimore, to get another supply of needed articles. A portion of the Elizabeth was set apart for the better accommodation and feeding of the Relief Agents and nurses whose recent arduous labors at Fredericksburg, Belle Plain, and Port Royal, Va., had shown the imperative necessity of exercising more care toward them in their food and rest, both as a matter of economy and justice. The writer of these papers was honored with the position of Purveyor, a part of the duties pertaining to that office, being the providing of food and lodging for all persons connected with the Sanitary Commission at the water base of the Army of the Potomac. I may say in passing, that necessitous cases hourly arose thereafter which caused the Director finally to instruct me to limit the blessings of feeding and resting needy soldiers and civilians to the extent only of the capacity of possible accommodation. It should here be understood that no case was admitted unless the need was proven, and then only on the order of some responsible officer in the service of the Government or of the Commission, as I shall have occasion to refer again to this branch, I will not enlarge now.

ARRIVAL OF WOUNDED.

On Thursday, June 3, the wounded arrived by thousands, and thank God, our force was fully prepared for them. The field was taken as divided by Government officers in such cases, and relief stations with proper supplies, set up near each brigade hospital, to which were attached dressers of wounds, relief agents, &c. The Directors in this work, Hon. Frank B. Fay, and Dr. Joseph Parrish, pitched their tents in central locations on the field of operations, the better to supervise the work. To facilitate the obtaining of necessary supplies, a large tent was erected at a convenient point, to which stores were drawn from the boats. So if a hospital steward needed a bandage, instead of making out a formal requisition, and running down to the boat of the Sanitary Commission, and there awaiting his turn, involving the waste of perhaps two hours, he simply had to run to the next tent, where he was known to be what he represented himself, and not a bandage alone, but every article that could comfort or assist the patient, was to be had for the asking; and when the stores of the brigade tents failed, they were replenished from the large supply tent alluded to. Thus was the work systematized, and our whole force busied themselves from early dawn until far into the night of June 3. Similar scenes greeted us to those that were witnessed at Port Royal.

TRANSPORTATION.

Those dreadful army wagons without springs, as usual shook out the life from

many a brave boy, but there seemed no help for it at those times and places. One poor fellow I shall never forget, as I saw him with both hands amputated at the wrists, and part of his face broken in by a shell, being led to the hospital boat by an elderly gentleman, an Agent of the U. S. Sanitary Commission; he looked so piteously thankful for the favor. When at eleven o'clock P.M., the Relief Corps returned to the boat for refreshments and rest, each and all expressed devout thanks that not one had been omitted who needed assistance.

INCIDENTS.

Many were the incidents narrated at these repasts from the experience of the agents. On the occasion referred to, I distinctly remember two, one was that of a Massachusetts man who was severely wounded in the throat, so that he could take no nourishment, and was only easy while in an upright position. One of our nurses devoted his whole time and attention to the poor fellow while he needed it. The soldier derived great comfort from a photograph of a family group, consisting of himself, his wife and three children; in looking upon the shadows of those he loved his eyes expressed what his tongue could not; his spirit's departure was sweet; he motioned the nurse to moisten his parched lips, placed the picture within the folds of his inner garment, and laying his head on the shoulder of his attendant he expired. The other incident was that of some colored men who were awaiting a passage from the White House. Seeing the difficulty many of the poor wounded had in reaching the boats, they procured wheelbarrows and volunteered their services to carry some of the slightly wounded ones thereto, and they did gallant service both in leading and carrying, on that occasion. Before the late repast alluded to was finished, the news was brought us that the van of a train bearing eight thousand more of the wounded had arrived, and that more help must be sent into the field. To add to the troubles of the occasion a fierce rain storm had set in. However, a few of those who were really hardened to the work, volunteered, while the rest were urged to rest in preparation for the work of the following day. This day's issues of supplies was the largest of any previously chronicled in the history of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, and exceeded that of any day during the ever memorable struggle at Gettysburg.

RESOLUTIONS

Adopted at a meeting of American Citizens held at Buenos Ayres, S. A., June 20, 1864.

Whereas, We recognise in the United States Sanitary Commission an institution eminently Christian and humane, organized for the prevention and relief of suffering, to which object we have constant evidences that it is devoting its efforts most faithfully and energetically, therefore,

Resolved, That we hereby desire to record our expression of sympathy and interest in the work of charity and love in which the Commission is engaged, promising to promote its objects by giving it what lays in our power, of our influence and means.

Resolved, That a Committee of seven American Citizens be appointed by the Chair to raise contributions for the benefit of the Commission, in such manner as they may deem proper, with instructions not to confine their field of labor to this Republic, but to extend the same to the neighboring Republics of Uruguay and Paraguay, with power to appoint such sub-committees as they may consider advisable.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed be authorized to remit to the Treasurer of the Commission, the contributions that they may receive, in such manner as they may consider most advantageous, combined with safety.

Resolved, That the Committee be authorized to call meetings of the subscribers and friends of the movement, at such times as they may deem expedient.

Resolved, That we hereby tender to the Hon. Mr. Kirk our thanks for granting us the use of his rooms on this occasion, and for the warm interest he has taken in this movement; also the Editors of the "*Standard*" for their gratuitous publications of the notices calling this meeting, and for the favorable allusions made to it in some of their recent numbers.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the President of the United States Sanitary Commission.

(A true copy.) HENRY S. AYRES,
Secretary.

BUENOS AYRES, S. A., *Oct.* 11, 1864.

J. FOSTER JENKINS, M.D.,
Secretary of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

SIR:—In accordance with one of a series of Resolutions, adopted at a meeting of American citizens, held here on the 20th of June last, for the purpose of taking measures to raise funds in aid of the United States

Sanitary Commission, I beg leave to wait upon you with a copy of these resolutions, for the information of your organization.

The movement then initiated has resulted in the collection of the sum of £1,195 1*s.* sterling, which will be remitted to your Treasurer by this mail; it is hoped that this amount will be somewhat increased by further contributions.

With the prayer that the Commission may be enabled to continue its work of humanity until the necessity for it ceases, which God grant may be soon.

I remain, your obedient servant,

HENRY S. AYRES,
Secretary.

REPORT FROM SUSQUEHANNA CO., PA.

In pursuance of instructions of the County Council held at Montrose, on the 18th of October, the following summary of what has been done by the different Aid Societies of the County, for the Sanitary Commission has been prepared. The delay has been unavoidable, as some of the important reports were received only a few days since. A few societies have been unable to report by reason of the loose manner in which their accounts have been kept. Deaths, sickness, and removal, are the true reasons in most cases, of tardy or imperfect reports. A large number have sent in complete returns containing list of all articles forwarded, with estimated cash value, while some have sent complete lists with cash value of only a part, or the cash value of all that had been done, with only a partial list of articles. Some have given only a list of articles, and others only the cash value. This summary, therefore, though unavoidably imperfect, is the best that can be prepared from such data as can now be obtained.

Montrose, Harford, Uniondale, Franklin, Sisters of the Immacculate Heart of Mary, Rush, Forest Lake, Friendsville and Forest Lake, West Harford, Lawsville Centre, Dimock, (2 soc.,) Friendsville, West Auburn, Clifford, Springville, Auburn, East Bridgewater, and Little Meadows Aid Societies have sent to the Sanitary Commission:

1,247 shirts.
174 sheets.
588 pairs drawers.
720 pillows,
755 pillow cases.
212 arm slings.
291 dressing gowns.
247 pairs slippers.
342 pairs socks.
1,913 towels and handk'fs.
126 quilts and blankets.
295 bottles of wine.
71 gallons of wine.
1 keg of wine.
1 cask of wine.
28 gallons of syrup.
507 cans of fruit.
2,709 pounds of dried fruit of all kinds.
13½ bushels of dried fruit.
273 packages dried fruit.
31⅓ firkins of pickles.
100 pounds of butter.
5 tubs of butter.
1 firkin of butter.
50 pounds maple sugar.
1,125 cakes maple sugar.
173½ dozen of eggs.
1 keg of eggs.
16 coats.
64 hop pillows.
2 pairs of shoes.
3½ bushels of apples.
10 quarts of vinegar.
12 cans of honey.
14 cans, sundries.
11 bushels potatoes.
110 needle-books, &c.
61 pads.
1 sack dried corn.
8 quarts dried corn.
12 pounds horse-radish.
17 pounds corn starch.
32 pounds of cheese.
6 pairs of mittens.
4 pairs of pants.
110 lemons.
And more than 300 packages of unenumerated articles.

Large quantities of bandages, lint, old cloth, reading matter, dried beef, sage, hops, fruit, combs, jelly, tea, green currants, pie-plant, currant, shrub, raspberry, and elderberry vinegar, peaches, pears, eggs, beans, etc., are reported, of which no exact account can be given.

Great Bend, Glenwood, Elk Lake, Brooklyn, Upsonville, and Jackson Aid Societies report estimated cash value of articles sent at $943 62; donation from Welch citizens, $200; sent to Central Fair articles valued at over $3,000; making considerably more than four thousand dollars, in addition to the foregoing list of articles.

West Auburn, and several other societies that were struggling to keep up the good work, acknowledge with thanks, ten dollars donations for their encouragement, from unknown friends, by hand of Miss S. M. Walker.

It cannot be doubted that the amount contributed by citizens of this county to the Sanitary Commission, and kindred charities, for the relief of our suffering soldiers, is very much larger than is here reported. Let those whose labors of love fail to be made known to the world, remember that they are not forgotten of our Heavenly Father.

It may safely be said, that benefactions so grand and magnificent, would never have been made had it not been for the noble women, who at great sacrifices and untiring zeal, have sustained the Aid Societies. Many of our citizens have most nobly seconded their efforts; some have done but little, while a large number have done almost nothing. Let no lover of his country who reads this report, fail to "help those women." The call for aid is now, and must for sometime be urgent. Let every one who *can*, do something, and the almoners of our benefactions will be forced to cry, "hold, enough!" Till that time, may there be no lack of giving or doing.

CALVIN C. HALSEY,
Secretary of the County Council.

MONTROSE, PA., NOV. 28, 1864.

Correspondence.

CONTRIBUTION FROM SOLDIERS.

CAMP CONNESS, *Sept.* 18, 1864.

DEAR SIR: — Enclosed you will find twenty-five dollars, a donation from Co. H, 2nd C. C. V., to the Sanitary Fund. The donation was made from fractions of dollars due the men at the pay table, which the paymaster could not make at the time the men were paid—the amount being paid to them in bulk afterwards — and they (the men) voted to send it to the Sanitary Fund for the relief of our fellow-soldiers, who are fighting for "the Union and Liberty" in the East. Although not with them in person, our hearts and sympathies are in the work, and may God speed the day when this cursed rebellion shall be conquered, and peace, happiness and plenteousness once more reign supreme over our land. Hoping that this will reach you in safety, and praying God will bless and aid our cause, I subscribe myself most respectfully,

Your ob't servant and well-wisher,

WM. W. WHITE,
Private Co. H., 2d C. C. V., Camp Conness, Utah Territory, near Salt Lake City.

Rev. HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President of the Sanitary Commission, &c.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS BY AUXILIARY RELIEF AGENTS AT CITY POINT, VA.

AMONG COLORED TROOPS.

I have endeavored to familiarize myself with each and all, by engaging them in conversation as to their previous history, connections, &c., and have been very much pleased with the intelligence displayed by some, and gratified by the respectful, as well as grateful demeanor of all. I find it both pleases and cheers them to find an interested listener to their relations, and I think tends to dissipate to a considerable extent the depression of spirits consequent upon sickness and absence from friends, and just to the same extent helps to promote their recovery. While their patience under suffering is most exemplary, on no single occasion have I seen anything like impertinence in their manner or coarseness in their expressions. As fact is said to be stranger than fiction, I have listened to the recitals of the experience of some which gave me a more vivid idea of the wrongs and cruelties of slavery, than any description I ever read or heard. Out of the whole number in my ward, (263), 161 can both read and write, while the rest, almost to a man, (where able to sit up,) are anxious to learn. I have assisted them as much as possible with books and instructions, and find them as a rule apt scholars. Becoming accustomed to, I really like my work, not that it is at all agreeable, but the consciousness of being engaged in a good and noble cause, as well as aiding to some extent to discharge the obligations we owe them as a race for ages of oppression and cruelty, amply compensates for the self-denial, which the most unpleasant part of the work requires. In addition to this, the grateful feeling they manifest is most pleasing and encouraging.

I regard the moral and social aspects of this work as of greater importance than the physical ones, as I believe they tend to develop and elevate their character, while intimate social intercourse and real friendly interest stimulates their desire for improvement, and this tends to make them better soldiers and better members of society. A double obligation binds us to do all we can for this despised and down-trodden race; what we owe them for years of oppression and caste prejudice, and what we owe society in which they are henceforth to mingle as free citizens. Every kind word and act, and every useful effort, while it helps to fulfill our obligations to them as the Creator's intelligent creatures, tends also to develop mind and manhood in them.

AN INCIDENT.

There is more real romance in this war than will ever be written, and my calling brings me face to face with more or less of it. About a week since (not more) a young man was brought in here, suffering and worn down with chronic diarrhœa. He sent for me when he found that his hours were numbered, and told me his story and begged my prayers. He had been a first lieutenant in the English army, and had with him his commission and Crimean medal. Coming to this country in May last as a traveler, (from love of excitement), or because his was the old, old story of the prodigal son, he enlisted in July as a private in a cavalry regiment, and the 1st of September found him acting in that capacity in front of Petersburg. I found him dying, almost a stranger in a far country—a gentleman by birth and education, only twenty-nine years of age, and strikingly handsome—and as he told me the story of his wanderings from home and from God, and bade me write to

those nearest and dearest to him, my heart was touched as it has seldom been before. He fell asleep, humble, penitent and resigned, and this evening at sunset I committed his body to the dust, in the hope of a joyful resurrection. He sleeps in our quiet little cemetery on the Appomattox, while loving hearts across the Atlantic are waiting and watching for his footsteps. It is better as it is, for God has called the wanderer home.

I have been thinking, as I wrote, that we little know of what material the rank and file of this great army is composed, and of what high honor it is worthy at the hands of the people.

Individual Relief from a single Auxiliary Relief Station, Army of the Potomac, in one day, (November 17, 1864,) *exclusive of Hospital Relief.*

Applications.	Articles.	Applications.	Articles.
2	Apples.	22	Onions.
1	Bay rum.	9	Pipes.
10	Combs.	4	Paper.
1	Cologne.	6	Penholders.
1	Crackers.	15	Pens.
3	Drawers.	3	Pencils.
1	Envelopes.	5	Pins.
2	Ginger.	3	Suspenders.
1	Handkerchiefs.	4	Slippers.
6	Ink.	4	Shirts.
1	Lemons.	3	Towels.
6	Mustard.	13	Tobacco.
2	Matches.	9	Thread.
1	Milk.	1	Wine.
6	Socks.	1	Yarn.
3	Needles.		

Total number of applications, 149. Variety of articles, 32.

WISCONSIN SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY.

MILWAUKEE, *Dec.* 9, 1864.

Editor Sanitary Commission Bulletin:

DEAR SIR:—Perhaps some of your sanitarian readers would like to know something in brief of the work that is being done here in the common cause, by the good ladies of Milwaukee. For the last three years a Soldiers' Aid Society, with auxiliaries in other towns and villages, has done for the State of Wisconsin, the same noble work with which the whole country, and more especially its armies, are now so familiar. It has since become an auxiliary of the Commission, and has added to the means of the latter, some 3,500 cases of supplies, which have in great part been distributed through the agency of the North-Western Branch of the Commission located in Chicago.

But it is not alone in the collection of supplies, nor in the inspection of them so thoroughly, that not an article is repacked for transmission to Chicago and the front which has not been put in perfect order, nor a potatoe re barrelled which has not had its "evil eye" eradicated, nor an onion that is not hard and sound, peeled in the "pickling room," (an establishment, the atmosphere of which, is so redolent of sympathy, and its phenomena so replete with all that is affecting, that I had no sooner entered the door than I felt their lachrymal influence, and left it with streaming eyes (not yet wholly dried), nor is it that in the packing of everything, such thoroughness is observed that the packages are passed through the depot of the Branch in Chicago "on faith," without a thought of examination—as I was there informed, before I had an opportunity to see for myself—it is not alone thus, that they serve the friends and neighbors who are fighting their battles for them. They serve them in a way still dearer to those whose patriotism has not quenched, but rather quickened the sacred fires of the domestic altar, and who hear the sighings of their wives and the cries of their children, above the roar of the cannon and the whizz of the minie ball. They serve them by serving those, the memory of whom cheers the soldier, amid the waste places of the weary march, and the thought of whom, never more to be seen in this world, adds bitterness to his last hour on the field of death.

As I look through the frosted window panes, I see women hurrying along the white, slippery street, wrapping close around them whatever of woolen and furs they have on—often alas! too scanty, though every one here wears furs—to shield themselves, as much as may be, from the keen bitter wind that drives the snow and ice before it, through an atmosphere wherein the thermometer stands at so many degrees below zero, that I am afraid to mention it to the—comparatively speaking—"sunny south" denizens of the cities of Brotherly Loves, Monuments, Magnificent Distances, and wherever else southward Sherman and the Sanitary Commission Bulletin have by this time penetrated;—and when they get to the door they push in—the bolder and more demonstrative of them, for some of them are timid and quiet—with such a hasty scrambling stamp of their snow-covered feet, and such a sharp clicking snap of the latch, as shows that they grudge every half-moment outside, when they can get inside. And when they get inside it is no wonder that the hoods and woolen wrappings become gradually thrown back and loosened, for a huge stove, the like of which for dimensions is quite

unknown to the ordinary purlieus of the sunny-southward places before-mentioned, radiates a most grateful warmth all through the large long room; nor is it any wonder that their faces soon become thawed and their features unpuckered, for in the midst of them—by this time their numbers have increased to quite a little multitude, some sixty I should say without counting—sits a little group of "elect ladies," with looks and tones of welcome for them; and in the midst of the elect ladies sits the one who not only—like others perhaps among them—gives all her days, and sometimes sleepless nights to the Wisconsin Soldiers' Aid Society, but who, two or three months ago, braving railroad smashes, Mosby's guerrillas and all other perils of the road, journeyed all alone to Washington, and by her Napoleonic tactics so softened the hearts of the stern officials of the Quartermaster's Department—no, for it is too serious a matter for jesting—by her graphic representations of these very women now before me, soldiers' wives or widows, waiting for back pay or pension, through months and sometimes for over a year, with the "hope deferred that maketh the heart sick," waiting on such days as this with hungry children cowering round her fireless hearth; by the power of truth and her pathetic delineations of the alternative if the boon were refused, of great and unavoidable suffering among the families whose providers had abandoned home ties for the wider circle of duty, which at every point touches hardship, danger and death, obtained a Government contract for the making up of soldiers' underclothes, and it is by the work and pay afforded them in sewing these clothes, that these poor women get the tea to soften their bread, and the salt to flavor their children's potatoes. Would that a new contract could be obtained every week or two, and then they might now and then add sugar to their tea, and meat to their potatoes.

But a more important work still is done for these poor women and their children by these ladies, and that is, in securing for them the County and State money allowed by the laws of the State to the families of soldiers in the field, but which most of them are too uneducated—at least in English, for the Tuetonic element largely prevails—to get for themselves, and are thus left to the long delays of uninterested persons who make only a matter of business of their affairs; or still worse, become a prey to sharpers and those wicked ones who "devour widows' houses" and "afflict the fatherless child." In this room in fact is a branch bureau of the great and beneficent Special Relief System of the Commission, and it has been organized by and is carried on under the instructions of the Secretary of State for Wisconsin, an ex-General, who has given an arm and his health to the cause, and knows how to sympathize with his old comrades, both in their anxieties of the field and of their homes. Over this bureau presides the wife of an eminent judge, and the ermine certainly loses nothing of its purity and dignity when it covers such workers, and shields such work as this. On the table before her lie, numerous blanks, which are rapidly being filled in, by herself and her assistant—who, as interpreter, exchanges the soft tones of her native Castilian for English and for the still more gutteral German—and as fast as they are signed (or marked) by the claimants, they are laid together to be forwarded to Madison, the capitol of the State, for official action. By their side lies a pile of bank checks, the fruit of former papers of the same kind, substantiating similar claims to payment of State dues. You should see how that poor German woman's square heavy face, reddened by the frost and hardened by poverty and anxiety, refines and lightens up, as the stuff for the garment is put into her hands; or better still, the price of those she brings back is handed to her to be exchanged for some little article of necessity, or to her luxury for herself or child; or still better, as the pen is put into her finger for the stiff, angular, black-letter-like German signature that looks so hard and crabbed to English-scrip-reading eyes, or is guided over the paper to form the cross which indicates "her mark," which mark, simple as it is, is the "open sesame" to a Golconda of several greenbacks; or best of all, as the sundry dollars collected on a check in her favor is consigned to the depths of her glove, her handkerchief or her pocket. What a pity she can't lay down her cross once for all when putting it on paper, and that she can't get a check cashed every week without having to bear it!

Thus, here in the far North-West, one lays one's hand, amid the ice and snow, on one point of the circumference of that same vast circle (its stupendeousness and beneficence not realized perhaps even by its own central workers) which, alive with deeds of

charity at every point within its superfices, throws out its magnetic wires laden with messages of love and its tracks freighted with good cheer, and from this and every other available spot of its periphery, from the frozen North to the burning South, from the malarious levee of the father of waters to the long bleak reaches of the Atlantic coast, untouched, let us hope for permanent harm by the sectarian envyings of its enemies without, or by the local jealousies of its friends within, or by manifold other infirmities within and without, and which, let us also hope, will be used to the end as a potent instrument of the Almighty for the staying of the famine and thirst, the covering of the nakedness, and the healing of the wounds and fevers of the battle-field, during the evil days of the civil war; and, by the memories of its impartial beneficence, for the blotting out of old scars and feuds, and the cementing of National Brotherhood in the glad time that shall come after it.

Truly yours,

ALFRED J. BLOOR.

Special Relief Department.

A NEW "HOME" AT PADUCAH, KY.

On Monday, November 21, a new Sanitary Commission "Home" was opened at Paducah, Ky., for the reception of soldiers in need of temporary shelter and food.

Its need is shown by the fact that the first day 120 meals were given, 30 men coming in "before rations could be furnished." During the first six days 946 meals were given, beside many men furnished with lodgings, and the attentions given to the sick.

Thus, at another point, the beneficent love of the people is reaching the needy soldiers in the field; and in no way does this love have a more practical expression than in these "Homes," where the hungry find food, the homeless find shelter, and the weary find rest.

ANNAPOLIS.

BY J. ADDISON WHITAKER.

I herewith respectfully present my report for this District, for the week ending Nov. 26, 1864.

OFFICE.

I have expended $89 50, as you will see by reference to statement, Paper A, forwarded to B. Collins, Esq., Assistant Treasurer, New York.

I have received, issued and have on hand stores as stated in Paper B.

In view of expected arrival, and at last (Thursday) the arrival of paroled prisoners, we have been engaged in preparation for their reception. This work, however, has not in any way interfered with the regular "office duties," which from the fact that the District has been pretty well cleaned out by furloughs, and the return of convalescents to their regiments or other hospitals to make way for the paroled men, have not been so pressing as heretofore. As it may interest you to have some idea of our office duties, even in the lull of business, I present a copy of my journal for three days, viz.:

November 21.—Office opened at 9 A.M. Large number of soldiers called for blanks for commutation of rations. Reports for week ending 19th inst. from Camp Parole, hospitals and office sent by mail. Furnished two destitute ambulance drivers with shoes and shirts. Call from Chaplain Hammond, St. John's College hospital about printing for office, and requesting my attendance during his absence at funerals. Letter from John Bowne inquiring of Hugh O'Brien, a soldier. Lady called; she arrived this morning, found her husband dead and buried; furnished her with the necessary blanks for widow's pension, &c.; sent her in conveyance to the Soldiers' Burial Ground to visit the grave of her husband; she was much distressed and shed tears of real sorrow; took her meals at "Home," and expressed great gratitude to the Commission.

November 22.—Weather cold and snowing. Furnished two destitute soldiers with one pair shoes, two pairs socks and two pairs mittens. Two ladies from Baltimore called to obtain information in regard to balance of Maryland State Bounty due deceased relatives; they were informed how to proceed, and were successful in obtaining the money. Two agents of the Christian Commission called on business. Applications for towels and handkerchiefs; none on hand. Letter from Dr. Palmer, surgeon-in-charge, St. John's College hospital, requesting attendance at burial of soldier. Letter from Dr. Bacon, surgeon-in-charge Annapolis Junction Hospital, asking supplies for Thanksgiving dinner for soldiers. Sent him meal, corn starch, also keg of fresh oysters. Many calls from soldiers for application for commutation of rations while

in prison. Forwarded four certificates for New York State Bounty for soldiers. Sent stores to Camp Parole. Letter from A. B. Clapp inquiring about his son.

November 23.—Renewed cards for admission at "Home" for three ladies. Call from Ohio State Agent; our interview was very agreeable, explained our manner of conducting business, &c.; was much interested and seemed to appreciate the efforts of the Commission and its great usefulness; was thankful for information given him, and expressed himself much obliged. Several calls from soldiers asking assistance in collecting commutation of rations, &c.

Thursday, flag of truce boats began to arrive. *Blackstone* 565, *Atlantic* 660 and 44 deaths, *Gen. Sedgwick* 505, *Weybossett* 500, *Herman Livingston* 755 and 2 deaths. Others are looked for daily, and unless Gen. Sherman has interfered with the exchange, (and it is intimated he has,) we shall soon have a much larger number than can be comfortably accommodated here. Many of them are in a very destitute condition.

The Government officers, I believe, have done all they could do to promptly meet the wants of the sufferers. We have worked a helping hand as usual, and I trust not in vain. Towels and needles are now the only things we are in need of. Our agents are active in rendering much assistance at their several stations. Camp Parole is filling up, and our work is being steadily prosecuted by our agents there. Mr. Miller, hospital visitor, is also busy, and has promptly met every boat on its arrival. The "Home" is quite empty, but no doubt shall have a large number of visitors soon. My report is hastily sketched on account of a number of interruptions.

BY MRS. S. L. PHILLIPS AND MISS ALMA CARY.

CAMP PAROLE, *Dec.* 2, 1864.

Our usually quiet and orderly encampment has been the scene of unwonted activity and excitement for the last few days, owing to the arrival of the thousands of prisoners from the *Charnel House*, at Andersonville. Commission Agents, as well as Government officials of every grade, have been occupied in caring for these, our unfortunate fellow-countrymen, who came back to us living skeletons, monuments of the inhuman barbarity instituted or countenanced by "Southern chivalry." They will soon constitute a majority in our crowded hospital wards, and may be readily distinguished by their lean visage and peculiar complexion. Their condition calls for our deepest sympathy, and their united testimony fully corroberates the different and repeated portrayals in our public journals, of their untold sufferings. When conversing with them, their eyes often fill with tears, as they say, "O! it can never be told, no language can express our suffering; could we tell all, it would not be believed. It is scarcely possible to exaggerate them," etc.

We were interested in an account given by a young man of Philadelphia, of a political meeting held in the "Stockade," as they term the "pen" into which they were crowded like herds of cattle, where some of our men spoke boldly and eloquently, for the Union and our noble President, in the hearing of some Rebel officers, who had given permission for a discussion between the two parties, and when the vote was taken in that *dismal place*, where they had been told our Government led them to die, a large majority was given for the Union. All who are not too ill, seem overjoyed at their deliverance, and speak of their present condition as almost a paradise. They usually express fervent thanks for the least contribution to their comfort. Some are beyond the reach of human aid. To speak a few words of sympathy, to furnish a little cordial, to receive last messages for absent dear ones, to point to the ever present Almighty Friend, who alone can go with them through the *dark valley;* to write and repeat the sad tale to absent friends, is in many cases, *all* that is left for your agents to do. One of these died the next day after coming to this section, others must follow soon, and, as one of their number expressed it, "Oh! what multitudes are ruined for life, who may yet survive."

But it is hoped that in many cases, these afflictions "will work out for them a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" in a future life.

CAMP PAROLE HOSPITAL,
December 9, 1864.

Although the past week has been one of deeply painful interest here, we can but reiterate the *oft-repeated* tale of suffering, death and sorrow, yet now intermingling with the untold joys of deliverance from cruel bondage; and with the more favored ones—the anticipation of a speedy reunion with loved ones at home, by many of whom the *ransomed* will be received as life from

the dead. Our wards in this section are becoming crowded with the newly arrived; but, alas, many only come to die—six have gone to their long home during the week. One who had been a sailor, a German by birth, only lived long enough to leave a noble and precious dying testimony, for which he had to be repeatedly aroused from the stupor of death. "God," he said, "had been with him by sea and by land—his only refuge in all his afflictions." Again and again he blessed Him for all His mercies, particularly in bringing him here to die, among the kind friends of the soldier and the Union—while his peaceful and radiant countenance told more than words could express.

Much sympathy has been excited for a very young soldier boy, who, after several weeks had become convalescent, and was anticipating a visit home, but was again prostrated by fell disease, and suddenly passed away—it is hoped to be with Christ, as he expressed trust in Him. A severe case of typhoid fever was watched with much solicitude for several days; while the patient endurance and calm trust spoke a soul at peace with God. Nor was this all. "Tell my mother," said the noble sufferer, as death drew nigh, "not to mourn for me—I die happy; I hope to meet her in heaven at the great day; *and I hope this wicked rebellion will soon be ended.*" While the heart sickens at scenes like these almost daily repeated, it is a fact that calls for fervent gratitude to God, that in a majority of cases, thus suddenly taken, have given precious evidence of having been only *transferred* to that world of light and love where pain and sorrow never come. And in recording them, we do not forget that they are far exceeded in intensity of woe by scenes daily transpiring in the neighboring city, to say nothing of the hundreds that *died daily*, uncalled for, except by the compassionate Redeemer—amid those scenes of revolting cruelty—which seem to beggar description, the remembrance of which will ever remain a foul blot *even on the* Confederacy; and which it would seem must arouse the indignation of every Christian or patriot in our land.

BY C. F. HOWES.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *Dec.* 10, 1864.

I have the honor to submit the following as my report for the week ending December 10, 1864.

In assuming the responsibilities of the Sanitary work in this district, so faithfully superintended by my predecessor, I find a very large field of labor. The destitute condition of a large number of returned prisoners, who have arrived the past week, and the constant demand upon the Commission for supplies, prove how well adapted are its arrangements for meeting their wants. The Sanitary Commission is well represented when the several boats arrive, and the surgeons render every possible facility to aid our agents in their work, and often express their appreciation of our efforts. 740 prisoners arrived to day. Every man has been supplied with a towel, handkerchief, comb, needles, thread, paper, pencils, and had his palate tickled with a few goodies from the Sanitary Commission storehouse. There is no limit to the variety of assistance we give these men.

The New England Womans' Auxiliary Association deserves special mention for the timely arrival of towels and handkerchiefs to meet an immediate demand. For hospital divisions No. 1 and 2, I would refer you to Mr. Miller's report. Here I would speak of the valuable influence of Mrs. Dr. Parrish, exerted among the sick and wounded in the various hospital wards of this city. The kind and cheering words at the bedside of the suffering forms, and the many letters of affection written by her to long absent and loved ones at home, caused tears of joy to flow from eyes that had long seen suffering, and such expressions of gratitude as come only from lips livid with months of terrible suffering. One of the men informed me that when he saw her entering his ward, he commenced to pray that she would come to his bedside and talk to him of friends and home.

The "Home" has been crowded to its utmost capacity. Thus far, none have been turned away. Joy and sorrow, rejoicing and mourning, fill its cheerful halls. Our little matron, Mrs. Sayres, makes every one around her happy, and the admirable condition of the "Home" shows that her heart is in the work. All who share its hospitalities return to their homes overflowing with "*Sanitary*," saying, "I now see some of the avenues through which the Sanitary Commission reach the needy and destitute."

CAMP PAROLE.

The importance of our work at Camp Parole will be seen by Mr. Batchelor's report.

The system of paying and giving furloughs

to the men, is now very complete. It has been found necessary to retain the men several days in camp before attempting to pay them, because with money many would injure their health and even endanger their lives, by eating improper food.

Captain Davis, who first cares for the men after their arrival, informs me that Jamaica ginger, mixed in stewed apples, is beneficial for their first few meals; both of the above articles we have furnished him in sufficient quantity.

I have found it necessary to make further claims for commutation of rations. The men are now mustered for this and subsequently paid. Enquiring letters for friends among the exchanged prisoners are numerous, and daily increasing in number. When no positive information can be obtained of their condition, the name, company, and regiment are registered (with address of enquirer) in this office, and the search is renewed upon the arrival of each subsequent boat. I may say our work is moving smoothly on, with no jarring notes of discord.

BY JAMES BATCHELOR.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *Dec.* 3, 1864.

I herewith respectfully offer my report for the week ending at date.

This has been an unusually busy week on all hands, as about three thousand prisoners from Savannah have arrived in camp. My two assistants have, together with myself, been kept so busy on the days of the arrival of the men, that we have scarcely had time to obtain our meals. The men were in a terrible condition, and the combs, towels, handkerchiefs, &c., which were distributed to them came in very good use. The worst cases were put in Section D. When they found what good quarters they were to be placed in, viz., a bunk with a straw bed, they were well pleased, and two of them told me that it was like getting into *heaven*, compared with their accommodations, or rather want of accommodations just before. One man told me that he should never again complain of the common troubles of life, as they were nothing in comparison with what was endured in the rebel lines. And then their expressions of gratitude were refreshing, after the sullenness and ingratitude of the professional *bummers*, who are often heard complaining of their lot. I have distributed a number of shirts to sick men who could not endure the Government shirts. Three-fourths of the men are sick with the scurvy, and many of them cannot eat the food furnished them. Such cases I supplied with crackers, and to some who were not allowed coffee, I gave tea. To-day fourteen hundred men came in, and as they missed their dinner, I sent a man who distributed several baskets of crackers among them.

From Section A comes the report of a busy week; and a description, which though vivid, can convey only a small idea of the condition and sufferings of the hospital patients. Several deaths have occurred already, and it seems probable that a great majority of the new cases cannot live.

The surgeon-in-charge wishes me to furnish him with a quantity of "pickled cabbage" for the scurvy cases in the hospital. As he cannot buy the article, I would recommend that it should be furnished him.

PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY.

BY REV. J. A. ANDERSON.

In Christ's description of the last judgment we find not a word concerning the belief which guides an action, but teeming paragraphs concerning the actions themselves. He is silent as to the intellectualities, so to speak, of religion; but vivid and pungent respecting the deeds of religion. The vigor and sweep of his utterances, labor to express themselves in such words as these:—"Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom: For I was ahungered, and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in; naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick, and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Verily, I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethern, ye have done it unto me."

We would, by no means, have it inferred that the intellectualities of religion are unimportant; but would only guard against that tendency, in the minds of some, which elevates theology above practice; and which does not deem those organizations that abound in the practice of religion to be as christian and as praiseworthy, as those which teach the intellectualities of religion. Giving a man directions how he shall thread his way across the vast Plains to the Pacific, is one thing, and an important thing; but dotting those Plains with "Homes," where he shall find lodging, food, rest, and clothing, is, to say the least, quite as important, and quite as christian.

These thoughts were suggested by the numbers of lodgings and meals that were given to the men who are fighting the fierce battles of God's truth, by the Sanitary Commission, in its "Soldiers' Homes" at Louisville and Camp Nelson, Ky.; Jeffersonville and New Albany, Ind.; Cairo, Ill.; Nashville and Memphis, Tenn., and New Orleans, La. For October, the figures are:

	Lodgings.	Meals.
Louisville,	28,203,	84,609.
Camp Nelson,	12,495,	34,882.
New Albany,	862,	3,209.
Cairo,	3,425,	15,701.
Nashville,	9,603,	32,023.
Memphis,	1,203,	4,358.
New Orleans,	5,753,	15,879.
	61,544.	190,661.

For the month of November:

	Lodgings.	Meals.
Louisville,	33,449,	100,347.
Camp Nelson,	8,556,	17,358.
Jeffersonville,	1,511,	2,743.
Cairo,	5,981,	20,762.
Nashville,	15,020,	49,961.
Memphis,	1,140,	4,048.
New Orleans,	7,306,	20,408.
	72,963.	215,627.

The soldiers of our armies have come to these Homes in all conditions of health or sickness; of hunger, thirst, or raiment; of all nativities, languages and complexions; enlisted under the banner of every State, yet fighting under the broad standard of all the States; and whether near the Gulf of Mexico, upon the banks of the Mississippi, the Cumberland, or the Ohio, or on the hills trod by Daniel Boone, have been fed; have been put to sleep in clean beds; have been clad, when clothing was necessary; have had their wounds dressed, or their brows bathed as the interminable hours of a feverish night dragged by; have been transported to the proper depots; forwarded on their way to another "Home," thence to another, and finally to their friends; while couriers have been sent in charge of the sickest; and money has been furnished the neediest. Is such a work as "Christian," in the sight of the full-hearted Father, as is the distribution of tracts?

Between twenty and thirty Soldiers' Homes, placed by the Sanitary Commission all over the land, from North to South, and West to East, at centres where they are most needed, are in daily and nightly operation.

By these seven, we find that in October 2,052 lodgings were given each night, and 6,356 meals each day. In November, 2,423 lodgings were given each night, and 7,187 meals were given each day.

At this ratio, these seven Homes furnish, in one year, 807,042 lodgings, and 2,437,728 meals.

How many lodgings and meals have been given by all the Homes during the past year cannot now be stated; but the aggregates are large.

Arrangements are being perfected, by which the *Bulletin* and *Reporter* will be able to make monthly publications of these and similiar facts. And when the public does know all that is being done by the people through the U. S. Sanitary Commission, we shall hear fewer objections concerning its management.

"HUNGRY, AND YE FED ME."

The Sanitary Commission does not confine its efforts to one locality, and then seek to leave the impression upon the community that said efforts and said locality are to be taken as average specimens of its work. The world, generally, would consider such a course as dishonorable; and the church, generally, would term it as dishonest.

From the old "dark and bloody ground," the following report is wafted to us; and while it will serve to show that the efforts of the Sanitary Commission are not confined to the Army of the Potomac, it will, also, which is better, show that the brave soldiers under Major Generals Stoneman and Burbridge, are made comfortable through its instrumentality.

SOLDIERS' HOME, CAMP NELSON, KY., *Dec.* 1, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,

DEAR SIR:—I herewith subjoin statement of our work at the "Home," for the month of November, 1864.

Meals, 17,358. Lodgings, 8,556.

The peculiar situation of the "Home," in a camp controlled almost entirely by the rules of uncertainty and beyond the reach of calculation, renders our work inevitably spasmodic and undefined.

If the day is dull, and only a few soldiers call for the ever ready meal, the evening, and perchance the late hours of the

night, will surely bring us scores, and frequently hundreds of hungry and weary men.

Often, when our business horizon is clouded, and we think there is very little work in store for us until to-morrow, a breeze is stirred, and a cloud of candidates for our bounties is blown suddenly upon us. Then comes the most grateful sensation which prevails every where, throughout dining hall, kitchen, and wards; the "Home" detail cheerily throwing off the oppression of *ennui*, and hasten cheerily to their work.

The Commissary, always happiest when hurrying after rations, prefers, even at midnight, his work rather than his bed; and goes willingly in quest of the Government bakery and butchery.

Our rule is to keep on hand a reasonable supply of fresh beef and bread, but we are sometimes surprised, when cautious not to draw more than we may use while they are fresh; hence, the necessity for these nocturnal visits to the bakery, &c.

Such was the case on the evening of the Nov. 23. All our men, and sundry friends, had interested themselves in ornamenting our dining hall with cedar and shrubbery, and making the arrangements for a thanksgiving dinner. The day had otherwise been quiet, but at nightfall a large representation of three regiments, 53d, 54th, and 55th Ky., with members of other regiments, *in transuti*, came suddenly for supper, when we readily dropped our preparations for the morrow, leaving it to care for itself, while we hurried ourselves about the demands of the present. As several hundreds had to be fed, our supper continued until after midnight, for the men had been without rations since early morning, and were unprovided with cooking utensils.

The preparation of food continued all night. Breakfast began at three o'clock in the morning and continued until three o'clock in the afternoon, without the least intermission; after which, the troops marched thankfully away to meet the rebels under Breckenridge or any other man.

The rush of business has been so great for the past twenty-two hours that our effective force was entirely worn out, and there was scarcely enough energy left to enable us to enter fully upon the thanksgiving feast. However, under the management of Mrs. Butler, a company of three hundred soldiers sat down at six o'clock, to a bountiful supper of turkeys, chickens, cakes, fruits, vegetables, &c. Revs. Schofield and Vitters delivered happily conceived speeches, and remarks abounded from soldiers and their friends. The entertainment was highly satisfactory, and was truly an oasis in the life of the soldier.

The decorations and arrangements of the dining hall were very tastefully made, and in the fulness of lamp-light appeared like the elegance of a similar entertainment at home.

Very respectfully,

THOMAS BUTLER.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS AGO.

BROOKLYN, *Dec.* 9, 1864.

During a recent appeal to the loyal women of Brooklyn for old linen for the wounded soldiers, among other responses we received the following note, accompanying a donation of linen bearing the marks of age.

Thinking it may be interesting to others as it was to ourselves, we send it for the readers of the BULLETIN. K. W.

"FRIENDS OF THE RELIEF COMMISSION:—It may not be uninteresting to you to know, that some of the pieces of old linen left by me at your office this morning are very venerable by reason of age.

"*A hundred and fifty years ago*, among the Ochill hills, in Caledonia, and at the open window of a farm house of that locality, the passer by might have seen a young blooming lassie working merrily at her spinning wheel, preparing for the most eventful change in the life of any one; in short, she was spinning for her own future use, sheets, towels, &c.

"Little did that young woman dream, as she merrily drove her wheel, that her handy work would be used in 1864 to bind up the wounds of heroic men, who stand and fight for freedom in days of danger; yet, such is the case, and I thought that you might be pleased to know the fact.

"Respectfully, W. M. K."

PRISONERS.

The work of the Sanitary Commission among our soldiers, who are prisoners in the South, may never be sufficiently estimated. The best that can be done for them is done. The following copies of invoices of goods forwarded to them by Dr. M. M. Marsh, Sanitary Commission Agent in Gen. Foster's department, will indicate a portion of that work. The receipt of the Confederate officer was taken on the delivery

of each invoice, and contains a promise that the goods should be "safely and promptly delivered to the Union private soldiers, held as prisoners of war at Charleston, S. C., and in its vicinity."

U. S. TRANSPORT "CANONICUS,"
OFF CHARLESTON, S. C., *Oct.* 3, 1864.

I hereby acknowledge the receipt, this day, from Lieut. Col. Stewart L. Woodford, 127th N. Y. V., of Maj. Gen. Foster's staff, of boxes numbered 26 to 82, and marked according to the above invoice.

The clothing and stores contained in these boxes are agreed by Maj. Gen. Sam. Jones, commanding Confederate forces, to be safely and promptly delivered to the Union private soldiers, held as prisoners of war at Charleston, S. C., and in its vicinity.

P. C. WARNICK,
A. D. C. to Maj. Gen. Sam. Jones,
Commanding Department S. C.

The 57 boxes alluded to in the above receipt contained the following articles:

Blankets	79	Socks, woolen, prs	516
Coats	25	" cotton, prs	96
Drawers, flannel, prs	4106	Shirts, flannel	1711
" cotton, prs	200	Slippers, prs	200
Overalls, prs	12	Towels	1072
Pins, gross	4	Vests	5
Pants, prs	3	Wrappers	391
Quilts	54		

In addition to these for the private soldiers, 23 boxes were sent on the same day to the officers at the same places. These boxes contained

Bed sacks	258	Towels	1100
Drawers	1217	Shirts	518
Handkerchiefs	2084	Wrappers	221
Quilts	83		

Receipts similar to the above have been received for all articles forwarded. We give below a list of the goods with the dates upon which they were sent.

Sanitary stores and clothing furnished by the U. S. Sanitary Commission, through Maj. Gen. Foster, for U. S soldiers, prisoners at Andersonville, Ga. September 22, 1864.

Crackers, barrels	100	Blankets	200
Condensed milk, cases.	12	Socks, pairs	1010
Condensed coffee, "	12	Drawers, pairs	1005
Canned tomatoes, "	12	Shirts	1001
Towels	1184	Slippers, pairs	444
Concentrated beef, cases	24	Handkerchiefs	1276

Clothing for Federal prisoners of war at Charleston, S. C., forwarded by Dr. M. M. Marsh, Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission, October 1, 1864.

Felt hats	1000	Zouave jackets	66
Coats	76	Blankets	200
Pants, pairs	132		

Sanitary stores furnished by the U. S. Sanitary Commission through Maj. Gen. Foster, for relief of officers and soldiers, prisoners of war, in and near Charleston, S. C., October 2, 1864.

FOR OFFICERS.

Towels	1250	Handkerchiefs	650
Flannel shirts	199	Quilts	99
Wrappers	221	Bed sacks	258
Cotton shirts	205	Canton flannel drawers	462
Cotton drawers	518		

FOR SOLDIERS.

Drawers, pairs	3098	Wrappers	534
Towels	1872	Bed sacks	258
Socks, pairs	612	Blankets	355
Quilts	172	Slippers, pairs	206
Shirts	2481	Pants, pairs	133
Coats	101	Vests	6
Jackets	67	Felt hats	1000
Handkerchiefs	2504		

Stores sent by U. S. Sanitary Commission to Union prisoners of war in South Carolina, in care of the rebel General Hardee, November 1, 1864.

Blouses	600	Shirts	1920
Blankets	2000	Shoes, pairs	600
Drawers, pairs	1776	Socks, pairs	1160
Pants, pairs	1235		

November 9, 1864.

Blankets	460	Handkerchiefs	300
Blouses	300	Pants, pairs	695
Bed sacks	60	Pillows	190
Condensed milk, cans.	384	Shoes, pairs	360
Condensed coffee, cans.	384	Soap, lbs	60
Chocolate, lbs	120	Shirts	298
Corn starch, lbs	720	Slippers, pairs	50
Drawers, pairs	68	Tea, black, lbs	70
Extract beef, lbs	1560	Tomatoes, cans	120

Clothing for Federal prisoners at Florence, S. C., forwarded by Dr. M. M. Marsh, Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission, November 9, 1864.

Felt hats	500	Infantry overcoats	1065

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.—A MISTAKE CORRECTED.

The following paragraph has been widely circulated through the West and Northwest by persons unfriendly to the Sanitary Commission, as a synopsis of a report of its business in the Western Department for the three years past. As the statements it includes are grossly untrue, and could not, if believed, fail to affect unfavorably the minds of those who have hitherto been the friends and patrons of the Sanitary Commission, I have thought it desirable to publish a *true* statement of the business of the Sanitary Commission in the Western Department for three years, ending July 1, 1864, with a request that it may be as widely circulated as the false has been.

THE FALSE.

"The Western Department of the Sanitary Commission have made a report of their doings from September 1, 1861, to January 1, 1864. They had collected $321,065 42. Of this only $93,592 56 had been appropriated to the purchase of supplies, and the rest was appropriated to defray the expenses of distribution. In short, it cost over two hundred thousand dollars to get a little over ninety thousand worth

to the soldiers, notwithstanding the government did much of the transportation gratis. A large amount is paid in salaries to agents. The Eastern Department have made no report."

THE TRUE.

The United States Sanitary Commission had expended July 1, 1864, *through the hands of its Western Secretary*, IN CASH, $321,065 42, and had distributed at the same date, in the armies of the West, hospital stores valued at $2,790,811 01; of the cash expenditure $190,924 42 had been expended in the supply department; of this $93,592 56 had been expended for the purchase of supplies; the balance, $97,331 86, constituted the expense account of the supply department, and had paid for the distribution of stores valued, as above, at $2,790,811 01 being about three per cent. upon that valuation. *So that all the contributions made by the Western States to the Sanitary Commission to July* 1, 1864, *had been distributed at a cost of three per cent. upon their value, and that three per cent., it may be said, had all been paid by contributions from California and the Eastern States.*

With these facts before them, can our friends in the West and North-west complain that their business has not been done for them cheaply enough?

J. S. NEWBERRY,
Sec. West. Dep., U. S. San. Com.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,

From June, 1861, *to Oct.* 1, 1864.

The undersigned, a committee appointed by the U. S. Sanitary Commission to prepare a statement of its financial condition, beg leave to submit the following report:

Total Cash Receipts and Expenditures.

June, 1861, to Oct. 1, 1864, received	$3,083,124 58
June, 1861, to Oct. 1, 1864, expended	2,467,958 55
Balance in hands of Treasurer, Oct. 1, '64,	$615,166 03*

The work of the Commission involving this expenditure embraces six distinct departments: the cost of carrying on each department is given in the accompanying tables.

Added to these is a table which accounts for certain outlays, as enumerated, not conveniently classified under any one of the above divisions. The aggregate of these tables gives the total amount disbursed.

* The balance in the hands of the Treasurer, December 1, 1864, is three hundred and fifty-one thousand nine hundred and twenty dollars and seventy-nine cents ($351,920 79).

The following are the several divisions of the Commission's work, with a general statement of the character of each, that thus the nature of the various items of expenditure may be more clearly seen.

1st. The "Supply Department"—which has for its work the collecting, storing, forwarding, and distributing through the hospitals, and to the armies, and on the battle-fields, the supplies sent by the people to the soldiers. With this work is inseparably connected a large amount of *relief service* rendered to the sick and wounded by the agents employed in this department, which service would not be included in the mere work of transporting and distributing the supplies. The sum, therefore, charged to the "Cost of Distribution" (see "Exhibit A") is thereby considerably larger than it would otherwise appear; as is also the ratio of "the cost of distribution" to the "value of the supplies distributed" (see "Exhibit C"). It is allowed to stand thus because the exact apportionment of the expense belonging to each of these two classes of labor cannot be made, even as the services themselves cannot be disjoined.

The work of distributing these supplies, and administering the general relief connected with it, has required the labor of a permanent corps averaging 200 men.

With the necessity of providing "independent transportation" for these supplies, this work has involved the purchase and maintenance of several wagon trains, and the chartering of a number of steamboats at various times. In the expense of this department is embraced the cost of "supplies purchased."

2d. The Department of Medical Inspection, or "Inquiry and Advice;" by which, for nearly three years, a series of inspections has been kept up by scientific men in the general and field hospitals, and among the various regiments composing the army. The aim of this Inspection has been to discover all conditions of camp or hospital life unfavorable to the health of the soldier, and to suggest and secure such sanitary reforms as would guard against disease and death. In the opinion of both military and medical men thousands of lives have been saved by this service.

3d. The "Special Relief Department," by which all sick, discharged or disabled men, not otherwise provided for, can be guarded, sheltered, fed, and helped out of trouble. This department includes the

maintenance of "Homes" and "Lodges," or temporary asylums, Relief Stations near battle-fields, Claim Agencies, Pension Offices, nurses to accompany the very feeble to their homes, men to visit hospitals and to look up and collect the back pay of soldiers, and a variety of kindred work. This is an agency, which, in these several ways, aids and protects on an average 2,500 men daily.

Under this head of Special Relief will be found placed the amount expended upon "hospital transports" and "hospital cars," a large sum in itself, but small when compared with the many thousands of sick and wounded to whom it furnished easy transportation from the battle-field to the hospital.

4th. The "Hospital Directory," whose mission it has been to serve as the friend of fathers, mothers, and wives of soldiers, by keeping those at home informed of the location and condition of their sick sons or husbands in the general hospitals. One million and thirty thousand names of hospital patients have been entered in the Directory, and many thousand anxious inquiries answered.

5th. The "Statistical Department," which gathers up, tabulates, and deduces valuable general principles from all the material collected by the Medical Inspectors of the Commission, so as to make it all available for preventing disease in the army. This work is also incidentally tributary to valuable scientific researches.

6th. The "Department of Publication," by which, as one branch of its work, the choicest results of modern medical and surgical science upon all the special topics most important for an army surgeon to be informed upon have been furnished gratuitously, and in compact form, to every medical man in the army. Many thousands of these medical monographs, prepared by the ablest men of the country, have been thus distributed by the Commission. Forming, as the series often has done, almost the only book of reference carried by the surgeons into the field, it cannot be doubted but this expenditure of money has *essentially* aided the army surgeon in his work of saving life and alleviating suffering.

Such are the chief divisions of the Commission's work upon which its money has been spent.

It will be seen that there is one other group of expenditures which embraces all outlays (as therein specified) not exclusively belonging to any one of the above-named divisions, but shared partly by each, and incurred in the general administration of the affairs of the Commission.

Appended to this report (as a thing essential to its completeness) is an estimate—"Exhibit B"—of the cash value of the various supplies which have been forwarded from the homes of the country to the distributing depots of the Commission, and thence carried by the agents of the Commission to the soldiers.

Add to this sum the cash expended on supplies, and compare with this total the expense of distribution, less the present appraised cash value of the property used in carrying on the work of supply distribution, and we shall find—"Exhibit C"—that but four and eighty-eight hundredths per centum (4.88) of the value of the goods issued has been spent in distributing them.

C. J. Stillé,
C. R Agnew,
J. Huntington Wolcott,
George T. Strong,
J. Foster Jenkins,
Committee.

Central Office, U. S. Sanitary Commission,
December 1, 1864.

EXHIBIT "A."

I.—Supply Department.

Cost of gathering and purchasing Supplies.

Money paid in direct purchase of supplies	$1,129,409 62	
Money advanced to Branches for supplies	59,015 22	
Cost of Canvassers, Agents and supply correspondents and clerks, for soliciting supplies	37,886 53	
Freight paid on collecting supplies at central storehouses	33,145 81	
Balance of "Field Hospital" account, (1861,) chiefly incurred for purchase of supplies	12,154 45	
Total cash outlay in gathering and in purchasing supplies		$1,271,611 63

Transportation and Distribution of Supplies.

Storehouse account—receiving, assorting, storing, packing, and issuing supplies from the storehouses at Washington, Baltimore, N. York, Louisville, &c.	$23,351 85	
Purchase of horses and wagons, repairs to wagons, forage, wages of drivers, subsistence, &c., (present value of horses, wagons, harness, storehouses, &c., $46,826 50)	30,958 25	
Charters of steamers, purchase of barges, &c., for transportation of supplies to the "Water Base,"—(present value of barges belonging to the Commission, $13,500)	171,772 65	
Expenses of "Field Relief Corps," and one-half expenses of "Auxiliary Relief Corps"	194,688 79	
Total expense of transportation and distribution of supplies		470,771 54
Total cost of Supply Department		$1,742,383 17

II.—Medical Inspection.

Expenses of this department	$119,935 69

III.—Special Relief Department.

Cost of establishing and maintaining twenty-two "Homes and Lodges" for the care of sick, furloughed, and discharged soldiers, also Relief Stations near battle-fields; including "Special Relief" rendered to sick and wounded soldiers and their families	$140,771 87
Cost of the various Agencies for obtaining "pensions," "arrears of pay," "bounty," "prize money," "widows claims," &c.	24,616 46
Expenses in the transportation and care of sick and discharged soldiers under circumstances where there is no legal claim upon the Government for relief	11,297 44
One-half expenses of "Auxiliary Field Relief Corps"	18,600 00
Cost of maintaining "hospital boats," including stores, surgeons, dressers, nurses, &c.	48,137 29
Equipment of "hospital cars"	7,677 62
Total cost of Special Relief Department	$251,100 68

IV.—Hospital Directory.

Total expense of maintaining the Hospital Directory at Washington, Philadelphia, New York and Louisville	$47,564 94

V.—Statistical Department.

Expenses of this Department, tabulating 14,000 returns camp inspectors, physical examinations, &c., &c	$14,241 98

VI.—Publications.

Monographs on medical and surgical subjects, for the use of surgeons in the field and hospitals; Reports of all kinds, Documents, "Sanitary Bulletin" at New York, and "Sanitary Reporter" at Louisville, Ky.	$38,800 37

VII.—Expenses.

Office Salaries, Washington, New York, Louisville, &c	$45,504 72
General expenses—including advertising, stationery, and Office printing, freight, postage, telegrams, rent, stables, and all petty expenses for all the above offices	78,774 31
	$124,279 03

Cash in Hands of Agents.

Cash in hands of Agents at Louisville, Ky; New Orleans, La.; Beaufort, S. C.; Newbern, N. C.; City Point, Va.; &c., &c.	$64,027 90

Miscellaneous.

Cash paid over to Western Sanitary Commission, (St. Louis), by order of California Contributors	$50,000 00
Metropolitan Fair, Metropolitan Fair buildings, and Brooklyn Fair	15,624 79
	$65,624 79

SUMMARY.

Total amount of receipts		$3,083,124 58
Expenditures.		
Supply Department	$1,742,383 17	
Medical Inspection	119,935 69	
Special Relief	251,100 68	
Hospital Directory	47,564 94	
Statistical Department	14,241 98	
Publications	38,800 37	
Expense	124,279 03	
Cash in hands of Agents	64,027 90	
Miscellaneous	65,624 79	
Total amount of expenditure	$2,467,958 55	
Balance of cash in hands of G. T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, New York, October 1, 1864	615,166 03	
		$3,083,124 58

EXHIBIT "B."

Showing the nature and appraised cash valuation of articles received in kind, as contributions for the soldiers, by the U. S. Sanitary Commission, from June, 1861, to October 1, 1864.

Bedding, hospital furniture, and wearing apparel	$5,286,439 85
Hospital food and delicacies	1,362,560 42
Miscellaneous supplies	298,437 28
Uninvoiced boxes, 5,013 boxes, (appraised value)	105,428 60
Valuation of Sanitary supplies sent directly from the Branches and Aid Societies to hospitals and regiments not included in the above list	81,795 00
	$7,134,661 15
Adding to the above the "total cost of gathering and purchasing supplies," (as per Exhibit A)	1,271,611 63
We have for cash valuation of all supplies which have passed through the hands of the U. S. Sanitary Commission	8,406,272 78

EXHIBIT "C."

Deducting from the sum spent for distribution, viz.		$470,771 54
The appraised cash value of the property on hand, now used in "supply distribution," viz:		
Horses, wagons, and harness	$40,976 50	
Barges	13,500 00	
Storehouses, Tents, and Appliances.	5,850 00	
		60,326 50
We have for the total cost of distribution		$410,445 04

Applying this sum to the total value of the supplies distributed, [Exhibit B,] viz: $8,406,272 78, we find the actual cost of distribution to have been four and eighty-eight one hundredths per centum [4.88] of the value of the supplies distributed.

Note.—During the last quarter (viz: July 1 to Oct. 1) the bill for "transportation of supplies" has been vastly increased by the necessity of chartering boats for carrying the large amount of anti-scorbutics and other stores forwarded by the U. S. Sanitary Commission to the Army of the Potomac. Previous to July 1, 1864, the "cost of distribution" was but three and seventy-six one hundredths per centum (3.76) of the value of the supplies distributed.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

It is an old saying that "figures are hard facts." It is an old philosophy, too, that teaches the wisdom of judging by facts.

It is a fact that we are still in the midst of a rebellion that for nearly four years past has written its history in blood and sorrow.

It is a fact that hundreds of thousands of men have been sick, wounded, and slain, in consequence of this rebellion.

It is a fact that hundreds of thousands more are now exposed to the dangers and privations of the camp and the march, that by tens of thousands they continue to fall by sickness and wounds, and that so long as the rebellion shall live, the sad record of suffering will continue to characterize our history as a nation.

It is a fact that the people have said that the army and navy shall be sustained amid all their hazards and toils; and that all the machinery of government which has been laid under contribution to serve this end, shall be sustained also.

It is a fact that the President and all the departments under his control; that Congress, with all its legislative wisdom; and the people in the majesty of numbers, and with the eloquence of unity, have resolved to stand fast by our soldiers and sailors, and sustain them while they sustain the laws.

It is a fact that next to the government, the people have been represented most earnestly and faithfully in the principles and work of the United States Sanitary Commission.

It is a fact that the Sanitary Commission has distributed supplies to the soldiers and sailors of our forces, valued at $8,406,272; and that this estimate is much lower than the goods would have cost, if they had been purchased.

It is a fact that the expense of distributing over $2,250,000 worth of supplies, as reported by the Western Department one year ago, was $35,000, or *one and one-half per cent.*, and that all statements to the contrary are false.

It is a fact that previous to July 1, 1864, the cost of distribution in all the departments was but three and seventy-six one hundreths per centum (3.76) of the value of the supplies; and that the large amount of anti-scorbutics and other stores forwarded to the Army of the Potamac, which necessitated the chartering of boats at the present high prices, has only increased the total cost of distribution to four and eighty-eight one hundredths per centum.

It is a fact that none of our agents are simple carriers of supplies, but *relief* agents; relief agents in the largest sense of the term; and that including them in the account of "cost of distribution," we include a vast work of beneficent charity in the (4.88) cost of distribution.

It is a fact that at a single centre of Special Relief, in Washington, 121,047 nights' lodgings have been given to our soldiers, in white, sweet beds; and that 359,816 substantial meals have been given at tables, besides which many thousand more meals have been given to steamboat loads, and car loads of wounded, at all hours of the day and night. It is a fact that there are twenty-two of these Special Relief Stations in the North and West, and that the meals and shelter furnished to our men, in transitu from the army, may be counted by millions annually.

It is a fact that the people have contributed with a freedom and generosity unequalled in any other age or nation of the world, to the Sanitary Commission, as the best and cheapest instrumentality within their reach for supplementing the appliances of the best of governments.

It is a fact that the more the people examine the work of the Commission, the more they are satisfied with its Christian principles, its lofty purposes, and its economical plans.

From the classification and arrangement of these general facts and figures, it is evident that the work that has been done hitherto is very large; that the good government, the brave army, and the loyal people, being all united in the one grand purpose of saving the country, as they look back upon the past, —count the demands of the present,—and estimate the wants of the future, have agreed that they must each rely upon the other, for the conduct of that future, as they have done in the past, and that the same class of results will follow, from the same kind of earnest labor.

The work is sure to go on. The tendency is more and more to unity; the people are becoming one in spirit and purpose; factions and factious oppositions, are being fused into a current that flows toward a common centre; and the grand record is

being made, of a nation united in its benefactions to the army, as it is in its purpose to cheer that army in its struggle for Union and liberty.

WOMAN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF.

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN. NO. III.

During the past fortnight, we have received 187 boxes and barrels of supplies. Our distributions, for the same period, have been, to Harper's Ferry, 10 packages; to Washington, 15 packages; City Point, 46 packages; Norfolk, Va., 3 packages; Beaufort, S. C., 52 packages; New Orleans, 11 packages; Hospitals in New York City and vicinity, 8 packages; U. S. Hospital Transport, 9 packages. Our greatest present need is flannel drawers, but we want all kinds of hospital supplies.

In the account of our Soldier's Aid Society Council, published in the last number of the Bulletin, there is a short statement of the work accomplished by this branch, from May 1 to Nov. 1, 1864. Although not an official semi-annual Report, it is accurate so far as it goes, and includes the greater part of what has been done during the half year. We will not repeat that statement here, but will only call your attention to it, as the gratifying result of your own work during the summer months. When we say that *we* have sent supplies hither and thither, to Grant's, or to Sherman's, or to Sheridan's armies; we are speaking of ourselves only as your trustees. We simply receive your supplies and pass them over to the soldiers, in your name. It has lately been objected that the work of the Commission was getting to be "too large;" that the gifts of individuals were being lost sight of, in the vast business character which the work has assumed. People think that because what they send must pass through the hands of an "Association," must go through the ordeal of examination and repacking, will appear and reappear in reports and invoices, and shipping lists, and all this under the direction of "Committees;" and when was a Committee ever suspected of having a heart, that by the time it reached the soldier, all the love and the sentiment which started with it will have been beaten out, and the wounded man, if he ever does get the article, upon which so many hours and so many stitches have been spent, will never know where it came from, nor what it means. But this is not so. Do you think that when the flannel shirt, you made last week, is put upon that soldier, faint and cold from loss of blood, and now happy at feeling warm and clean again, that he is thinking of store houses, and hundreds of boxes, and invoices, and shipping lists, and Associations and Committees? Far from it. His thoughts, instead, go back to the sewing circle of his own little village, to the woman who made that shirt—always supposed to be his own wife, or mother, or sister—to his own home. The bond cannot be more direct than it is, in both thought and feeling, between you and him. The Sanitary Commission Agent is only the messenger, who takes your gift to him, and, with it, whispers those words of cheer and spiritual consolation, which his friendless condition, and the nature of your gift demand. Is the work of the Commission then too large, because, through its means, this simple incident is repeated, over and over again, hundreds and thousands of times? Is there any heartlessness about an agency which watches over a single handkerchief, given by a little child, carries it thousands of miles, and with it bathes the head of some fever-stricken soldier? It is because its heart is large enough to sympathize with the sufferings of the masses as individuals, and because it sees so much suffering that it cannot relieve, that it calls upon you, so frequently, to increase your contributions—only some little thing from every one of you at home, to be taken to the hospital and battle-field, given to some sick or wounded soldier in your name, until all suffering shall be relieved, so far as lies in human power. Until this is done, the work of the Commission can never be "too large."

When this letter reaches you, dear friends and fellow workers, the holidays will be over, and we shall have all settled down to our steady winter's work. While wishing you a happy New-year, individually, and a happier year for our country than any of those lately passed, we would ask you to redouble your efforts at the Society, during this coming month of January, for we shall more than need to have your contributions doubled before the winter is over. The active campaigning has been removed, in great measure, from the Western to the Eastern States. Beside the ordinary drafts made upon our stores from the armies under Sheridan and Grant, as well as from those

troops along the coast, from New York to New Orleans, we have at present the addition of Sherman's large army, and the prospect of very active movements by all these armies. This branch, is the largest shipping depot of the Commission, and it is very important, therefore, that we be well prepared to meet the extraordinary demands which we cannot doubt will shortly be made upon us. We ask you to take the matter of devising means for doubling your ordinary monthly contribution, into serious consideration.

Before closing this article, we wish to make one suggestion about the BULLETIN. You will, many of you, doubtless, remember receiving last summer, a list of questions, asking your criticism as to the nature, or your opinion of the Sanitary Commission Bulletin. Suffice it to say that, the result of these enquiries was to establish without any doubt, the very great value of this publication, and the necessity of its continuance. It was found, however, that owing to the distractions of conversations, and of the work itself, it was almost impossible to read the pamphlet aloud at the Society's meetings. The only way was to circulate it among the members, between the meetings.

This is not done as thoroughly as it might be. Generally, every time the Bulletin is borrowed, it is returned to the Secretary of the Society, to be lent by her again. This occasions great loss of time and much trouble, particularly if the Secretary lives at any distance from the village. We would suggest that, at the next meeting of the Society, the Secretary take the names and addresses of all members desirous of seeing the Bulletin. That she should then write to the Associate Manager of her section, or to this office, for a sufficient number of copies, to allow one copy to every seven readers. In sending them out, write the names of seven ladies, residing near each other, at the head of each copy, with dates opposite each name, allowing two days to each, thus:

Mrs. Edwards, January 5th.
Mrs. Morton, " 7th.
Mrs. White, " 9th.
&c., &c., &c.

It will be the duty of each lady, to send the Bulletin to her next neighbor on the list, on the day placed opposite her name. At the end of the fortnight, or at the following meeting, the Bulletin should be returned to the Secretary, when a later number, then due, should be started on the same round. Several copies might, in this way, be kept circulating through a village, with but little trouble. If once thoroughly systematized, the carrying out of the plan only necessitates, on the part of each person, the sending of a pamphlet, a short distance, once every fortnight, and a very little care and attention. Try the plan, and let us know how it succeeds.

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER,
Chairman Committee on Correspondence, &c.
NEW YORK, *Dec.* 17, 1864.

MEETING AT BUFFALO, N. Y.

PUBLIC MEETING AND WOMEN'S COUNCIL.

BY ONE OF ITS MEMBERS.

The ladies of the General Aid Society in Buffalo, anxious that their auxiliaries should more thoroughly understand the Commission, for which they have so earnestly worked, and feeling the importance of a general meeting, issued invitations to all their auxiliaries to meet in council on December 7 and 8.

Notwithstanding the extreme inclemency of the weather 73 delegates, representing the societies at *Otto, Lancaster, Lockport, Beach Bridge, Newstead, Brant, Cheektowaga Suspension Bridge, Clymer, Forestville, Williamsville, North Boston, Colder, Evan's Centre, Griffin's Mills, East Hamburg, Byron, Portageville, Wyoming, Willink, Varysburgh, Eagle, Perry, East Aurora, Youngstown, South Wales, Alden, Cowlesville, Glenwood, Harris Hill, Hanover Centre, Lewiston*, and *Middleburg*, reported at the Aid Rooms and were assigned to their different places of entertainment.

The first meeting was held in St. James Hall, on the evening of the 7th. The meeting was called to order by the Rev. Dr. Hosmer, and on motion Hon. G. W. Clinton and Dr. Rochester were appointed president and secretary.

Dr. Parrish of Philadelphia was then introduced, who gave an insight into the workings of the Commission; he opened his address by reading extracts of reports from the Aid Society, which showed since its organization in January, 1861, $20,000 in money received, $1,800 of which was given by children; 180,497 articles disbursed, valued at $218,175; the expenses of the room, which includes freight, cartage, and publishing annual and monthly reports, postage stamps, fuel (not donated), porter's wages for the

last year and a half, (before that time hiring only as needed) and other incidental expenses, amount to about $1,500. 17,083 shirts, and 13,000 pairs drawers had been cut in the rooms, and returned made by the different societies. *At the "Soldiers' Rest,"* since its opening in June, 5,350 meals, 1,558 nights' lodgings had been furnished to 2,003 disabled soldiers, going to and from the army, at an expense in money of $460 60.

The Local Claim Agent's report showed since its establishment under the auspices of the Aid Society, in May last, 220 claims presented. 180 *letters* had been written to the hospital directories in Washington and Louisville since June, and 74 conclusive answers returned to anxious friends.

Dr. Parrish was followed by Dr. Marks, who gave feeling incidents of his experience in the army, during the three years he acted as chaplain.

Dr. Heacock closed with a beautiful tribute to the two Commissions.

The meeting adjourned to meet in the hall at 10 o'clock the next morning, when, although the weather still continued tempestuous, a fair audience were present.

The names of delegates present were called.

The names of 48 societies sending reports read.

Dr. Parrish then introduced Mrs. Stephen Barker, a hospital visitor of the Sanitary Commission, in and around Washington; she gave in a happy manner an idea of her routine of daily life, moving her audience to tears and smiles by the sad or amusing incidents. She spoke of the little things from *home* which cheered the soldier; among others, of "little bags filled with 'a little of everything,' called 'comfort bags;' not forgetting," she said, "among the contents, a ball of yarn and a few needles, or a bit of flannel, and above all, a letter must be there, no matter how short, a few written words to show a sympathizing *heart* had arranged all these things." Her remarks made a deep impression, as evinced by an old lady, who, with tears in her eyes, thanked Mrs. Barker, and said: "I will go home to take a greater interest than ever in my work for the soldiers."

Mr. Sperry, Relief Agent of the Commission at City Point, was earnest and forcible in his recital of his duties, impressing upon all, the necessity of providing *flannel shirts.*

A unanimous vote of thanks was given to Mrs. Barker and Mr. Sperry for their entertaining addresses.

Dr. Parrish then, by a large diagram which he had brought with him, explained the organization of the Commission, the connections of the branches to the central office, the *gratuitous labors of the Standing Committee*, the duties of secretaries, &c., &c., giving in a brief address a clear and distinct idea of the general plan of work of this noble institution. A delegate remarked in reply to Dr. Parrish, when he expressed his desire to answer any question not understood, that "she had many to ask when she came, but the remarks of the morning had answered everything." After complimenting the faithful co-laborers of the Aid Society, in the country, upon their untiring devotion to the work, he closed his address, leaving that impression upon his hearers which will inspire them with greater confidence in the "Aid Society," greater love and devotion to the Commission, and with pleasant remembrances of those who came to instruct them.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION IN THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

HONOLULU, *October* 11, 1864.

REV. DR. BELLOWS,
President of the Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR:—A Christian lady at the Sandwich Islands, a native, who was young inthe days of Kamehameha I., but is now blind, sends with her best *aloha* (love) a small contribution of tamarinds to the soldiers who are fighting for the great cause of human liberty. She wished that she had something *better* than sour tamarinds to send to the brave soldiers, and to gratify her kind feelings, I have had the sour fruit taken out of the pods and preserved in Hawarian sugar. Most happy shall I be if they reach their destination in safety, and add a mite to the comfort of those for whom they are designed. Praying God Almighty to bless the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, and speedily bring the war to an end, I am, in behalf of the good old Estera, (Esther),

Very truly yours,
MRS. M. P. CHAMBERLAIN.

[Mrs. Chamberlain is one of our oldest and most estimable missionary ladies.]

CONTRIBUTIONS of woolen mittens and socks for the army are solicited. Mittens may be made of cloth. The fore finger and thumb *should be distinct.*

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1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
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W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
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Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, jr., Philadelphia, Penna.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
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George T. Strong, Treasurer.
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J. S. Newberry, M.D., Associate Secretary.
J. H. Douglas, M.D., Associate Secretary.
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Henry W. Bellows, D.D.	George T. Strong.
Wm. H. Van Buren, M.D.	Wolcott Gibbs, M.D.
C. R. Agnew, M.D.	Charles J. Stillé.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regi-

ment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, State House, New Haven, Conn.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 244 F Street, Washington, D. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Distribution, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 46 Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Harper's Ferry, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Parole, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, City Point, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Newberne, N. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Beaufort, S. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, New Orleans, La

Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, N. Y.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 59 Fourth Street, Pittsburgh, Penna.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Columbus, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

EAST.

"Special Relief" Office, 76 Kingston Street, Boston, Mass.

"Special Relief" Office, 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

"Soldiers' Rest," Buffalo, Exchange street, opposite R. R. Depot.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C., where assistance is rendered in procuring Pay, Pensions, Bounty, Prize Money, and arrears of Pay and Bounty, and in various other ways.

"The Home," No. 374 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

WEST.

Soldiers' Home, No. 81 Jefferson avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Soldiers' Home, Third Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky., James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, New Albany, corner of Main and State Streets.

Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill., C. N. Shipman, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn., Captain I. Brayton, Sup't. Rev. J. Hoblit, Relief Agent

Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio, Col. Isaac Dalton, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio, Joseph Jerome, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn., C. W. Christy, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Camp Nelson, Ky., Thomas Butler, Superintendent.

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SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * *

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.
C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

No. 30. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY 15, 1865. No. 30.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above 14,000 copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No.* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

OUR PRISONERS.—THE EXCHANGE.

BY L. C. LEGGITT.

WASHINGTON, *Dec.* 17, 1864.

In company with seven other agents, I left this city on the 27th day of October, and in compliance with instructions, proceeded to Fortress Monroe, having in charge a large supply of sanitary stores, consisting of crackers, onions, pickles, tomatoes, wine, lemons, milk, beef, pails, slippers, towels, caps, handkerchiefs, stockings, tea, lanterns, candles, shirts, drawers, pillows, sugar, cheese, chocolate, &c., &c., which stores were placed on board U. S. Steamer "*Crescent*," by order of Colonel Mulford, Agent for Exchange of Prisoners.

On the 8th November, I sailed in the "*Crescent*" for Port Royal, S. C., where we arrived on the 13th November.

Colonel Mulford at once proceeded to Venus Point, to meet Captain Hatch, and consummate the arrangement for the exchange, while the fleet went to Beaufort to obtain the requisite supply of coal. This detained us until the 18th, when we sailed from Port Royal to Venus Point, and their met Colonel Mulford, and a number of the vessels of the fleet.

THE FLAG.

On the 20th November, Captain Hatch came down the river, bringing one thousand prisoners. At the sight of our flag, they commenced cheering, until they were forced to desist from inability to raise their voices. Some of them, who were too feeble to join in cheering the old flag, testified their joy by tears, the only manner in which their excessive debility would allow them to manifest it.

DESTITUTION.

I trust I never shall have occasion to witness such another spectacle, as these poor fellows presented: many of them destitute of shoes, and their feet so badly bruised and swollen, that they suffered most excruciating pain at every step. Most of them had but one or two articles of clothing to protect them, and some of them were almost entirely destitute of anything in the shape of a garment. Upon reaching our vessel, whatever old clothes and rags they had upon them, were thrown overboard, and after a thorough washing, they were each provided with a suit of clothes, and then a plentiful supply of good coffee, meat and hard tack, was furnished them. After which, they were transferred to the vessel which was to bear them to a civilized country; and as we steamed down the river, cheer after cheer, as hearty as their weak condition would permit, were given for Colonel Mulford and the flag.

We received in all, at Venus Point, five thousand and five hundred prisoners. When we were informed that General Sherman's near approach to Savannah, would prevent the delivery of any more at that place, we at once sailed for Charleston Harbor, where the balance of the ten thousand were received. These last were, if possible, in a more destitute condition, than those received at Venus Point.

One man breathed his last, while they were conveying him from one vessel to another.

On the 12th December, the "*Crescent*" received her compliment of passengers, consisting of sixty-eight officers, and seven hundred and sixty men. The highest praise is due to Captain Lathan, his officers, and the men of the "*Crescent*," for their kindness to the officers and soldiers, and for their constant endeavors to alleviate their sufferings, and make them as comfortable as they could during their voyage to the North.

SUPPLIES.

The stores entrusted to our charge, were distributed in such a manner as circumstances seemed to require, with a view to relieve suffering, and render these abused patriots as comfortable as possible, and their gratitude there for, was expressed by calling blessings upon the Sanitary Commission, and in grateful tears.

LEFT BEHIND.

They all speak of the sufferings and destitution of their comrades who still linger in the rebel prisons, not having been so fortunate as themselves in obtaining their release, and beg the Sanitary Commission to do all in their power to alleviate their sufferings, by furnishing them with comfortable clothing, and other articles which they so much need.

Being fully acquainted with the condition in which those were at the time they reached the flag of truce boats, we can easily realize what must be the situation of their more unfortunate comrades, who still remain in the power of the rebels. And what must be their sufferings during the winter months? *Dying by inches* for want of nourishment and suitable clothing.

INTERESTING LETTERS.

BY MRS. L. G. PARRISH.

ANNAPOLIS, *Dec.* 1, 1864.

The steamer *Constitution* arrived this morning with seven hundred and six (706) men, one hundred and twenty-five (125) of whom were sent immediately to hospitals, being too ill to enjoy more than the sight of their "promised land." Many indeed, were in a dying condition. Some had died a short time before the arrival of the boat. Those who were able, proceeded to the high ground above the landing, and after being divided into battalions, each was conducted in turn to the Government storehouse, under charge of Capt. Davis, who furnished each man with a new suit of clothes, recorded his name, regiment and company. They then passed out to another building near by, where warm water, soap, towels, brushes and combs awaited them.

WRITING LETTERS.

After their ablutions they returned to the open space in front of the building, to look around and enjoy the realities of their new life. Here they were furnished with paper, envelopes, sharpened pencils, hymn books and tracts from the Sanitary Commission, and sat down to communicate the glad news of their freedom to friends at home. In about two hours most of the men who were able, had sealed their letters and deposited them in a large mail bag which was furnished, and soon sent on their way to hundreds of anxious kindred and friends.

DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD—JOY OF THE PRISONERS.

Capt. Davis very kindly invited me to accompany him to another building, to witness the administration of the food. Several cauldrons containing nice coffee, piles of new white bread, and stands covered with meat, met the eye. Three dealers were in attendance. The first gave to each soldier a loaf of bread, the second a slice of boiled meat, the third, dipping the new tin-cup from the hand of each, into the coffee cauldron, dealt out hot coffee; and how it was all received I am unable to describe. The feeble ones reached out their emaciated hands to receive gladly, that which they were scarcely able to carry, and with brightening faces and grateful expressions went on their way. The stouter ones of the party, however, must have their jokes, and such expressions as the following passed freely among them: "No stockade about this bread," "This is no confederate dodge," &c. One fellow, whose skin was nearly black from exposure, said, "That's more bread than I've seen for two months." Another, "That settles a man's plate." A

bright eyed boy of eighteen, whose young spirit had not been completely crushed out in rebeldom, could not refrain from a hurrah, and cried out, "Hurrah for Uncle Sam, hurrah! No Confederacy about this bread." One poor feeble fellow, almost too faint to hold his loaded plate, muttered out, "Why, this looks as if we were going to live, there's no grains of corn for a man to swallow whole in this loaf." Thus the words of cheer and hope came from almost every tongue, as they received their rations and walked away, each with his thank you, thank you; and sat down upon the ground, which forcibly reminded me of the scripture account where the multitude sat down in companies, "and did eat and were filled."

OH! WAIT FOR ME.

Ambulances came afterwards to take those who were unable to walk, to Camp Parole, which is two miles distant. One poor man, who was making his way behind all the rest to reach the ambulance, thought it would leave him, and with a most anxious and pitiful expression, cried out, "Oh, wait for me!" I think I shall never forget his look of distress. When he reached the wagon he was too feeble to step in, but Captain Davis and Rev. J. A. Whitaker, Sanitary Commissson agent, assisted him till he was placed by the side of his companions, who were not in much better condition than himself. When he was seated he was so thankful that he wept like a child, and those who stood by to aid him could do no less. Soldiers—brave soldiers, officers and all, were moved to tears. That must be a sad discipline which not only wastes the manly form till the sign of humanity is nearly obliterated, but breaks the manly spirit till it is as tender as a child's.

Dec. 6. 1864.

A VISIT TO ST. JOHNS' COLLEGE HOSPITAL.

The St. John's College Hospital is under the management of Dr. Palmer, surgeon-in-charge, and his executive officer, Dr. Tremaine. These gentlemen are worthy of praise for the systematic arrangement of its cleanly apartments, and for the very kind attention they bestow on their seven hundred patients. I visited the hospital a day or two ago, and, from what I saw there, can assure the relatives at home that the sufferers are well provided for. If they could only be seen, how comfortable they look in their neat white spread beds, much pain would be spared them. One of the surgeons informed me that all the appliances are bestowed either by the government or the Sanitary Commission.

ROCKING CHAIRS.

As I passed through the different wards, I noticed that each one was well supplied with rocking chairs, and alluding to the great comfort they must be to the invalids, the surgeon replied: "Yes, this is one of the rich gifts made to us by the Sanitary Commission." An invalid took up the words and remarked: "I think it's likely that all about me is from the Sanitary, for I see my flannel shirt, this wrapper, and pretty much all I've got on, has the stamp of the United States Sanitary Commission on it."

DIET KITCHEN.

The diet kitchen is under the care of Miss Rich, who, with her assistants, was busy preparing delicacies of various kinds for two hundred patients who were not able to go to the convalescent table. The whole atmosphere was filled with the odor of savory viands. On the stove I counted mutton chops, beef steaks, oysters, chicken, milk, tea, and other very palatable articles cooking. A man stood by a table, buttering nicely toasted bread; before him were eight to ten rows of the staff of life, rising up like pillars of strength to support the inner man. The chief cook in this department informed me that he buttered twelve hundred slices of bread, or toast, daily for the diet patients, and prepared eighty-six different dishes at each meal. While in conversation with this good-natured person, the butcher brought in a supply of meat, amounting, he informed me, to one hundred pounds per day for the so-called diet kitchen, though this did not sound much like it. Before we left this attractively clean place the oysterman was met emptying his cans. Upon inquiring how many oysters he had, he replied, "Six gallons is my every day deposit here;" and oh! they were so inexpressibly fine-looking, I could not resist robbing some poor fellow of one large bi-valve to ascertain their quality. Next we were shown the store-room, where there was a good supply of Sanitary stores, pads, pillows, shirts, drawers, arm-slings, stock of crutches, fans, and other comforts, which, the doctor said, had been deposited by the United States Sanitary Commission agent.

These were useful articles that were not furnished by the government.

The executive officer having given us permission to find our way among the patients, we passed several hours most profitably and interestingly, conversing with those who had none to cheer them for many months, and writing letters for those who were too feeble to use the pen. When the day closed our labors we felt like the disciple of old, who said, "Master, it is good to be here," and wished that we might set up our tabernacle and glorify the Lord by doing good to the sick, the lame, and those who had been in prison.

December 8, 1864

OUR PRISONERS FROM SAVANNAH.

No human tongue or pen can ever describe the horrible suffering we have witnessed this day.

TWO HUNDRED BAD CASES.

I was early at the landing, 8½ o'clock in the morning, before the boat threw out her ropes for security. The first one brought two hundred bad cases, which the Naval surgeon told me should properly go to the hospital near by, were it not that others were coming, every one of whom was in the most wretched condition imaginable. They were, therefore, sent in ambulances to Camp Parole hospital, distant two miles, after being washed and fed at the barracks.

A DECK LOAD OF THE DYING.

In a short time another boat-load drew near, and oh! such a scene of suffering humanity I desire never to behold again. The whole deck was a bed of straw for our exhausted, starved, emaciated, dying fellow-creatures. Of the five hundred and fifty that left Savannah, the surgeon informed me not over two hundred would survive; fifty had died on the passage; three died while the boat was coming to the land of liberty. I saw five men dying as they were carried on stretchers from the boat to the Naval Hospital. The stretcher-bearers were ordered by Surgeon D. Vanderkieft to pause a moment that the names of the dying men might be obtained. To the credit of the officers and their assistants it should be known that everything was done in the most systematic and careful manner. Each stretcher had four attendants, who stood in line and came up promptly, one after the other, to receive the sufferers as they were carried off the boat. There was no confusion, no noise; all acted with perfect military order. Ah! it was a solemn funeral service to many a brave soldier that was thus being performed by kind hearts and hands.

THE INSANE.

Some had become insane; their wild gaze and clenched teeth convinced the observer that reason had fled; others were idiotic; a few lying in spasms; perhaps the realization of the hope long cherished, yet oft deferred, or the welcome sound of the music, sent forth by the military band, was more than their exhausted nature could bear. When blankets were thrown over them, no one would have supposed that a human form lay beneath, save for the small prominence which the bony head and feet indicated. Oh! God of justice, what retribution awaits the perpetrators of such slow and awful murder.

VERMIN AND DISEASE.

The hair of some was matted together, like beasts of the stall which lie down in their own filth. Vermin are over them in abundance. Nearly every man was darkened by scurvy, or black with rough scales, and with scorbutic sores. One in particular was reduced to the merest skeleton; his face, neck, and feet covered with thick, green mould. A number who had Government clothes given them on the boat were too feeble to put them on, and were carried ashore partially dressed, hugging their clothing with a death-grasp that they could not be persuaded to yield. It was not unfrequent to hear a man feebly call, as he was laid on a stretcher, "Don't take my clothes;" "Oh, save my new shoes;" "Don't let my socks go back to Andersonville." In their wild death-struggle, with bony arms and hands extended, they would hold up their new socks, that could not be put on because of their swollen limbs, saying, "Save 'em till I get home." In a little while, however, the souls of many were released from their worn-out frames and borne to that higher home where all things are registered for a great day of account.

AN APPEAL TO CHARITY.

Let our friends at home have open purses and willing hands to keep up the supplies for the great demand that must necessarily be made upon them. Much more must yet be done.

Thousands now languish in Southern prisons, that may yet be brought thus far

toward home. Let every Aid society be more diligent, that the stores of the Sanitary Commission may not fail in this great work.

TOWELS, COMBS, ETC.

The government does not supply towels and combs to the soldiers. On their arrival the agents of the Commission are ready with a stock of these very useful and much needed articles, giving them freely to each man. Fourteen hundred towels were given out one morning, and the recipients, who had not seen such things for a long time, and who needed them much, made merry over them indeed. One said, "I do believe if it wasn't for the Sanitary, we would never have got out of the Confederacy. I do believe they have interceded for us."

FROM ONE COMPETENT TO JUDGE.

The Rev. B. T. Phillips, Chaplain U.S.A. General Hospital at Annapolis Junction—whose ability, spirituality, and untiring zeal in his noble work have won for him golden opinions both from his old friends and from the officers and men with whom he has long been associated—in a letter addressed to Rev. J. A. Whitaker, for many months our agent at Annapolis, speaks so frankly and advisedly of the Sanitary Commission, that we cannot refrain from extracting as follows:—

U. S. A. GENERAL HOSPITAL,
ANNAPOLIS, *Dec.* 15, 1864.

REV. AND DEAR BROTHER:—The duties incidental to the recent large arrival of paroled prisoners at this hospital from Andersonville and other prisons of Georgia, have prevented me from making an earlier expression of my sentiments towards you, and my feelings at your leaving Annapolis for your new sphere of labor in behalf of the Sanitary Commission. * * *

Of the great and good work of the Sanitary Commission I would like to say something, but I hardly know how to speak of it without using terms, which, while to me they seem to fall far below what truth and justice demand, may to those unacquainted with or experienced in its practical workings, seem exaggerations. But the fact is, it cannot be exaggerated, and language is inadequate. Following the soldier as it does from his enlistment to his discharge, whether that be to his family or his long home, its kind and judicious and prompt help is ever at hand, oftentimes unconsciously to himself, but shedding its gentle influence and ministrations of mercy as nothing else does or can. And all this with an economy and protection against imposition, that is rarely found in even our best benevolent enterprises. I speak advisedly when I say that in these regards it may safely challenge comparison with any institution of the kind with which I am acquainted. I know whereof I speak, having carefully examined into its mode of operation, and having had much personal experience of its practical working since its very commencement, in my regiment, in temporary hospital, on many a battle-field, and in general hospitals. In all that experience of nearly four years, I have had increasing reasons for believing not only that no other organization can compare with this noble pioneer in the work of humanity it has undertaken, but also to admire the thorough business manner in which it has been conducted, the wisdom which has been displayed by its managers, and their good judgment in the selection of the agents, to whom has been entrusted the disposing of the charity which the people have put into their hands. Their policy to employ the best agents, and retain them as they become experienced, as well as their good fortune in these regards, have had just such results as might have been expected; they have been served faithfully, and the soldier has reaped the benefit, while the loyal people of the land have shown their appreciation by their liberal gifts. They feel they can confide in it, and that by no other agency can they so directly and beneficently relieve the suffering soldier, or in case of his death, help his needy family.

But I find I must stop, leaving unsaid what my heart prompts me to utter, but which I have not the time nor space to say.

BY E. C. GUILES.

ANNAPOLIS, MD., *Dec.* 17, 1864.

Since my arrival at this place, I have occupied myself in obtaining the requisite information, and answering letters of inquiry, received at this office. These letters have been numerous, and often of a most affecting character. Appeals from mothers and wives, beseeching us to use every effort to get some intelligence for them, from those recently returned from imprisonment at the South—of their dear ones—last heard from,

it may be, six months or a year ago; short manly notes from fathers or brothers, asking us whether such or such a name was to be found among the list of paroled prisoners. Requests such as these, could not fail to command our immediate and earnest attention—promptness and thoroughness of investigation, however, it has been impossible to combine.

Twice have the flag of truce boats recommenced their trips; they have come with such frequency and brought such large numbers—one thousand or fifteen hundred, sometimes in a day—that the list of names has been in constant use by the military authorities, and could not be at once referred to. Every facility, however, has been afforded us, and in many instances, we have had the pleasure of communicating to the anxious once at home, the news, that he whom they had inquired for, was left behind, in good health, by his comrades. In other cases, we have been obliged to convey the sad intelligence, that the person inquired after, had died in captivity. But, in such instances, we could almost feel glad of having something definite to reply: it was so much harder to be compelled to say, as in the other cases we have been, that no information could be obtained. In these cases, however, a careful list of the names has been kept, that no opportunity may be lost, as the boats continue to arrive, of giving what intelligence we can.

I have occupied myself in assisting at the distribution of the articles to the men. Liberal as the provision made by the Government is, there are certain articles of universal necessity, which they do not supply. Here it has been our pleasure, as well as our duty, to furnish, as far as the stores at our disposal would allow, to every man.

The first wish of the paroled prisoner, finding himself at liberty, is to communicate with home. It is our aim, therefore, as soon as may be, after the arrival of each boat, to furnish each man with paper, envelope and pencil. These are most glady welcomed and put in use. The next desire of the men, is to carry out more fully the work already begun, of cleansing themselves from the dirt, and freeing themselves from the vermin incident to the terrible life they have been leading. We take them, when mustered into line for dinner, and issue a towel and a comb to every man. These are most gratefully received. The only words of complaint which have reached my ears here been owing to the great earnestness of the men to get thoroughly cleaned. Our stock of fine-tooth combs being small and speedily exhausted, caused a good deal of disappointment. However, we supplied them with a comb of some sort, and the change in their appearance, after receiving a suit of clothes from Government, and facilities for making themselves clean, is very remarkable. We have issued also to each man, a skein of thread and needle.

I have also had the honor to assist from time to time in the duties of the office. I have been greatly interested in the experiences of the officers who have begun to arrive on the later boats. Not entitted to clothing from Government like enlisted men, they have come to the office clad in the ragged and dirty garments, which have been their only defence from the cold in their prison life, to see what we could do for them. Underclothing has been issued readily, but outer garments not being included in our stock on hand, it has been impossible for us to supply. But it has been very impressive to observe the manly and simple dignity of these men, in tattered clothes. With long untrimmed hair and beard, with feeble tottering gait, there was yet to be seen, the noble spirit unquenched, the true man coming out purer, with more tried patience, with more calm power from the furnace of affliction—the fiery torment of the terrible experience.

The frank, straightforward gratitude with which they accepted the little favors we were able to do them, was very touching. It is a thing to be very thankful for, and from which to take hope for the future, that such men have been spared to the nation.

I have busied myself as opportunity offered, in observing whatever was going on in connection with the men, now at this post, that I might obtain such a knowledge of the general condition of affairs, as would enable me more efficiently to serve the Sanitary Commission.

I have several times witnessed the impressive scene presented by a funeral in the Naval School yard, preceded by the band, and escorted by a guard of men under arms.

The long file of wagons moved slowly up and took their positions in front of the Chapel. On the steps stood the chaplains of the Naval School Hospital, and the Officers Hospital, and delegates of the Chris-

tian Commission, with some of the ladies connected with the hospital, and all around were gathered such of the men as were able to be about. A hymn was sung by the ladies, with some of the members of the band. An address was made by a delegate of the Christian Commission. The list of the dead (forty-four names) was read, prayer was offered by the chaplains, the solemn notes of the band were heard again, and the line of wagons passed on, each draped with the American flag, to the Cemetery, a mile or two out of town. The large number of the dead commemorated in a single service; the absence of any near personal friends; the presence within the curtains of the neighboring tents of so many hundreds, who may soon be borne out to be placed by the side of them; the thought of the long suffering through which they have passed, and of the blessed rest they had found, made the scene one long to be remembered.

I have also had the pleasure of attending the prayer meetings, held two evenings in the week at the Chapel. They were exceedingly interesting occasions. Most of the men who took part in the exercises were young men, and their testimony was clear and strong to the power of faith, to maintain the soul through the most fearful trials and temptations. They had found Christ to be their strength and comfort in their time of adversity, and looked forward with joy to devoting themselves to his service in the brighter days which were now in store for them amid the prevaling sadness from present suffering and distressing recollections; these hours of prayer and thanksgiving, of glorying in God, and rejoicing in the Lord Jesus Christ, are times of true repentance.

THE SOLDIER'S FUNERAL HYMN.

BY MRS. J. W. LANE.

We weep, to-day, the fallen brave,
Now sleeping in their distant grave,
Our stricken hearts in anguish mourn,
For loved ones who will ne'er return.

The soldier's calm, untroubled sleep,
Where Heaven's pure dews alone may weep;
Nor clash of arms, nor trampling feet,
Can reach them in their safe retreat.

We saw not the ensanguined fray,
Where the red life-stream ebbed away,
Nor watched the dauntless spirit's flight,
As life's fair sun went down in night.

We saw not Death's gray shadows lie
On the damp brow and glazing eye,
Before us still they seem to move,
All health and brightness, life and love.

Thou Sovereign Ruler of the skies,
Accept this costly sacrifice,
And teach our aching hearts to rest;
Resigned and hopeful, on thy breast.

And when fair Freedom's banner waves,
In triumph over these honored graves,
To them each freeman's love shall raise,
A hero's monument of praise.

EAST BETHANY, December 5, 1864.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

BY J. WARNER JOHNSON,

SUPERINTENDENT OF FIELD RELIEF.

Dec. 14, 1864.

Thinking that the readers of the SANITARY BULLETIN, might feel some interest in following the movements of their agents during the recent raid under General Warren, and in learning somewhat of the life we lead, I propose to give you a sketch of our movements. The ordinary quiet of camp life, was broken about sunset on Tuesday, the 6th inst., by orders for the Fifth Corps, and the third division of the Second Corps, to be ready to move at day-break the following morning, with six days rations, and suitable ammunition.

The supply trains, ambulances, and ammunition wagons, were limited in number, and every order indicated that a rapid but not very extended move was to be made.

BATTLE SUPPLIES.

Before dark, a wagon was filled with our battle supply, for each of these Corps. Woolen shirts, drawers and socks, condensed milk, whiskey and brandy for milk punch, beef stock, soft crackers, farina and corn starch, rags, bandages, blankets, handkerchiefs and towels, and such articles as are most needed after a battle, constituted our stores on this occasion. Some tea, sugar, soft crackers, and a few cans of apple sauce, were added for our mess; time not permitting us to prepare suitable substantial food, we relied upon our friends for beef and bread, as occasion required, and never in vain.

MOVING.

By daylight of the morning of the 7th Dec., we were ready to move, Mr. Barton taking charge of the 5th Corps supplies, leaving his associate in charge of the Station, while Mr. Holbrook, accompanied by Uncle John (Vassar,) and the writer, went with the wagon of the Second Corps. Each agent in charge, was provided with a saddle horse, and in the wagon was forage enough for six days. Scarcely had we left camp,

before the promise of the early morning was realized, by a heavy rain storm, which lasted till noon, and made our gum blankets of the greatest value. By the end of the day, the sun broke out bright and warm, making every one cheerful and inspirited; the moon afterwards added her mild light to guide us on our way to camp by nine o'clock.

MIDNIGHT SHOWER.

We were roused from comfortable sleep about midnight, by a heavy shower, which coming upon us suddenly, as we lay upon the plain without shelter, (our tent having been forgotten,) soaked both beds and occupants before we succeeded in getting into or under the wagon. When the heaviest of the shower had passed, we made a fire, and gathered around it till day-break, drying our clothes, and comforting the inner-man with tea and crackers. By that time, the column was again on the move, and falling into position in the rear of the hospital wagons, our team began the duty of the day.

UNCERTAINTY.

Laughable conjectures as to our destination, beguiled the slow and tedious march of our little army. They varied as much as the minds of their originators, and extended from a reconnoissance toward the South Side road to a union with General Sherman's forces in Georgia. It was not clear however, that our six days rations would last quite long enough for a trip into South Carolina, or, that our little army could subsist itself upon the enemy, on so long a march.

SUSSEX CO.

Our road lead us through Sussex C. H., a village of some pretentions, on the map, but owning only three or four houses, conspicious among which, is the Court House of brick, standing a short distance back from the road. The general appearance of this country indicates exhaustion. The soil under good cultivation and proper returns will be productive, but the large farms and bad system pursued, has reduced it so much, that no evidences exist of fair crops being harvested. Fields of cotton are quite frequent. Some have been picked; a few still carry their small crop.

CONTRABANDS.

Groups of contrabands met us occasionally, giving active exercise to the humane feelings of those in sympathy with them, by their appeals for aid. Children of all ages, and the infirm, through their leaders, asked for transportation; but a difficulty arose in getting it, from all the wagons still being loaded, and from the fact that we were going from home with limited rations for the troops.

Few, if any of these parties, were however, left behind our column. Could any advocate of the *Divine Institution* have witnessed the meeting of these poor creatures with their friends by the road side, and have seen the exhibitions of delight with which they welcomed each accession to the ranks of those, who loved freedom better than slavery, he would have learned a lesson never to be forgotten.

WELDON RAIL ROAD.

About noon of Thursday, we came in sight of a railroad bridge over the Nottoway river, which the cavalry had fired a short time before. Here the object of the move was developed. Before us was the Weldon Railroad, in operation toward Petersburg as far as Stony creek, where wagons were used to carry supplies across the Danville road or around the Army of Potomac to Petersburg.

DESTRUCTION OF THE ROAD.

The line of road was at once occupied by the troops, and for thirty-six hours almost the entire force bent its best efforts to its destruction. Many willing hands make short work with such a duty. Strong arms are used, and many men apply themselves to the task. The rails and ties are lifted on one side, and thrown over into one long line.

The ties when torn from the rails, are piled up, and the latter are laid across them and covered with light wood, so that when the fire has reached its fiercest power, and the iron has become softened by heat, the weight of the ends, bends the rails to the ground, and utterly ruins them for present use. Twenty miles of such devastation, was accomplished without opposition, and the Weldon road to the Meheria river, ceased to exist. Rebels in Richmond, have but one line of rail, the single track road to Danville, by which to carry troops and supplies, from the Southern States.

HALT AT NIGHT.

Our halt took place about sunset, the weather growing colder, and giving indica-

tions of snow. The first duty on reaching camp, is to get a supply of soft dry wood for the night, and water for supper. Instinct seems to guide the soldier to the nearest spot where either can be obtained, and fences of all kind disappear with wonderful rapidity, before the host of claimants, who throng after them. A fire is quickly started; the coffee soon boils over the hot coals; the slice of beef or pork is soon fried; and a gum blanket spread upon the ground, furnishes a table, around which, appetites sharpened by a fast since daybreak, are gathered for the frugal meal.

Should the ground prove very rough, a few strokes of the shovel will level it to receive the blankets upon which we lie. If it rains, a gum cover over our blankets, is our protection from the storm of a winter's night, and fortunate are those whose slumbers are undisturbed by the discovery that they obstruct the flow of a young river on its oceanward course.

START AT DAY-BREAK.

Daybreak finds the column on the march, and detained only by the labor of destroying the railroad, we go forward to the Meheria River, about twenty miles from Weldon. Here a skirmish between our cavalry and the rebel forces on the other side of the river, exposes the defences thrown up to prevent our crossing. Enough of the road has been torn up to prevent its use for weeks. The passage of the stream would involve considerable loss, with no other benefit, than the opportunity of destroying a few miles of the road beyond, and as the weather was getting colder and wetter, and the roads more difficult for the trains, it was decided to retire. Half an inch of sleet and snow covered the country and the sleepers in the army, when the bugle calls roused the latter for the march. The troops had hard work in store for them. Deep mud and half frozen water cover the roads, and constant thawing brought such showers from the forests, that little comfort was found during the day on the march, or during our halts.

IN THE MUD.

Just after dark, our wagon was driven into a mud hole, from which the tired horses were unable to draw it. The trains all passed on, the last of the infantry were around us, the cavalry but a short distance in the rear, and as it became an interesting question how we were to save our supplies, a sudden attack by the rebel cavalry, which penetrated between us and the rear guard, within half a mile, seemed to make a speedy decision, a matter of necessity. Fortunately, a few volleys sent the chivalry to the right about, and we again had an interval of quiet.

The efforts of the soldiers, loaned for the purpose, failed to release our wagon from its muddy bed, and it became necessary to part with a portion of the contents. This was done in a very short time, and in such a way as secured a proper application of our supplies, and with lightened load, we reached the head-quarters of a brigade, were we were kindly cared for during the night. A short distance from camp next morning, was sufficient to show that we were required to further reduce the weight of our supplies, and to make it necessary to obtain a driver more competent to manage our team. The kindness of the ambulance officer of the Third Division Second Corps, enabled us to bring off our wagon and team of fine horses, and we had the satisfaction of knowing that our distribution of stores was made to those who had means and disposition to place them in proper hands.

GUERILLAS.

Some unfortunate stragglers from the column of troops, on our march down were captured by the guerillas, and after being murdered and beaten till they were disfigured, were stripped of their clothing and left on the road side. Such atrocity could not go unpunished. The General in command, (Warren,) issued orders at once, which will teach an useful lesson to those who disregard all the ordinary rules of civilized warfare, and render retributive justice a stern necessity.

MOONLIGHT MARCH.

A moonlit march until late in the evening, brought us to camp. A very cold wind drove us to shelter in a wood, where, after kindling a large fire, we were soon sound asleep and dreaming of home. The morning of our last day's march, found us off at sunrise. The ground was frozen very hard, and a high wind from the north-west whistled across the country. Home was however before us all; a few hours would bring us to the comparative comforts of our former camps, and every one feeling cheered by hope, and brightened by the brilliancy of the morning, was eager

to make a rapid and final march to what we were all glad to call, our winter quarters.

From noon till night, the troops in a continuous line, marched into the lines, and thus ended this memorable raid down the Weldon Railroad.

LETTER FROM CITY POINT.

T. C. P.

It has long been the boast of all rival relief societies, that they possessed the advantage of direct and personal contact with the men; and it is a lamentable fact, that people at home overlook to a great extent, the operations of the Sanitary Commission in this respect. We do communicate personally with the sufferers. To make this statement more forcible, I will endeavor to sketch the working of the

A. X. C.

What volumes are contained in these three symbolystic characters. The "God bless you's" of men made happy by a gift from home; the tears of gratitude for some simple act of kindness; the resurrections from filth and despondency into cleanliness and hope.

These three letters mean the "Auxiliary Relief Corps." They were instituted by the founder of the Corps, Mr. Frank B. Fay, of Massachusetts, and will long be held as mementos of an experience, at once pleasant and profitable.

We, of the Corps, number about thirty-five men, and from three to six of us, are connected with each hospital at this point. We have a storehouse in each hospital, receiving our supplies from a central or general storehouse at City Point. The hospitals are divided into wards, and each agent has an assigned ward, to the men of which he gives out his goods. This is the practical working of the Corps in their stations. In case of a battle, men are immediately selected from our number, and sent to the field with supplies of stimulants, good wholesome eatables, and good warm clothing. Oh, I shall never forget, when once I was among the number called to go to Deep Bottom, just after a battle in Butler's lines. The surgeons were almost all occupied with the amputating tables,—three in number, and the minor cases were left mostly to the care of some members of the Christian Commission and ourselves. For two days and two nights, the men came pouring in, and as fast as they were examined and attended to, put on board the hospital boats, to be shipped to the regular stations. And I think that I can safely say, that not a man went from the battle-field to the boat, without passing through our hands. The working, in detail, would occupy more space and time, than we can afford: it is nearly as various, both in character and effect, as the men with whom we come in contact. One cannot appreciate it though, without having personal connection with it.

MEETING OF AGENTS.—HON. F. B. FAY.

A meeting of the Auxiliary Relief Corps, of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, was held on Monday evening, December 19, at the Ninth Corps Depot Hospital, for the purpose of listening to the parting address of its Superintendent, the Hon. Frank B. Fay, of Chelsea, Mass.

Mr. Fay having been connected with this part of the Commission's work from its origin, the parting was filled with reminisences of the many sad and sacred scenes through which the Corps had passed.

The following preamble and resolutions were presented, and unanimously adopted, as expressing the sentiments of the Corps, towards its founder and friend, to whom the cause owes so much.

Whereas, The Hon. Frank B. Fay, Superintendent of the Auxiliary Relief Corps of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, is retiring to his home, at the close of a long and arduous period of service in the field, with the expectation of being separated for a time from the Corps, with which he has been identified since its inception.

Resolved, That the Corps of Relief Agents, take this opportunity of expressing to Mr. Fay, the high appreciation of his services, and of the self-sacrificing spirit which, ever since the beginning of the war, has led him to enlist in the work of ministering to our sick and wounded heroes.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be forwarded to the Executive Committee in New York, and to the SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN, in Philadelphia, for publication.

THE SOLDIER'S FRIEND!

is the title of a charming little book, prepared by one of the noble women of our land, who has shown herself, by various

works of love, to be truly devoted to the soldier's temporal and eternal welfare. It is published by the United States Sanitary Commission, to meet a most pressing necessity of the men of our army and navy. To those who see it, not one word of explanation or commendation is needed, but would call the attention of those who have not yet seen it to some of its features.

1. Calender.

2. Pay table for non-commissioned officers and privates in U. S. army.

3. An address "to our soldiers and sailors," which will be read with deep interest by "the million," both citizen and soldier.

The address gives in a concise form the "principles of the Commission," "its relation to the government," "its means," and "plan;" calls the especial attention of soldiers in hospitals to the design and work of the Conmmission in respect to their wants while sick and wounded; gives a list of "depots of collection and distribution of supplies," together with information respecting "letters" and hospital visitors.

Another general feature of the address is a most satisfactory account of the special relief work of the Commission, respecting which there is an astonishing want of information on the part of those most deeply interested. Ten special features of this relief work are presented. Prominently among the rest are those which refer to the securing of back pay, bounty, pensions, &c., for discharged soldiers, free of charge; and to pay the same attention to sick and wounded in hospitals, whose cases have been overlooked in the regular payments. It is also to assist in the same way the families of prisoners.

Next comes a full list of the Sanitary Commission homes and lodges, located at different points, where lodging, meals, counsel, &c., are given free of charge; also of the homes for wives, mothers, &c., of soldiers, who may be called to visit the hospitals at Washington, Alexandria, and Annapolis. An account of monthly pay, transportation, subsistence, clothing, &c., of discharged soldiers and those on furlough. A more particular account of "claim agencies" closes this part of the address. Seven warnings to soldiers will be duly appretiated by many who will escape from snares in which they would have been caught, were not their attention arrested by these suggestions. With advice respecting the method of obtaining artificial limbs, the address proper closes. The account of "aid societies," "alert clubs," &c., concludes this part of the little "*Friend.*"

The second part of the work is made up of beautiful hymns, selected from various collections, miscellaneous and patriotic pieces, which will be read, sung, and enjoyed while the war lasts; and long after the war is over the "Friend" will be remembered with gratitude. The volume closes with the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and a few appropriate Psalms.

The work itself reflects great credit upon the head and heart of the compiler, more than could be indicated by any complimentary words that might here be written. The book, which is just the size for the breast pocket, is gratuitously distributed among the men of the army and navy. In addition to the number so circulated, it is proposed to supply the "Aid Societies," auxiliary to the Sanitary Commission, with the number of copies they may be able to sell, and have the proceeds of such sales appropriated to replenish their various treasuries. Here is a field of usefulness for all the "societies," "alert clubs," &c. The information is as valuable to the "loved ones at home" as to the absent brave. Shall not every loyal family be supplied with one at least? Shall not half a million be distributed this winter? A. C.

Specimen numbers will be sent to each Branch, and orders received at the office of the BULLETIN, will be promptly attended to. We can cheerfully endorse all that is said above by the reviewer.

LETTER FROM NATHANIEL SEAVER, Jr.

WASHINGTON, *Dec.* 20, 1864.

As my connection with the Sanitary Commission has now drawn to a close, I beg leave to submit the following condensed report of my labors.

Arriving in Washington, in September, during your absence East, I was temporarily assigned to hospital visiting.

Accompanied by Mr. Holt, I made the tour of nearly all the hospitals in the vicinity of Washington, including those at Alexandria. Having thus acquired some idea of the vastness of our work, and of the needs of the hospitals, I was especially assigned to Finley and Campbell Hospitals, as regular visitor. This duty I performed

to the best of my ability, until the early part of October, when at my request, I was assigned by yourself to Winchester. Arriving at that place October 6, I was appointed by Col. Muhlech, "Superintending Hospital Visitor." What my duties were in that capacity, I have already enumerated in my report, published in a former number of the BULLETIN. How, from this work, I became transferred to the office, it would be difficult to tell. The battle of Cedar Creek found me agent in charge. Fortunately, Col. Muhlech, who had been absent for some days, was with us at that time. Our stock was good, our corps of agents large; not too large however. In the evenings, from the 20th to the 23d, when the wounded came in by hundreds, we were compelled to call upon members of the Massachusetts 37th, then doing guard duty at Winchester, for assistance. Noble fellows! they worked with us several evenings, into the midnight hours, deeming it a privilege to help their wounded fellow soldiers. Many too of the nurses and assistants at the Sixth Corps Hospital, rendered us valuable service, At Sheridan Hospital, Mr. Corbin was warmly seconded by numbers of the Christian Commission. Our tent on the ground, at this time, proved invaluable, and for a time, Christian and Sanitary Commissions became a partnership for the distribution of the stock there collected. I cannot let this opportunity pass, without expressing my approval and gratitude, for the manner in which Mr. Corbin performed his duty, on this, and other occasions. Two years a soldier, and several months a hospital steward, he was eminently fitted to fill this place, and that he was wise as well as faithful, the united testimony of patients, surgeons, officials, and visitors proves. Now, after a residence of over two months in the Shenandoah Valley, I am once more in Washington, and about to bid farewell to the Sanitary Commission. The position of responsibility which I have occupied for most of that time, has not been without its trials and anxieties, but on the whole, my brief experience has been a very happy one. I early found, that the great question to be decided in the stewardship of the bounties of the loyal North, was "*how not to do it.*" At least, one-half the applications made for individual relief, are by undeserving persons, and it requires a combination of shrewdness and benevolence, rarely found in human bosoms, to detect the incorrigible "bummers" and "dead beats," and still to avoid turning way the deserving. Our work in the valley is for the present about completed. Sheridan Field Hospital rejoices in warm bedding, home-made quilts, and cheerful tent chimneys. The city hospitals are even more fortunate. Meanwhile, the patients are being transferred to the rear. But, even with these facts, I say farewell with many regrets; regrets, which would become the prickings of a guilty conscience, were it not for the fact that I leave in my place, an old tried friend, the Rev. Geo. Batchelor, to whose care and good judgment, I feel that I could resign every interest, with a certainty that it would be watched over with the fidelity of a brother and a Christian.

THREE MONTHS IN THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

NO. V.—STILL AT WHITE HOUSE, VA.

All through the night of June 3, and all day of the 4th, the rain came steadily down, the atmosphere was chilly, and those who could spare time for reflection, allowed the whole circumstances which were crowded into that day, to be entirely unfavorable to health or comfort. The wounded were brought in by thousands, throughout all day of the 4th and 5th; the mode of transit being the same as that spoken of in relation to the wounded at Port Royal, Va. A portion of my diary for June 4, reads as follows:—Rained all night, raining still; 8000 wounded said to be on the way in those dreadful army wagons. Oh, it is terrible to think of the suffering of our poor soldiers, as they are jolted over those corduroy roads to this spot. I have often sighed over their sufferings on the battle field; hereafter I shall sigh as I think of their sufferings while being brought to the base of supplies. Several of our agents were already at the front helping the wounded and dying on the field; and it was thought, if a stronger force were sent there, many a valuable life might be saved by the application of a little good nursing, and feeding, before the horrid journey was commenced; but how to spare the men was the question. Over one hundred agents were at work, but two hundred could not perform the work of feeding and dressing those who greatly needed attention. It happened at almost every ambulance, that some poor wounded one would ask, "When is the doctor coming?

Can you not dress my wound?" In their eagerness to have their wounds dressed, they would, to excite the agents, sympathy and assistance, uncover the gaping lacerations, and reveal them filled with disgusting life; at such times, every person who approached them, was addressed as "Doctor." With such piteous, urgent appeals, and such necessities staring them in the face, it could not be otherwise than that the Relief Corps, should return to their resting places, always at or near the midnight hour. On the boat, the feeding was continuous from 6 A.M., until midnight. I have said the issues of supplies on the 3d of June, exceeded any thing ever know in the history of the Commission, which was true; yet the daily issues of the 4th and 5th, by far exceeded those of the 3d. The chief storekeeper estimated the value of the issues on those three days, as closely approximating *one hundred thousand dollars.* June 5, the cry still came for more help, more supplies, more nurses; every body strained their nerves to accomplish more. Our boats were being filled with special cases of wounded ones; among whom was Colonel Winslow, a son of the lamented Dr. Winslow, so long and so favorably known in connection with the U. S. Sanitary Commission. He was brought from the front, to the boat, by his father, whose tenderness for his child, equalled that of a mother's. It was the afternoon of that day, before I even suspected it was the Sabbath day. I could, in part, realize what Sunday must be in the army, especially were men had hard daily duties to perform. In the absence of a majority of the Corps, a few of the resting ones joined with me in a meeting of prayer and praise. On this day, wagons loaded with necessaries and delicacies, attended by a number of our best men, started for the front, for the purpose already indicated. The action was well timed, for it found and helped men who had been waiting for succor, just where they fell; and replenished the depleted supply tent of the Commission's Agents. On Monday, the steamer *James Guy*, Captain Parkhurst, commanding, started for Washington, for supplies and nurses, having on board Dr. Winslow, his wounded son, and a favorite horse. I have omitted to state, that during our stay at this point, the roar of cannon, and crash of small arms, were almost incessant, and they acted upon our agents as a spur to a willing, but jaded animal. The requisition for supplies for the front, was so urgent, that another lot of wagons were loaded up and sent, but we could not possibly spare more Relief Agents. Mr. Holstein reported the burial of 21 men this day, but this number was only a fraction of those who died. All coming under the supervision of the Sanitary Commission, were buried as Christians; the burial service of the Episcopal Church, being read over their remains. Each occupied a separate grave, which was properly marked. The effects of each deceased soldier, were taken in charge, even to a broken comb, and their friends written to on the same day, announcing his death, with every particular which would be of interest for them to know. On Wednesday, June 8, twenty fresh men, (nurses,) arrived from Washington.

My diary of this day, says: "A fine cool day. There is some talk of a charge of base to Burmuda Hundred. It is said, Grant is swinging his left to the James, and that a strong force under Sheridan has gone from Newcastle to make a circuit of Richmond, and join Butler, on that river. Our Corps is still hard at work, and when it returns late at night, each member expresses himself dissatisfied with the amount of labor done, and wishes as I have done many times, that he had a thousand hearts, and arms, and legs. The U. S. Sanitary Commission has, at this point, forty-four waggons, with four horses to each wagon; considerably over one hundred Relief Agents, and not less than one hundred and fifty other persons, engaged as teamsters, laborers, clerks, &c. On Saturday and Sunday last, there was nine thousand dollars worth of shirts and drawers distributed among the wounded ones."

J. J. B.

PAID AND UNPAID AGENTS.

BY REV. J. A. ANDERSON.

The other day, a prominent and influential agent of the Christian Commission expressed himself to the effect that the agents of the Sanitary Commission, in being hired, only felt called upon to work so many hours per day and at a slow gate per hour; while the agents of the Christian Commission work for nothing save love for the soldier, and, by consequence, infused more soul and vim into their labors than do the paid men of the Sanitary Commission. The idea was, that because Sanitary agents receive a scanty com-

pensation they cannot be expected to labor with such a purity of benevolence, nor with such an enduring celerity, as do agents who receive no compensation.

It is somewhat singular that when any given objection against the Sanitary Commission reaches us from one section of the country, it is speedily heard of from many and distant sections—which suggests to us that somebody takes pains to spread the objection; and as this allegation is coming up from different quarters it deserves a moment's attention.

The qualifications of an agent are found in his heart, mind and body—not in his purse; and are neither lessened by his acceptance of a stipend, nor increased by his rejection of a stipend. The question of compensation has nothing to do with his fitness as an agent; neither is he by the reception of pay debarred, in the most remote degree, from acting upon the broadest principles of humanity, nor from being impelled by the truest motives of strong-pulsing charity. If it be asserted that no genuine benevolence can be exercised except by agents who are unpaid, then it instantly follows that the noble bands of Christian ministers, who are confessedly among the most effective and brilliant philanthropic instrumentalities of the age, are devoid of that benevolence; for, though as a class worse paid than men of the same abilities in the other professions, yet all of them receive pay, and are enabled by that pay to devote themselves to the grand work of the glorious Emanuel. But does any one affirm that because thereof, their charity and humaneness cannot be as pure and throbbing as if they received no pay? The best of books declares the laborer to be worthy of his hire; and the common experience of mankind confirms the declaration. There is a vast difference between laboring for money under the guise of benevolence; and laboring for benevolence, though money enough be received with which to defray ordinary personal expenses. If it be intended to allege that the agents of the Sanitary Commission work simply for money or chiefly for money, and not chiefly from true motives of humanity; then, we simply and emphatically declare the allegation to be false in fact, and unjust to scores of men who have resigned ample incomes, and continue to reject offers of revenues double the amount of those which they receive from the Commission. Or, if it be intended to affirm, that because they receive pay they will not or do not work as heartily as those who are unpaid; it is only necessary to say, that the sufferings of mangled Americans, or the totterings of emaciated veterans, thrill through a kind heart irrespective of the pocket which walks about with that heart; and that our agents are selected with special reference to their benevolence, charity and endurance, and that persons who do not on trial display these qualities are discharged, is known to all who know anything about the matter.

The assumption that an agent who is paid does not work so vigorously or with such laudable spirit as does one who is unpaid, affects scores of pastors who go to the front as volunteer agents of the Sanitary or Christian Commission quite as much as it does our permanent agents who are paid; for each of these volunteers receives compensation, if not from one of the Commissions, from the congregation which, in granting him a leave of absence, continues the payment of his salary during that leave. The question of compensation simply narrows itself down to the organization through whom the payment shall be made, for in both cases the common charity of the country is the banker who furnishes the means; and the difference between the two methods is, that in the one case the charity of the country empowers the Commission to pay the agent directly for doing army work, while in the other case it empowers a congregation to pay a minister for his pastoral work, and the congregation loans his services to the Commission.

In the first case you can procure trained, disciplined and skilled laborers—men who know what is to be done, how to do it, and who will not shrink from either manual labor or tedious routine; in the other case you must rely upon the efforts of gentlemen, who, in most instances, are compelled to return to their congregations just about the time they become familiar with army life and acquired fitness for army work, and who will do manual labor or perform menial services only at their own option.

As to the preference which business men would give to these two systems there can be no doubt, for it is a law of political economy that trained workmen and the permanent assignment of the same men to the same thing, is true and large economy; while, from what has been said above, it is evident that no excellence accrues to the

motives of unpaid agents because of their being unpaid, which does not equally accrue to paid agents in spite of their being paid.

But enough with abstract reasonings upon a point which is clear to all, and agreed upon by all disinterested persons. We not only affirm, but know that facts will substantiate the affirmation, that the agents of the Sanitary Commission are as warm-hearted, as keenly alive to suffering, as quick-witted in affording relief, as patient, energetic and cheerful in the performance of unromantic duty, and as enduring and courageous under field hardships, as are the agents of the Christian Commission or any other organization. And, furthermore, we are beset with the general impression that this, and scores of other rumors which are swept through communities, will, upon thorough investigation, be found to have received their first announcement by friends of organizations which are jealous of, or antagonistic to, the Sanitary Commission.

THE TWO COMMISSIONS.—COMPARATIVE ECONOMY.

We invite attention to the article in the present number, on "Paid and Unpaid Agents." It is worthy of being read and considered, and as it suggests a few thoughts we ask attention to them, as follows:

"*Who pays the agents?*" The answer is—the people. They may contribute their money to either or both of the Commissions, or they may pay their agents for doing the work of the Commissions, directly from their own hands. The fact is, that the Sanitary Commission pays its agents from its own treasury, that treasury being supplied by the people.

The Christian Commission does the same with its *permanent* delegates in the field, their treasury being likewise supplied from the same bountiful source. But there is a class of delegates who go to the front as *volunteers*, meaning by this term, gratuitous laborers, upon whose claim to voluntary service, much stress is laid, as an argument in favor of the economy of the Christian Commission. Let us examine this subject, and it will be seen that the system of a volunteer agency is more expensive than that of a compensated agency.

The Sanitary Commission pays for its relief work in the field, forty-five dollars per month, to each agent, in addition to to his subsistence.

The permanent Christian Commission delegates, receive no less, but we believe, more than this sum; fifty dollars having been stated as their salary per month.

The small difference of five dollars per month need not be thought of in this comparison, beyond the mere statement. The salary of all relief agents, in both Commissions, is meagre enough to satisfy the most careful and even parsimonious spirit. The work of such men, who live amid the exposures and dangers of the front to do good to our suffering soldiers, cannot be estimated by dollars and cents, and the pittance given them ought never to be complained of.

But we desire to meet the question of volunteer service upon its real merits. Ministers of religion are usually selected by the Christian Commission for this service, and each of these pastors is supposed to be receiving a salary, which may vary from five hundred to five thousand dollars per year: we will estimate the average however, at the low mark of eight hundred dollars per year, for pastoral service at home. Taking this average to be fair, when these parties volunteer their services to the soldiers for a month, they are in receipt from their congregations of sixty-five dollars for that month's pastoral service, in addition to subsistence and traveling expenses from the Commission. They are thus the gainers individually, for the time being, by the two latter items being added to their salary, while the cost of supplying their places during their absence, must also be borne by the people at home. Now add the cost of subsistence and transportation. A delegate may go from Maine or Minnesota, as from any part of the country He may go to Washington or Annapolis only; or he may go to New Orleans or Texas; but, until he reaches a base of sup-

plies, either at the West or East, he is at the expense of transportation by steamboat or railway, and though a portion of his fare may be generously commuted by the companies transporting him, it will not be unjust to allow forty-five dollars for his average cost, to and from the front. It thus costs one hundred dollars a month, to pay the volunteer agents who go to the field for temporary and inexperienced service. Take the two or three thousand delegates who have gone to the field as temporary volunteers for the Christian Commission, and count their cost to the charity of the country at one hundred dollars each, and we have the volunteer system, requiring two or three hundred thousand dollars to pay its delegates.

Meanwhile, the permanent delegates are moving on in the daily track of duty; hard, exposing, dangerous duty, at the low figure of forty-five and fifty dollars per month; becoming inured to hardships, accustomed to labor, skilled by experience, known to officers and men, and reaping rich harvests from their constant seed-sowing.

It is not assumed that this vast expense is borne by the Commission directly, but by the people, and the very people who find fault with the expensiveness of paying agents to go to the front—the people who will oppose the Sanitary Commission because it pays its hard working, constant agents, forty-five dollars per month, while the Christian Commission pays its permanent agents fifty,—these very people will pay double the sum to volunteers, and complain of others having their small stipend of forty-five dollars.

The system would be a gratuity,—a most generous and note-worthy gratuity, if the cost of this voluntary service could be turned to account. If the pastor going as a delegate would bestow his monthly salary upon the aid society of the congregation or village from which he goes, and allow the service to be *indeed* an offering for the soldier, it would then be entitled to the claim of voluntary service; but as it is, it cannot be claimed as gratuitous.

We commend the system as a successful one for securing the sympathy of a very worthy class, and for committing their influence in behalf of the Commission which obtains their service, but when it is presented to the public as an *economical* system, in comparison with that which trains and keeps its agents, and pays an acknowledged standard sum, we must protest against it, and ask the people not to misjudge in the premises.

Again, when certain churches agree to employ and pay agents one hundred dollars each, per month, and send them away as delegates of the Christian Commission, we assert that they are not to be ranked as volunteers, generously giving their services to the Commission. They are paid.

The war is the people's war; the army is constituted of the people; the Commissions were originated, and are sustained by the people. The people may do as they will, and they are prepared to believe the following simple example in arithmetic, and decide for which they pay the most money.

Sanitary Commission's work for six months at any given point.

Two permanent agents each at $45 per month	$540
Transportation to and from the front at $45 each	90
	$630

Christian Commission's work for six months at any given point by one permanent agent, and six volunteer delegates who remain but one month each, and whose time of service is equal to that of a second permanent agent:

One permanent agent at $50 per month	$300
Transportation	45
	$345
Six volunteer delegates, one month each, at a cost to their congregations of $65 per month	$390
Transportation at $45 each	270
	$660
One permanent agent	$345
Six volunteer delegates, remaining one month each, time of service equal to a second permanent agent	$660
	$1005

RESUME.

Total expenses of Christian Commission policy to charity of the country for six months	$1,005
Total expenses of Sanitary Commission policy for same labor and time	630
Ecomony of San. Commission's policy in six months	$375
Economy of San. Commission's policy in one year	$750

Assuming each Commission to employ one thousand agents per year to do a given work, the cost to the common benevolence

of the country of the Christian Commission's policy over and above the policy of the Sanitary Commission would be *three hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars*, (**$375,000**) *each year.*

OUR CANVASSERS.

We are pleased to announce, that the canvassing system is now completely organized, and successfully at work. Twenty lecturers are in the home field, most of them ministers, instructing the people, and meeting the objections that may exist in the public mind, concerning the Sanitary Commission. We commend these gentlemen to the kind guidance and hospitality of the people, with the assurance that their labors will be useful. They have all been at the front in hospitals, and among the soldiers in the camps. They have seen the work of the Commission and handled its stores. They know of what they testify, and are entitled to credit.

OUR WOMEN.

We want to say that the aid societies, are as diligent as ever. The testimony comes to us from all quarters, that the supplies are increasing, because the faithful women of the land continue to be faithful. Some, it is true, have grown cold, and if they work at all, work in another direction. But their lukewarmness is compensated for, by the zeal of others, and by the forming of new societies, in new neighborhoods. The work never looked brighter, in the brighter days of our history. We say to our women,—then, go on, you have been the means of saving thousands of lives; you have comforted tens of thousands of sufferers, and the call is for you to persevere. Every garment you have made, every comfort you have contributed, has been so much added to the strength of the nation; and every blessing that has been uttered by soldiers, and many more, that have been too deeply felt to be uttered, have fallen upon you from trembling lips, or burdened hearts, but to stimulate your zeal, and cheer your hearts. Go on!

UNITARIAN TRACTS.

We are in receipt of a letter from a friend, which contains the following statement:

A minister told me he had learned that the funds raised by the Sanitary Commission, were being expended for Unitarian tracts, and that these were circulated through the army.

Of late, this rumor has come to us from several quarters. It has sprung up simultaneously, in new and distant places, and has assumed a magniude which attracts notice. It is, as our friend very properly replied to his informer, a "slander." It is well known, that while the U. S. Sanitary Commission, is a Christian institution, it is not sectarian. It has not expended money for party purposes, in any way. It has not purchased a dollar's worth of sectarian literature, but has spent thousands in promiscuous reading matter. It has spent thousands in purely Christian literature, well selected from various authors, without reference to denominational interest or choice. It recognises the fact, that our army is composed of men of all shades of religious belief, and that it would be unjust to the people to allow itself to be used as a means for advocating sectarian dogmas. It would be impossible for the Commission to do this, and maintain any consistency with itself: for while it is true that the president is a minister of religion under the form of Unitarianism, its Board, their secretaries, agents and employees, represent what is known as evangelical forms of religion, by a very large majority. It is disheartening to be compelled to defend the Commission against such ungenerous assaults, especially when they are made by ministers, whose opportunities for discovering the real truth upon all these matters, are so ample. The names of the members of the Board, and of all the prominent officials connected with the work, are open to the public. They are well known to this country, as among the foremost men of the day, in religion, science and literature. To believe such statements as the above, is not

only to discredit some of our best citizens, but to lay ourselves open to just criticism, for not being better acquainted with public men and public affairs, and not having a higher appreciation of common honesty. If the whole Sanitary Commission was made up of Unitarians, they could not be supposed, as servants of the people, so to abuse their trust, as to convert their association into a proselyting machine, to serve their own sectarian purposes. Nobody believes this could be done, except those who would, with similiar advantages, use them to promote their own selfish ends.

At a recent meeting of a Unitarian Association, the question of distributing religious reading to the army was considered. The fact was well known that the Christian Commission could not lend itself to the circulation of Unitarian literature, and it was agreed to appoint an agent for the purpose of disseminating their own publications in the army, at the expense of the association; but how such agent could find subsistence and shelter was the next question to be considered. Application was made to the Sanitary Commission to allow the agent to subsist with them, and render what service might be required of him in times of need or emergency, as a consideration for his board. The application was presented to the Executive Committee of the Commission, of which Dr. Bellows is chairman, and was refused.

We say then to our correspondents, to our ministerial friends, to all, that whenever they hear such stories to disbelieve them, unless the reporters of them are prepared with testimony that is conclusive; when that shall appear, we will join in exposing the wrong.

FOUR DAYS' WORK.

Read the following exhibit of four days' work among our troops near Nashville, Tenn. To say nothing of Special Relief afforded at Homes and Lodges, which is immense, the issue of these vegetables alone must have been a great blessing to our men.

Consolidated Statement of Stores issued by the U. S. Sanitary Commission to Troops near Nashville, from December 2 to December 6, 1864.

	Bushels of Potatoes.	Bushels of Onions.	Gallons of Pickles and Kraut.
4th Army Corps	777	757	2,861
16th " " 2d Division	329	329	1,542
17th " " 1st "	120	120	462
20th " " detachment	30	30	126
23d " "	421	413	1,366
Provisional Division	84	63	243
Cavalry	151	155	524
Artillery	59	55	228
Miscellaneous	36	35	141
Colored Brigade	38	37	168
Total	2,045	1,994	7,663

METROPOLITAN FAIR BUILDINGS.

Mr. P. B. Wright, Architect of the Metropolitan Fair buildings, has made a very interesting statement concerning their erection, and as a matter of justice both to the parties mentioned and to the many friends of the Sanitary Commission, as well as an evidence of the appreciation given to such generous actions by the Commission and the American people, whose agent it is, we extract as follows:—

It is due to some of the mechanics (to whose energy we are indebted for the completion of a building covering 24,000 square feet of ground in sixteen and a half working days,) to state that Messrs Hunt & Son performed the carpenters' work at one-half the usual rates (five per cent. on the actual cost), the portion of their commission which was waived amounting to $617.

The accounts of the Messrs Hunt, heretofore submitted, are remarkable for their minuteness and perspicuity; by reference to them you can ascertain the name of every workman and the number of days and parts of days' work performed by each.

Mr. Codington, the mason, performed his work on the same terms. Messrs Barnes and New, roofers, did their work at three cents per foot, with the permission to remove it, the regular price having been seven cents per foot. Messrs Philbin & Quinn, plumbers and gas-fitters, charged the actual cost of labor and twenty-five per cent. of the cost of materials, after taking the same back.

WOMAN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF.

SUPPLIES.—NO. IV.

Exhibit of Receipts, for periods of six months each.

	Cotton shirts.	Woolen shirts.	Cotton drawers.	Woolen drawers.	Socks.	Handkerchiefs.	Sheets.	Blankets and bed quilts.	Dried fruit, barrels.	Blackberry cordial & brandy, gallons.
Six months ending Nov. 1, 1861,.....	10,798	3,159	4,467	674	15,703	5,449	7,429	9,576		
Six months ending May 1, 1862,.....	10,798	3,159	4,467	674	15,703	5,449	7,429	9,576		
Six months ending Nov. 1, 1862,.....	56,390	4,501	25,193	2,116	19,954	44,392	19,838	2,883	120	
Six months ending May 1, 1863,.....	20,790	22,764	5,979	12,171	25,339	18,198	3,917	3,480	553	
Six months ending Nov. 1, 1863,.....	18,304	7,947	10,501	3,513	14,376	10,630	5,146	1,388	332	
Six months ending May 1, 1864,.....	8,253	24,493	2,618	24,655	15,153	6,733	5,299	2,858	186	
Six months ending Nov. 1, 1864,.....	17,180	23,913	9,258	10,246	6,776	46,444	9,012	2,067	202	2,500
Total,.....	142,513	89,936	62,483	54,049	113,504	137,295	58,070	31,828	1,393	2,500

Although we withold our usual Semi-Annual Report, we cannot omit presenting the above interesting table to our Auxiliaries. Each line gives the receipts of certain articles for a period of six months. The first two coincide, because we kept no separate account for the summer and winter, and now can only divide the total receipts for the year. But examine the column of flannel shirts. In the summer of 1862 we received forty-five hundred; during the winter following more than five times as many. The summer of 1863 gave nearly eight thousand; the next winter three times as many. See now the summer of 1864, almost twenty-four thousand, three times as many as last summer, six times as many as the previous one. To what is this constant increase due? First of all to the unusual activity of the army, so that every woman felt that there must be greatly increased numbers of wounded and suffering men, and rested not, but with redoubled zeal, plied her needle for their benefit. Next, we must confess, (and we do it with proud satisfaction,) that our neighbor, the Woman's Relief Association of Brooklyn, has contributed of these twenty-four thousand shirts, over fourteen thousand; and of the ten thousand pairs of drawers more than one-half, beside other articles not included in the table. This Association is one of the most thorough and efficient in the country, and the men of Brooklyn seem to feel it as much their duty to contribute funds, as the women do to make up garments for our soldiers; and together they produce this beneficent result.

We believe that no inconsiderable advantage has arisen from our plan of distributing material at half price to feeble societies; and very many of them (nearly two hundred and fifty) are now working regularly and actively with us, that have heretofore made only occasional contributions. We hope to be able to pursue this plan to the end; since it not only materially increases our stores, but unites us more closely to these earnest, unknown friends. We cannot fail, also, to recognize the valuable assistance of our Associate Managers, who zealously co-operate with us in spreading information both of the demand for supplies, and of the results accomplished. All the Branches of the Sanitary Commission hold it to be their best plea, to make plain statements of the manner in which the work is conducted, and to invite the scrutiny of all interested; satisfied that this will ensure their hearty sympathy and support.

At the request of Mrs. Barker, one of the hospital visitors of the Commission, whom those of our friends who were at our November Council cannot fail to remember with pleasure, we make a few suggestions. All cotton garments should be nicely washed and ironed before they are packed. We cannot afford to pay city prices for washing; but if each lady who makes a shirt, or a sheet, will send it in clean and smooth, it is doubly welcome to the sick. So with old linen and muslin; if each person will cut off hems and seams, and roll it neatly, it is ready for immediate use. Handkerchiefs should be at least twenty inches square; smaller ones are not worth giving to the men and are often thrown aside and lost. Better give six handkerchiefs of reasonable size than twice as many scraps of linen, hardly likely to be used at all. She says also:

"It affords untold pleasure to the soldier

to know, by the marks it bears, whence the garment he receives comes. For this reason, it is an excellent plan to mark each article that can be marked, with the name of the village, town or city, and State, where it was made, using therefor a stencil plate and stencil ink."

Mrs. Marsh once wrote to us from Beaufort, "to give poor ill-made articles to the men does more harm than good; they say, 'if I was worth anything they would not give me these miserable things;' but the little signs of neatness and care touch them, and they feel as if a mother or sister has provided for them the shirt the 'Sanitary' gives, as indeed is true."

The end has not come yet; this New Year may not bring it. We thank you, friends, cordially, for your support, and above all for the faith you have shown in us; and we rest upon it with firm confidence for the future.

ELLEN COLLINS,
Chr. Committee on Supplies.

NEW YORK, *January* 2, 1865.

INTERESTING LETTER FROM GEORGIA.

HEAD-QUARTERS TWENTIETH CORPS,
NEAR SAVANNAH, GA., *Dec.* 19*th*, 1864.

DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS,
General Secretary, U. S. San. Com.

DEAR SIR:—On learning that General Sherman was about to make a bold move through the State of Georgia to some point on the sea coast, it was deemed important that some one of the Commission's Agents should accompany the expedition. That duty fell to my lot, and I now have the honor to report to you the work and observations of my mission. Early in the month of November there was great activity at Atlanta; sending stores and non-combatants to the rear, and preparing the troops with clothing and rations for the prospective campaign. By the middle of the month the work was accomplished, and on the fifteenth of November, 1864, the Army of Georgia took up camp and commenced its long and unparalelled march toward the land of the palmetto. The troops—officers and men—were in excellent spirits, and even jubilant over the prospect before them. Each division had its hospital department well organized before starting, and had, besides the hospital wagons, about fifty ambulances. All the sick and wounded were to report, or be reported to the chief surgeon in charge of the hospital, for transportation and treatment. The surgeons of regiments were furnished with cards admiting the bearer to a place in an ambulance. These cards were given out at the surgeon's call in the morning. The bearer marching as far as his strength would permit, then resting by the wayside until his ambulance came up.

For the first few days the ambulances were well filled by men from soreness, but they soon got well, and even cases of fever, and wounded men recovered in these *traveling hospitals*. The plan works well. Everything was systematized. When the column halted for the night, the hospital tents were speedily put up by a party detailed for that purpose, while others were preparing supper. The sick and wounded were taken from the ambulances and made comfortable in the tents. About the time they were snugly put away for the night, a savory supper was ready and served to them. Each hospital had its organized foraging party, whose business it was, to gather during the day's march, supplies for the hospital from the abundance in the country; and they seldom failed to bring in at night, plenty of sweet potatoes, chickens, fresh pork and mutton, of which there seemed to be no end; also corn meal and sometimes flour. Much of the time honey was to be found on the diet list. Milk was to be had in abundance. Scores of cows were driven along for a supply of this excellent article, in the treatment of sick and wounded men. In the morning the surgeons examined all the patients, treating as each case required. Breakfast over, the ambulances were loaded with their human freight, tents struck and the hospitals were ready to move with the column. Thus, day after day did we proceed. It is remarkable but true, that there were several divisions that did not lose a man by sickness during the march of about three hundred and fifty miles. Those of other divisions who died, were principally among the new recruits. The general health of the army was much better when we halted before Savannah, then when we left Atlanta. The generous and even luxurious living of the men on sweet potatoes, turnips, fowls, various kinds of fresh meats, sorghum, molasses, honey, &c., had the good effect to eradicate whatever of scorbutic taint previously existed. The march was of immense value to our army as a sanitary measure. I have procured and forwarded to the Hospital Directory a correct and com-

plete list of the casualities since leaving Atlanta, of the killed—the time and place of the deaths in hospital—the date and where buried, of the wounded—the nature and locality of the wound in most cases—those seriously sick, and also the missing and captured. In all cases, where possible, have given the place and the circumstances. We have spared no labor or pains to get a full report, and here I wish to make mention of the uniform kindness and co-operation received from officers in the different commands in perfecting this work. I am glad to be able to state that with a very few exceptions all the sick and wounded were brought through with the army. I had designed to procure a list of Union prisoners, buried from rebel prisons, Andersonville and Macon. We did not reach Millen. I visited where so many of our brave soldiers were confined. About twelve acres of ground were enclosed by a strong stockade, twenty feet high; this was in the midst of a dense forrest of pines. A marshy stream ran through it. No buildings to cover the prisoners were permitted. All the shelter from rain and cold the men in that enclosure could obtain, were huts made in the ground and covered with mud-bricks. The dampness must have been killing to the prisoners, for the water comes very near the surface of the ground, in all those marshy plains. Mortality was terrible among our men there. The place was occupied twenty-two days by an average of twelve thousand men, and during that time seven hundred and five were buried, and one I found dead still in his mud-hut. When I found the graves of these heroic dead, you may imagine my indignation, at discovering that *not one name was on a single head-board*, although each grave had a separate board. The hospital was placed below the prison and on the bank of the marshy pond, into which the stream with all the washings and filth of camp ran. All the water used at that hospital must have been taken from that filthy pond. Is there no way for our Government to secure to her prisoners held by the rebels, a more humane treatment? We have invested Savannah and gained a commnnication with our fleet by storming and capturing the works of Fort McAllister, on the Ogeechee River. Savannah is virtually ours, and most probably without a fight. Everything looks hopeful. I hope we may have a good supply of stores. As soon as we enter the place, I will procure rooms, and have everything ready by the time they can arrive.

Yours, very truly,
J. C. HOBLIT,
General Relief Agent, U. S. San. Com., Army of Georgia.

BY A. N. READ.

NASHVILLE, TENN., *Dec.* 12, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Secy. U. S. San. Com., Western Department.

DEAR SIR:—Since my last report, the Army of the Cumberland has been brought together in the vicinity of Nashville. Decatur, Columbia, Franklin and Johnsonville have been vacated; Columbia after a little, Franklin after severe fighting. The troops in the field have no winter quarters, only shelter-tents, and the cold weather for the past few days has been severe upon them; as many of them are upon hills, with no forests to break the wind, and wood not abundant.

Most of them have been paid, are well clothed, and have an abundance of food, except fresh vegetables. Although they have been hard worked, and have had little rest since the first of May, there is no unusual sickness, and they are in good spirits.

There have been over 70,000 admissions to the hospitals since the first of May. These have received every attention that a Government, careful of the welfare of her soldiers, could furnish. Thanks to the efficient, earnest, faithful services of Dr. Wood, the Asst. Surg.-Gen.; Dr. Cooper, the Med. Director of the Army of the Cumberland, and their long-tried and faithful subordinate surgeons.

We have issued vegetables in large quantities to the troops in the field, principally to the well men at Stevenson, Pulaski, Columbia, Johnsonville, and along the line of battle in front of Nashville. This was done at the suggestion of Maj.-Gen. Thomas and Dr. Cooper, who gave us transportation, and every facility for their distribution. The whole amount distributed, besides the issues to hospitals, from Nov. 1 to Dec. 6, was, of kraut and pickles, 26,744 gallons, 5,523 bushels of onions, 2,249 bushels of potatoes.

A friend related to me the following incident, which occurred at one of the theatres in Nashville, the actors, during the play, were eating vermicelli or maccaroni, the soldiers thought it was *kraut*, and they shouted, from all parts of the house, "kraut!

kraut! kraut! Sanitary! Sinitary! Sanitary!"

Division Hospitals are established at this time near our lines, where the sick and wounded are to be received, the wounds dressed, operations performed, and as soon as practicable, removed to hospitals in the city. These Division Hospitals are visited daily, by Field Agents Messrs. Tone, Brundrett and Bartlett, and such stores furnished as are needed, teams being sent for them to our store-rooms in the city. For the past two weeks we have been cut off from our communication with Murfreesboro and Chattanooga, but I have sufficient reason to believe that they have stores enough, as most of the sick and wounded had been removed.

Gen. Thomas has issued the necessary orders to secure to us the land protection and help to continue the Hospital Gardens the coming year, and has renewed the detail for Mr. John Harraman, the efficient gardener at Murfreesboro.

The "Home" in Nashville has been filled to overflowing the past two months. So full has it been that every available space on the floors has been used for a soldier's bed, and at times, the sidewalk and the vestibule of the Catholic Cathedral have been crowded. Would it have profaned God's temple to have admitted within its walls His children? A larger building was assigned to us, and would have been ready in a few days, but to meet the anticipated wants of the present emergeney, has been taken and furnished as a hospital.

The sufferings of the refugees have been such as to compel us to sympathize with them. We have occasionally administered to cases of extreme want, taking them into our quarters, giving them food and clothing, and sending them on their way.

On the morning of the 22d of November, four children were found dead at the Chattanooga Depot, frozen to death; also, one soldier. Over these, and the thousands whose sufferings continue, all over the South,

> "Is heard Columbia's piercing cry,
> Oh, Absalom my son!"

After the battle of Franklin, the wounded were brought immediately to Nashville, and we had no opportunity to give aid on the field. The number of admissions to the different hospitals in Nashville, from April 1, 1862, to Dec. 12, 1864, is 212,143. The number of deaths, from March 3d, 1862, to the same period, is 10,203. There are now in hospital, Dec. 12, 4,904. While I write, our troops are reported to be moving out after Hood.

Our special wants, at this time, are more of the usual battle stores; also, woolen clothing, shirts, drawers, socks, mittens, blankets, &c. We have many calls for these that we cannot fill. These calls are increasing, because of the number separated from their regiments, and the frequent changes of the troops, during which many articles are unavoidably lost, and cannot be replaced, through Government officials, until several days.

If the friends of the soldier will continue to give liberally, they will be paid as was a conducter on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, who found a soldier, wasted by long sickness, longing for home, and with his furlough in his pocket; he could not get a seat in the cars, they were all full, and he so weak, that when he would get one, others pressed in before him. He was finally placed in a box car, without a seat and without a bed. Here this conductor found him, and took him into his own caboose, and first laid him upon the floor, but the car was warm. Not satisfied with this, he soon placed him upon his bed, when the soldier grasped his hand, and as the tears fell from his eyes, he said, in broken accents, "Oh, sir, my mother will pray for you every night for this!"

FROM LOUISIANA.

BATON ROUGE, LA., *December* 17, 1864.

I arrived at this post on Thursday, the 8th inst., with all my stores in good condition. Although the day was rainy, I succeeded in getting everything safely stored before evening. Not being able to find any room suitable for an office, I took quarters with the agent of the Christian Commission, in the Court House.

My attention was first directed to the General Hospital, where there seemed to be many deficiencies. None of the men were supplied with slippers, or hospital wrappers. The diet seemed to be deficient, particularly for the wounded. They were without the extras which their condition required. A new surgeon has just come in charge, and an improvement is already manifest.

I issued to the General Hospital 50 sacks vegetables, 8 bbls. kraut, 24 galls. tomatoes, 48 lbs. milk, 25 pair slippers, 18 lbs. corn

starch, 12 lbs. farina, 12 lbs. chocolate, 12 bottles ketchup, 1 bbl. soda crackers.

Besides this, I visited all the wards, giving to the patients tobacco, pipes, combs, towels, needles, thread, &c. These small articles were most gratefully received, and many a blessing was lavished upon the Sanitary Commission.

During the absence of the cavalry on an expedition, the regimental hospitals are mostly broken up. I have visited all that are still maintained, and have supplied them all with needful comforts. I have issued four pounds of vegetables and a quart of kraut to every man at the post, and am now making a second issue. This is besides the quantity sent to the General Hospital.

No provision is made by which men at the General Hospital can draw their clothing. A provision of this kind is very much needed. The call for woolen under-clothing is very great; and I hardly know how to meet it. I have sent considerable of the small stock which I brought to the small-pox hospital, where there are several soldiers entirely destitute.

Twelve barrels of the kraut, shipped on the *Navigator*, was sent to Port Hudson in care of Post-Surgeon David. The kraut opened in excellent condition, and is the most acceptable issue which could be made to a large portion of the troops.

The per centage of sick among the cavalry is very much larger than among the infantry. Long marches, much exposure and a far greater proportion of accidental injuries, will account for the difference. Acute dysentery in very aggravated forms, is lamentably prevalent. The small-pox is increasing among both soldiers and citizens. About sixty cases are now under treatment.

TESTIMONIALS.

HOSPITAL 67TH U. S. C. I.,
MORGANZIA, LA., *Oct.* 10, 1864.

MR. BOLTWOOD:—I take this occasion to acknowledge to you, and through you to the Sanitary Commission, whose agent you are, the receipt of Sanitary supplies, at several times, for the use of sick in my regiment, which have been much needed in the absence of fresh meat and vegetables, the want of which has been severely felt since the Missouri Brigade came into this department.

Scurvy, in addition to the more common diseases of camps, has been alarmingly prevalent. Although much of the health and consequent usefulness of the troops has been lost, with many valuable lives, your timely appropriations of potatoes, onions, pickles, acids, &c., to this regiment, and others, has effectually checked, for the present, the ravages of scurvy, and the number of sick is constantly diminishing by convalescence and recovery.

I take this occasion to present to the Sanitary Commission, through you, one of its many hard-working agents, the expressed, and I doubt not, heartfelt gratitude of the soldiers of this regiment, with the assurance that now and ever they will hold in grateful remembrance the benefactors whose almoner you are. Very respectfully,

JOSIAH JORDAN,
Surgeon 67th U. S. C. I.

HEAD-QUARTERS 62D REG'T U. S. C. I.,
MORGANZIA, LA., *Sept.* 28, 1864.

MR. H. L. BOLTWOOD, ESQ.,
Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission.

SIR:—I take plessure in acknowledging the receipt, through you and other agents of the Sanitary Commission, at different times during the past summer, of dried and canned fruits, hospital clothing and bedding, cordials and other hospital supplies, which were much needed by the sick of this regiment. The fresh and pickled vegetables I have lately received from you have been of almost incalculable benefit to our men, who are afflicted terribly with scurvy. I know not what I could have done, or how I could have got along without the *anti-scorbutics* received from you, and I wish to tender my thanks through you to the Commission, and those who sustain it for this timely aid.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant.
CORORTON ALLEN,
Surgeon 62d Regiment U. S. Col'd Infantry.

HEAD-QUARTERS 6TH MICH. HEAVY ART'Y,
FORT GAINES, ALA., *Dec.* 12, 1864.

W. R. MILLER,
Sanitary Agent.

MY DEAR SIR:—Permit me, through you, to acknowledge the many obligations that the 6th Michigan H. A. are under to the Sanitary Commission for the many vegetables and delicacies that you have so kindly furnished them with. Had it not been for the instrumentality of this Commission, I have no doubt that many valuable lives would have been sacrificed, as the health of the regiment, at the time we applied to you for relief, was in such a deplorable condition that they imperatively demanded vege-

tables and delicacies that could not be obtained through any other source, but were promptly furnished by you. It is indeed a proud satisfaction for the soldier, who has left the comforts and endearments of home, to struggle for the national existence of his country, to know that there are friends at home who are not unmindful of his welfare.

Yours, respectfully,

J. W. MASON,
Assistant Surgeon 6th Michigan H. A.

HEAD-QUARTERS 1ST N. O. VOLS.,
NEW ORLEANS, LA., *Oct.* 6, 1864.

DR. GEO. BLAKE,

DEAR SIR:—Permit me to thank you, and through you the Sanitary Commission, for your very, very generous donation to my regiment of ten sacks of fine onions. I had them divided equally among the companies, and directed that the onions be pealed and sliced, and covered with quick vinegar. The men then are to be allowed a definite quantity with each dinner. If I can be supplied with onions, from time to time, I can guarantee that my men shall be exempt from scurvy.

Again permit me to express my deep obligations to you.

Your obedient servant,

GEO. W. AVERY,
Surgeon 1st N. O. Vols.

FROM LOUISVILLE.

LOUISVILLE, KY., *December* 20, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY.

DEAR SIR:—Please find enclosed, my report of delivery of cargo of steamer *Navigator*, now just returned from New Orleans. The trip has been very fortunate, and aside from the accomplishment of our main object, without unusual incident.

We left Louisville Saturday morning, November 26, arriving at Cairo the next evening. Here we took on special shipments of not large amount, for Memphis and Vicksburg, and also a quantity of stores from Jefferson Co., Iowa, and partly from North-western Commission, destined for Barrancas, Florida. At Memphis, which we reached on Tuesday evening, were left, beside the special shipment from Mr. Shipman, such other supplies as the agents at that place deemed necessary—chiefly kraut and potatoes—and during the night we continued our course, accompanied by Dr. Woodward. To Mr. Allen, Agent of Western Sanitary Commission at Helena, was delivered an amount of vegetables, considered sufficient for an ample issue to all the troops at that post; most of which was delivered to the different regiments while the boat was still lying at the levee. The remainder of the cargo, with the exception of a limited amount discharged at Vicksburg, and the vegetables issued to gun-boats, was delivered to Dr. Blake at New Orleans.

A larger and more general issue was made to the Mississippi squadron than perhaps ever before; some slight compensation for the want of a Thanksgiving dinner, so generally furnished for their brothers in the East, in the same branch of the service.

Twenty-six gun-boats, stationed at the different points between Osceola and the mouth of the Red River, received supplies. Many of them had never received anything from the Sanitary Commission before; some had drawn nothing for months, while those which had drawn more recently, had obtained supplies merely for their sick. Enough was given for the crews of all, regulated in amount by the previous gifts of the Commission, the number on board, and the facilities of the boat for keeping the articles on hand.

The gift was immediately acknowledged in a kind and gentlemanly manner, and a high estimate placed upon the vegetables affecting the general health of the navy.

Very respectfully yours,

WM. A. SUTLIFFE.

FROM THE VALLEY OF THE SHENANDOAH.

SHERIDAN FIELD HOSPITAL, SHAWNEE SPRING,
WINCHESTER, VA., *Dec.* 29, 1864.

DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS,

DEAR SIR:—The last patient of the 4,141 that have been treated here since the 24th of September, has to-day said "farewell" to Shawnee Spring; and the last kind visitor from the glorious society of Unionists in the city, has to-day offered her services to this hospital, which to-morrow will be among "things that were."

It is but justice to your valuable association to return thanks for favors that have been received. The day I came here you personally responded to our requirements as liberally as your supplies would permit. You had the things we needed—things that gave comfort to our patients. Some days after the regular supplies came through the Medical Purveyor's office. Since then your agents have been attentive to similar wants.

Will it be invidious for me to mention the names of some with whom I have had business? Messrs. Nathaniel Seaver, Jr., E. H. Smith, J. V. Hammer, George Knowlton, George Russell and T. J. Corbin, have been earnest and constant in their endeavors to promote the cause of the Commission, and they have justly participated in the blessings invoked by suffering patriots on the Sanitary Commission. The deaths have numbered but 248, and you can believe there would have been more but for the relief promptly given.

But while I speak of your Agency, there is another which comes most vividly to mind. It may not be so well organized, nor so extensive as yours, but it is none the less grand in proportion to its extent. I mean that company of nurses—loyalists of Winchester, who have suffered great losses by the war, yet are sacrificing their personal comforts that they may aid our sick and wounded soldiers. You know Miss G——'s thrilling history. Was it not an honor that almost the last scene in this hospital should be the visit of such a heroine? Miss M—— remarked, when warned against presenting a flag to the hospital, "I'll do it though the rebels kill me when they come."

Would it not be well to publish in your periodical the names of these ladies? If so, here are those most frequently seen in the hospitals:

Miss Harriet H. Griffith, Miss Susan Jolliffe, Miss Ella Brown, Miss Margaret Brown, Miss Lizzie Brown, Miss Flora Sharp, Miss Alice Sharp, Miss Mattie Shumate, Miss Rebecca Shumate, Miss Ann Sidwell, Miss Martha Sidwell, Miss Rebecca Wright, Miss Mary Jackson, Miss Julia Chase, Miss Darlington, Miss Dunlap, Miss Meniman, Miss Lucy T. Meredith, Miss Jennie Meredith, Miss Emma Bonham, Miss Emma Glen, Miss Mary Cochrane, Miss Rebecca Cochrane, Miss Emma Crabbe, Miss Mollie Hackney, Miss Sallie Diffenderfer, Miss Annie Diffenderfer, Miss Amelia Maloy, Miss Rebecca Maloy, Miss Sibel Maloy, Miss Ella B. Ginn, Mrs. John Marvin, Mrs. Catharine Burns, Mrs. Dickinson, Mrs. Joseph Denny, Mrs. Tripp, Mrs. Cooper, Miss Mariannie Griffith, Miss Anna Griffith.

With best wishes for yourself and the Commission,

I am your obedient servant,

HENRY ROOT,
Surgeon 54th N. Y. S. M.

MEMORIAL OF THE GREAT CENTRAL FAIR AT PHILADELPHIA.

A very natural curiosity is felt by all those who hear of the wonderful results of the various Fairs held in aid of the Sanitary Commission to know by what system of organization such extraordinary success is achieved by those in charge of these enterprises. The Fairs themselves form a new era in the annals of benevolence, and their history will always be studied by those who seek to understand one of the most striking characteristics of the American people in this war. The Executive Committee of the Great Central Fair, held in Philadelphia in the month of June last, have thought it important to lay before the public a complete history of the origin, progress and results of that most successful undertaking. They very naturally thought that it was due not merely to the labors of those by whom this success was obtained that such a record should be preserved, but also that it was important as an example to those who may come after us to explain how more than a million of dollars was raised in a few months in aid of the Sanitary Commission. They entrusted the task of preparing such a history to Mr. CHAS. J. STILLE, and it has at length appeared in the shape of a very elegant quarto volume, containing more than two hundred pages. The book, although very beautiful in its mechanical execution, (in this respect indeed being one of the handsomest specimens of American book-making ever issued,) is a very unpretending one. It enters fully into the reasons which induced the managers of the Fair to undertake the enterprise, and explains the system of organization adopted which was so fruitful of good results. As those who had charge of it had the benefit of the experience of other Fairs, they were led to make some changes in the details of the organization of such a project, which the author of the "History" claims, with apparent good reason, were great improvements. The book traces the various modes by which nearly a hundred distinct committees, in charge of the various departments, performed each their share in the common work, and finally succeeded in fusing the scattered lays of patriotic sympathy into a harmonious whole. A deserved tribute is paid to the untiring energy and zeal of the great army of laborers employed in the work. A description of the buildings, whose imposing architectural

effect was not the least striking peculiarity of the Fair is given, and a detailed account of each separate department, containing articles for exhibition or sale is added. The various incidents of the Fair have been carefully preserved in this record, and appended to it will be found a financial statement of the result, showing that after November 26, 1864, the net amount realized was $1,010,976 68. A full list of all the committees occupies more than fifty pages of the volume, thus preserving, in a permanent form, the names of all who were the active workers in this great undertaking.

On the whole the "History" is a most fitting commemoration of the occasion. A limited edition only has been printed. Those who desire copies can obtain them by addressing Mr. JAMES K. SIMON, the agent for the sale of the book, No. 33 South Sixth street, and enclosing five dollars.

NEW ORLEANS.

The annexed table, taken by chance, will give the reader some idea of the nature, variety and extent of the relief afforded in the Soldiers' Homes. There are many details necessarily omitted because of want of room; but it will be seen that during eleven months, 10,784 soldiers and sailors, from twenty-three different States, have found a home in the far distant Gulf-city; that of these 2,821 were discharged men who, having no claim upon government, would otherwise have been homeless; that 63,113 lodgings, and 197,562 meals have been given; that 878 sick have been treated in the hospitals of the Home; that 16 have died; and that, at the option of the owners, $104,257 have been kept in the safe, and thus wrested from the clutch of the harpies who rob the soldier and his family of his earnings. It will be noted and remembered that no other organization does, or attempts to do, this most practical Christian work.

The statistics of the whole Special Relief Department are being collected for the purpose of consolidation and aggregation. The necessity of a uniform classification is apparent; and superintendents of Soldiers' Homes, Lodges, Rests, Homes for Nurses, and for Soldiers' Relations, &c., conducted by the U. S. Sanitary Commission, are requested to furnish—if they have not already done so—similar statistics of the work done in the institutions of which they have charge.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION'S "SOLDIERS' HOME,"

AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.

	Arkansas.	Conn'cut.	Delaware.	Illinois.	Indiana.	Iowa.	Kansas.	Kentucky.	Louisiana.	Maine.	Maryland.	Mass'setts.	Michigan.	Missouri.	New Hamp're.	N. Jersey.	New York.	Ohio.	Pen'sylvania.	Rhode Island.	Texas.	Vermont.	Wisconsin	U. S. A.	Invalid Corps.	Corps d'Afrique.	Marines.	Refugees.	Whole No.	Hospital.	Died.	Discharg'd.	Furloughed	Lodgings.	Meals.	Money deposited in safe.
Dec. 1863.		14		190	126	79	1	18	6	60	3	87	2	8	27		194	136	3	1	1	43	85	16		3		2	1,097			81	148	5,206	18,300	no record.
Jan. 1864.		35		181	64	29		16	13	11	3	80	7	7	2		217	47		1		17	14	*32		31		2	797			132	73	4,616	14,026	" "
February,		8		48	43	39		6	10	62		48	7	8	4		335	47	1			24	19	43		16			756		1	231	152	4,508	15,525	$4,660.40
March,		26		69	33	69		4	8	28	4	31	5	1	4		369	87	7			50	22	26		9			851		2	498	184	4,753	14,231	14,391.00
April,		10		85	69	137		8	10	46	16	34	5	5	6	16	210	74	7			13	31	36	17	44			944	28	1	657	158	3,712	11,342	27,978.14
May,	1	24		171	108	63		6	19	88	2	5	4	4	4	67	256	94	17	8		17	48	97	11			4	1,104	83	3	166	404	5,693	15,266	20,499.00
June,		8		96	75	80		11	13	72	5	111	14	6	6	18	185	26	8	3	14	3	22	41	†188	16	4		1	1,016	139	3	197	249	3,713	17,293	22,396.60
July,		10	1	101	71	33		12	5	65	7	60	1	1	43	16	227	39	13		3	14	87	75	12	14	2			914	189	1	255	206	6,486	20,272	no record.
August,		17	4	92	36	41	11	39	8	45	1	60	8	8	7	8	153	145	3	1	2	16	70	45	12	23				867	80	1	145	83	5,632	17,619	3,244.00
September		1	5	134	59	23	2	31	7	21	2	18	3		4		126	62			4	10	65	210	3	6	6			800	93	2	119	69	5,835	17,399	8,739.00
October,			1	108	25	7	1	75	21	11	9	4	60		24	63	92	136	1		4	5	38	84	107	3	2	1		814	69	1	386	121	5,753	15,879	4,069.76
November		3		63	44	4		62	341	3	5	2	11	6	14		87	118	1		6	3	3	17	3	21	13			824	103	2	301	90	*7,308	20,408	3,278.60
	1	156	11	1331	743	614	15	279	461	485	64	620	117	112	229	3	2451	961	60	102	21	287	633	878	161	172	22	25	10,784	878	16	2321	1937	63,113	197,562	$104,257.50

* Gen. Bank's Band. † Paroled Prisoners, 64.

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4th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

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Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., Cambridge, Mass.
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Wm. H. Van Buren, M.D.	Wolcott Gibbs, M.D.
C. R. Agnew, M.D.	Charles J. Stillé.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regi-

ment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution, of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, State House, New Haven, Conn.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 244 F Street, Washington, D. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Distribution, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 46 Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Harper's Ferry, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Parole, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, City Point, Va.

U. S Sanitary Commission, Newberne, N. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Beaufort, S. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, New Orleans, La

Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, N. Y.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 59 Fourth Street, Pittsburgh, Penna.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Columbus, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

EAST.

"Special Relief" Office, 76 Kingston Street, Boston, Mass.

"Special Relief" Office, 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

"Soldiers' Rest," Buffalo, Exchange street, opposite R. R. Depot.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C., where assistance is rendered in procuring Pay, Pensions, Bounty, Prize Money, and arrears of Pay and Bounty, and in various other ways.

"The Home," No. 374 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

WEST.

Soldiers' Home, No. 81 Jefferson avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Soldiers' Home, Third Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky., James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, New Albany, corner of Main and State Streets.

Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill., C. N. Shipman, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn., Captain I. Brayton, Sup't. Rev. J. Hoblit, Relief Agent

Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio, Col. Isaac Dalton, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio, Joseph Jerome, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn., C. W. Christy, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Camp Nelson, Ky., Thomas Butler, Superintendent.

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SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THE SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.
C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

No. 31. PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 1, 1865. No. 31.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No.* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

WOMEN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF.

QUARTERLY SESSION OF THE SANITARY COMMISSION IN WASHINGTON.—NO. V.

For the past month, from December 15, to January 15, we have to report as follows: Number of packages received, 331. Distributed to Annapolis, 16 packages; Washington, 40 packages; Harper's Ferry, 2 packages; Norfolk, Va., 38 packages; Bermuda Hundred, 1 package; Beaufort, S. C., 51 packages; Savannah, 6 packages; Hospitals in and near New York, 17 packages; Hospital transports, 14 packages; steamers in Mobile Bay and elsewhere, 9 packages.

All kinds of hospital supplies, excepting lint, are needed; but more especially flannel clothing, bed quilts, socks and mittens.

During the past week we had the privilege of being present at the Quarterly Session of the Board of Commissioners in Washington. Besides the daily meeting of the Standing Committee in New York, and the fortnightly meeting of the members from Boston, Philadelphia and New York, a session of the whole Board is held every three months in Washington, usually lasting about a week. At these meetings reports are received from agents in every part of the field, representing every department of the work. These are discussed and passed upon. The plan of work for the future is also determined upon. There were present at the January session, last week, beside Commissioners from both Eastern and Western States, the officers of the Commission, several Associate Members and representatives from two of the Eastern Branches. As has been repeated again and again, the policy which has guided us all through our work has been, and is, to give you the fullest information as to the conduct of our own work, and the work of the Commission. It was to enable us to do this more satisfactorily, that we asked and readily obtained permission to be present at this session of the Board.

How shall we begin to condense these twenty-three pages of notes which we have brought away with us? How can we give you an idea of the magnitude of the work as it was forced upon us, weighted with the mighty power of concentration? How make you understand in ten minutes, what we could not comprehend in as many hours? It seems hopeless, and yet we want to try and give you some of the impressions we have brought home with us.

The *extent* of the work and the *character of the agents* now in the service of the Commission remain among the most prominent of these impressions.

Thousands of miles were traveled over in those few hours. Wherever the Sanitary Commission went, we went, and the Sanitary Commission went everywhere. We were driving wagon-loads of hospital supplies on to the battle-field—any battle-field—every battle-field. We were binding up wounds; we were feeding the hungry and clothing the naked. Or it was a night spent at the Home in Washington, or Cincinnatti, or Nashville, or New Orleans, and we were watching those weary eyes light up in that bright, cheerful room, watching the smile upon the pale, thin face at this foretaste of home-comfort. Now, we were standing in a garden with its long, neat rows of cabbages and onions and potatoes. Again we were marching through a rich and fertile country, with a mighty host, and at the end of our journey, raising a sick boy for his first sight of that grand, deep-blue ocean. We were collecting the back pay for a disabled soldier waiting to go home. We carried the first instalment of pension money to a poor widow. We were reading a funeral service in the wilderness by the side of an open grave. We were on ship-board, lifting down cabin stairs, and caring as best we might, for those brave men who went from us strong and well to be returned the victims of systematic and fiendish cruelty. We were writing to a mother, anxious about an only son, telling her that he was safe, that he was recovering, that he should want for nothing. We were building chapels and reading rooms. We were putting Bibles and Prayer-books into some hands; picture and story-books into others. We were watching by the bedside, and praying with a dying man. We were merry over a game of checkers with a little drummer boy, whose happy face was a bright spot in that hospital ward. We were reading a letter, a half-sheet of coarse, yellow paper, merely a pencil scrawl, dated Florence, S. C., "Would the Sanitary Commission send food and clothing and blankets, for we have nothing to cover us."

We will not take you further on this terrible journey, for with all that we can do to alleviate suffering, the horrors of war must still remain uppermost, when one comes in contact with them. We do not wish to take you into battle and pestilence, and through the many scenes which we hope may ever remain among the untold, but will bring you at last to the end of our journey. It was a bright picture and pleasant ending to be brought back into one of your own cheerful, happy sewing circles, and there we will rest, for that is our home.

Does this faint outline give you any idea of the extent of the work of the Commission? Hardly, we are well aware. In fact, many of the departments of the work have not been touched upon at all. And yet we hope it may have brought the relief work somewhat nearer to you.

We spoke of having been impressed by the character of the Relief Agents of the Commission, as made known to us by personal observation, and through their written reports. This visit to Washington only confirmed the impression of previous visits among the Homes and Lodges of the Commission there, bearing new testimony as to the fitness, the reliability, the humanity and tenderness of those persons in charge of these different resting-places for our soldiers. The same impression was derived from the reports we heard read. They were evidently written by earnest, hard-working men, men whose hearts were in their work. They were not only detailed, business-like reports of what had been accomplished, but they contained suggestions for improvement, and requests to be allowed to do more—those unmistakable signs of life and sincerity. We should feel ashamed of any want of confidence in these men. Be assured that we may not only trust them, but be grateful that our gifts to our soldiers are rendered doubly precious from being received through such faithful loving hands.

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER,
Chairman Committee on Correspondence, &c.,
NEW YORK, *Jan.* 16, 1865.

BEDDING FOR HOSPITAL USE.

Bedsack of burlap or ticking, 2 yards and 12 inches long; 40 inches wide. Sew all round. Cut opening in middle 27 inches long; close with three [3] buttons; put a stay at each end of opening and one under each button. Required, 3 knots linen thread.

Pillow Sacks of ticking or crash; 16 inches wide, 30 inches long. Leave opening in middle of one end. Close with 2 buttons.

Sheets. Linen and cotton. 8 feet long. 4 feet wide. Required, one-half skein of cotton or one-twelfth part of a hank.

Pillow Cases of cotton or linen. ½ yard wide. 1 yard long.

Quilts. 7 feet long. 50 inches wide.

Blankets for single beds.

CUSHIONS FOR WOUNDED LIMBS.

Square Cushions from 8 to 24 inches square.

Ring Cushions to be made in the form of a ring from 8 inches to 24 inches in diameter.

The best covering is enamel cloth, but any material may be used. In stuffing, avoid anything heating. Any of the following articles may be used: hair, excelsior, tow, carpet ravelings, shreds of husk, straw or hay.

Hop Cushions covered with any cheap material, 8 to 24 inches square.

Bandages of old cloth, strong enough to bear a firm steady pull. All selvages and seams should be torn off. In piecing lap one edge well over the other, without turnings, and sew firmly close to each edge. Be sure the pieces are exactly the same width. Roll very tight and even (bandage machines are cheap and very desirable). Mark the length on outer edge and fasten with two small pins. The most useful are from 2½ to 3½ inches wide and from 5 to 8 yards long. The roll must never be never be too large to be held easily in one hand.

Old Linen and Cotton pieces, no matter how small, tied in bundles and marked on the outside. Tear off all selvages and seams.

Lint may be made in various ways.

1. Of linen ravelings of any length thrown together without order.
2. Of linen ravelings from 4 to 8 inches long laid in order, but not tied.
3. Of scraped linen.
4. Of balsam.

The different kinds must be separated, and never packed in newspapers.

Towels of crash or strong cloth, seven-eighths of a yard long.

Handkerchiefs of any soft material. Large size.

DIRECTIONS FOR HOSPITAL CLOTHING.

DIRECTIONS FOR KNITTING SOCKS.

1 lb. yarn knits three pair socks.

Use No. 13 needles, and three-threaded yarn.

For small sock, set up 65 stitches—foot 10 inches long.

For medium sock, set up 70 stitches—foot 11 inches long.

For very large sock, set up 75 stitches—foot 12 inches long.

Leg.—Cast on stitches. Rib 3½ inches. Knit plain 6½ inches, keeping one stitch seam.

Heel.—Take half the stitches on one needle for the back of heel. Knit three inches, seaming every other row. Then turn the heel thus: Knit three-quarters of your stitches, and slip and bind the first stitch of the last quarter. Turn and seam back, repeating the same on first stitch of the quarter at the other end, and so on, back and forward, till the two end quarters are used up.

Instep.—Divide the remaining stitches on two needles, and pick up on each needle the stitches on that side of the heel. With these and the stitches on the instep needle begin the foot. Narrow at the last stitch but two on the side needles, near the instep needle. Do this every other round until you have reduced the number of stitches on each heel needle to half that on instep needle.

Foot.—Knit on plain till your foot is the right length, allowing 2½ inches for the toe.

Toe.—Knit one round, narrowing every seventh stitch. Then knit six rows plain. Knit one round narrowing every sixth stitch. Five rows plain, and so on till you narrow every other stitch. Cast off.

Run heels and toes.

To avoid running, and make heel double, follow directions for heel as above; but on seam needle, slip every other stitch.

DIRECTIONS FOR KNITTING MITTENS.

(*With one Finger and Thumb.*)

Cast on 76 stitches.

Rib 2 inches.

Knit 1 inch plain.

Make 1 stitch in the middle of needle.

Knit 2 rounds plain. Make 1 stitch (in 3d round) on each side of the new stitch. Proceed in this way, making 1 new stitch on each side of the other new ones, in every third round, till there are 21. Take off these 21 new stitches on a thread. Knit the rest of the stitches, making 4 additional ones on the first round where the separation for the thumb occurs, thus making 80 stitches in the hand. Knit a little more than an inch plain. Take off 24 stitches on a thread to form the first finger, and joining the rest together, knit round and round 2½ inches more; narrow every 5th stitch. Knit 5 rows; narrow every 4th stitch. Knit 4 rows and so on.

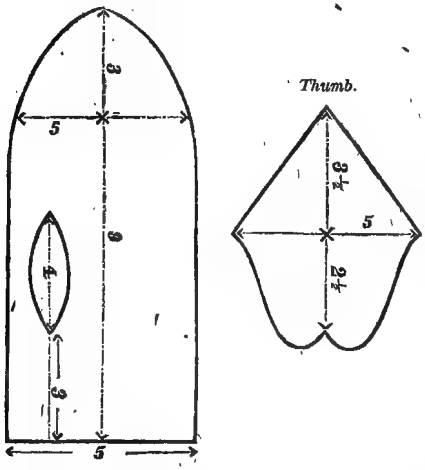
For finger, take up the 24 stitches. Knit

plain 2¾ inches; narrow every 3d stitch. Knit 3 rows, &c.

For thumb, take up the 21 stitches and the 4 new ones in front of the thumb, thus making 25 in all. Knit 1½ inches; narrow every 3d stitch. Knit 3 rows, &c., as in finger.

ANOTHER KIND OF MITTEN.

Mitten—Right Hand.



DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING MITTEN.

It may be made of any strong woolen material. The diagram shows the outside, the inside is the same, without the hole for the thumb.

The mitten is whole on the side next the thumb; if the cloth is not large enough this is not necessary. It is to be stitched round and hemmed at the bottom.

The thumb is to be stitched and sewed into the hole. An elastic braid draws up the inside at wrist.

WRISTERS—(KNIT.)

Wristers.—Use four needles. Rib, like the leg of a sock, about 6 inches, setting up enough stitches to slip well over a man's hand. Then begin to make hole for thumb by knitting backwards and forwards on needles for 2 inches. Then knit round and round again for about 3 inches. Cast off.

HOME, DUTY, WIFE AND SANITARY!

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF AN AGENT, AT CITY POINT.

I have the honor to report that after a brief but very pleasant visit home, I am prepared again to labor in the cause I deem so worthy. It was somewhat trying to leave home this time. The little social circles are gathered round the hearths and the long winter evenings are crowded full of happiness. All the summer I looked forward to a winter of rest and quiet enjoyment at home. These considerations and the remonstances of friends made the parting reluctant, but I could not yield and remain away, and know that there was a privilege still open to me, a creditable task that I might do.

I do not wish sir, in extolling the cause, to evince a selfish pride. I am only anxious that you should know that I appreciate the work in which we are engaged, and that every atom of heart is enlisted in its behalf.

On the mail boat I got into conversation with a civilian, evidently "well to do in the world," and "rather set in his ways." Without solicitation, he spoke as follows:

"The Sanitary is doing a *great* work. The people North don't know it. They don't appreciate its magnitude or the thorough manner in which it is done. I am a Boston grocer. I used to be decidedly opposed to the Sanitary Commission. Thought it was a money-making concern. Wife often wanted to contribute, but I always said 'No!' and put my foot down heavily if urged.

"I came up from the store one day. There was an appeal in the papers. Wife said 'John, I want to send something to the Sanitary rooms for the soldiers;' but I said emphatically several times, 'You shall not send a thing.' She persevered, saying, 'Suppose George,' (I had a brother-in-law in the service then) 'Suppose George is sick. Wouldn't you like to send him something nice?' I grew emphatic, and hammered the table some and said, 'He'd never get it if it were sent.' She took a newspaper and held it before her face, I never knew whether she laughed or cried, but *two hours later I met her coming out of the Sanitary rooms, whither she had just taken some goods.*

"I was unconverted till Gettysburg. I was with the army there. I saw the Commission work. Sir, they saved thousands of lives. I could not disbelieve my own eyes. I was at Fredricksburg when the town was filled with mangled humanity, and the authorities could not do much. It was the same there. No task was too arduous or loathsome for the agents to do.

"When I got home I said, 'If you have anything to give, give it to the Sanitary, it is doing the right thing. Don't be afraid,' and now I feel in duty bound to do and say all I can for your cause."

I have dwelt upon this gentleman's testimony longer perhaps than is necessary, but I cannot let it pass without alluding to a fact upon which it bears. The people, the supporters of this beneficence, should know more of its workings, should be familarized with its individual results.

THE WORK OF A GREAT PEOPLE.

A pamphlet with the above title, having reference to the operations of the Sanitary Commission, has recently been issued in Paris. It is distinguished throughout by a very liberal spirit towards this country, and evinces a familiarity with affairs in the United States, which is certainly remarkable in a foreigner. Its perusal must, we think, afford sincere gratification, not merely to those who are directly interested in the reputation of the Sanitary Commission, but to all who feel a pride in the true glory of the country. We make the following extracts.

A remarkable fact proved by the statistics of different armies, is not so generally known as it should be; it is that DURING A CAMPAIGN, AT LEAST THREE TIMES AS MANY SOLDIERS DIE OF DISEASE, AND FROM A WANT OF THE PROPER CARE WITH RESPECT TO THE WOUNDED, AS ARE KILLED BY THE ENEMY. Such a condition of things demands our most serious attention, that it may be remedied as far as possible.

The statistics of the medical corps of the English army, establish the fact that, during the war in the Crimea, while the mortality resulting from wounds was only three per cent. of the whole number, that produced by disease amounted to more than twenty per cent.

In the war of 1846 between the United States and Mexico, the difference in the American army was still more considerable, for scarcely fourteen in a thousand died of wounds, while about one hundred and three in a thousand fell victims to disease, intemperance, &c.

During a military campaign, it is almost impossible for the medical corps to give much attention to purely sanitary measures, all their time and attention being required in taking care of the sick and wounded. Moreover their duty is prescribed to them according to strict military rules, in which, for the most part, everything which looks like innovation is studiously avoided.

The experience of all nations proves that the proper application of sanitary science to armies in a state of war, is yet to be learned. Whatever can throw light upon so important a subject, be its source what it may, must contribute to the general interests of humanity.

We propose, in the following pages to show what the Americans have done, during the war which for three years has desolated their country, towards solving this important problem. The energy and eminently practical sense of that people have led them to move of their own accord in this enterprise, without waiting for the assistance or co-operation of the government. The women and even the children of the republic have been employed in promoting the comfort of the soldiers during the campaign, and their numerous agents have proved by their example that voluntary assistance and practical advice may be given to the medical corps of an army, without interfering with military discipline, and yet essentially promoting the comfort and welfare of the troops. The results obtained afford a signal confirmation of the noble words of M. Henry Munant: "The *personel* of military moving hospitals is always insufficient, everywhere in all wars, in every age and in every army." The military annals of all nations confirm this melancholy truth, and what is yet more sad, however generous and persevering may be the efforts made by the Government to extend or improve the regularly provided means for succoring the sick and wounded, a satisfactory result cannot thus be reached.

THE PROJECT OF A SANITARY COMMISSION IN THE UNITED STATES.

Let us now turn our eyes to the distant land of America; towards those battle-fields moistened with the blood of thousands of soldiers—of fathers, brothers, husbands. No war in ancient or modern times has appeared to us so horrible as the one which now rends that unhappy country. For three years past it has seemed each successive day to increase in severity. Every succeeding day America is the scene of fresh horrors, in relating which the writers of Europe seem to vie with each other as to which shall exhibit the greatest power of tragic description. In the proclamations of sovereigns, in the discussions of legislative assemblies, in the public journals, everywhere, in short, all are agreed

in deploring the length and obstinacy of this fratricidal conflict. Accustomed to look at the question only from this point of view, the people of Europe are firmly convinced that the history of this war can be nothing more than a monotonous recital of massacres, of ruin and despair, without one ray of beneficence or humanity to soften the darkness of the picture.

Is it not strange that when the evil side of this question is so thoroughly understood the good alone should remain entirely concealed? Yet in the midst of the deluge of blood and fire in which America is now plunged, she has been able to give a form—as yet imperfect perhaps, but practical—to that which was elsewhere nothing more than an aspiration. In the midst of this vast desolation, the inevitable result of such a war, generous hearts have been moved while beholding the sufferings of the combatants, and compassionate women and noble men have accomplished a work which Europe had as yet only contemplated.

It is not our purpose to discuss here either the motives or the object of the civil war which broke out in the United States on the bombardment of Fort Sumter. The subject with which we propose to occupy these pages, is the work of beneficence and philanthropy commenced and established by the women of the United States, on so vast a scale and with so much success. We would, if possible, by setting forth their intentions, their plans, and the results at which they have arrived, induce the people of other nations to follow their example—to form similar organizations in anticipation of similar results. This field of labor is a neutral territory, where persons of all parties may meet together. Political or national distinctions have nothing to do with this great question. It is impossible (which ever side of the American contest we may be inclined to espouse,) not to feel the highest admiration for the courage with which these women have surmounted all the obstacles that one must necessarily encounter in such an enterprise, and not to wish them success in their noble work of humanity and beneficence.—*L'Œuvre d'un Grand Peuple, par J. N. P., Paris*, 1864.

In future numbers of the BULLETIN other extracts from this admirable pamphlet will appear, so that our readers will see how the Sanitary Commission is esteemed in France.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORT ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION IN THE VALLEY OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

For the Quarter ending September 30, 1864. *By Dr. J. S. Newberry, Secretary Western Department.*

LOUISVILLE, KY., *October* 22, 1864.

DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS,
General Secretary Sanitary Commission:

DEAR SIR:—I herewith submit detailed Reports of the different departments of our work for the three months ending September 30, which will, I trust, give full and clear information of what has been accomplished, and how it has been done, in all parts of the field under my supervision.

These reports I will preface by a general summary, presenting in a condensed view all the information derived from this and other sources, which will be of interest, and have a practical bearing on the administration of the Commission.

You are so well informed from my weekly reports, and from the public journals, in regard to the progress of military events in this department, that no detailed history of them will now be necessary or proper at my hands.

Suffice it to say that our attention, as well as that of the public, has been in a large degree centered in that great move on the military chess-board, the advance of Sherman's army into the heart of Georgia, and the succession of battles and victories culminating in the capture of Atlanta. Most of the events connected with that campaign occurred in a previous quarter, and, so far as they had a bearing on our work, have been reported to you.

Although to a greater or less degree embarrassed by the interruption of communication with the front, and by the want of transportation, which we shared with every branch of the service, up to the time of the capture of Atlanta we were able to keep with the army so large a working force, provided with so generous a supply of stores, that we were at all times prepared to furnish to those needing it such an amount of material and manual aid as to considerably soften the hardships of an arduous campaign, and fully sustain the reputation and responsibilities of the Commission.

The number of our agents paralyzed or removed by sickness rendered it necessary to send so large reinforcements to the field, that our corps presented a more formidable

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ing us to draw more largely on our privileges of passes and transportation than has ever before been necessary. In addition to this, a host of civilians, representing other benevolent organizations, or pursuing individual aims of a philanthropic or mercenary nature, reckoned themselves, or were reckoned by the military authorities—who, since the recall of Gen. Rosecrans, have never been careful to discriminate between the good and bad, the true and the false—in the category of "sanitary agents," of whom, at one time, eighty per week were receiving passes and transportation from Chattanooga to the front. Impelled by a desire to abate this clear and formidable abuse, a step rendered necessary by the difficulties surrounding the transportation of supplies to the army, Gen. Sherman issued a peremptory order prohibiting, with a few rare exceptions, the access of all civilians to the forces at the front, and limiting the number of our agents in the field. Under this order we were permitted to keep but two resident agents at Atlanta—a smaller number than was desirable to sustain all the departments of our work, and yet, with the detailed help and other facilities cheerfully furnished us, sufficient to prevent serious embarrassment. The interests of the Commission with Sherman's army, and all along the line of communication with that army, are now in the hands of our most experienced and efficient agents, all important absentees having returned to duty; and I have entire confidence that we shall enjoy in the future, as we have done for three years past, all facilities and privileges necessary for the thorough performance of our work.

Dr. Reed having recovered from the serious illness which compelled him to withdraw, has returned to take the supervision of the field work in Gen. Sherman's army. We may be sure that, guided by his wisdom, it will not languish or be badly done.

At Chattanooga, the agency is again under the care of M. C. Read, who, with Mr. Hosford, has recently returned from sick furlough. The absence of both these gentlemen has been seriously felt, and I congratulate myself that they are again at their posts, in the enjoyment of full physical vigor, and the exercise of the rare faculties which they possess.

The garden at Chattanooga, under the management of Mr. Wills, has more than accomplished our anticipations of its usefulness. The entire issues from it during the season to October 1, have been 10,028 bushels of potatoes, tomatoes, beans, &c., and 1,784 dozens of corn, melons, squashes, cabbages, with a large store of fall crops still remaining.

At Knoxville we have suffered serious loss in the death of Mr. J. H. Milliken, a most estimable and efficient man, who had the superintendency of the agency after the departure of Dr. Seymour. His place has since been filled by Mr. T. Y. Gardener, who is no less worthy of our respect and esteem. The hospital garden, in charge of Mr. Culbertson, although less extensive than at Chattanooga, has played a no less important part in the supply of the hospitals there. During the month of September, Mr. Culbertson distributed from the garden 277 bushels of tomatoes, 264 bushels of beans, 6,347 dozen cucumbers (mostly pickles), 1,929 heads of cabbage, &c.

The "feeding stations" at Kingston, Dalton, Decherd, &c., have formed a most important, indeed, indispensable portion of our work, during the last quarter. Under the general supervision of Mr. Eno, and individually managed by Mr. Brundrett, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Sutliffe, and Dr. Hillman, they have supplied food, and all needed care, to nearly every sick or wounded man transported from the front to the rear, extending their benefits to many thousands, and performing a service of incalculable value.

The agency at Nashville has continued under the supervision of Judge Root, and has been most wisely conducted, and highly prosperous. With its business offices, its warehouse, its Soldiers' Home, and agents' quarters, each occupying a distinct building, the Sanitary Commission at Nashville is a very conspicuous and noticeable institution, yet I am sure uses to excellent purpose the wide space which it covers. Indeed, the work it is accomplishing has already outgrown its accommodations.

The "Soldiers' Home," under the efficient management of Capt. Brayton, has become an institution so popular as to be constantly filled to overflowing, and has proved so inadequate in capacity to the demand upon it, that the military authorities have promised to give us, in exchange for the building now occupied, one of the largest hospital buildings in the city.

At Louisville no changes have occurred in our work or our corps of agents requiring special mention. Each department is

moving on smoothly, and, as you will see from the accompanying detailed reports, with steadily increasing importance.

The Home has never accommodated near so many as within the past three months, having been daily crowded to its utmost capacity. And such has been the throng of furloughed and discharged men passing through the city, that the necessity has been laid upon us for the establishment of a similar institution on the opposite side of the river, of which mention will be made in the notice of the department of Special Relief. The warehouse has never been so much crowded with stores as of late, nor the amount of goods received and shipped daily near so large.

The condition of the HOSPITAL DIRECTORY will be learned from the accompanying report of its Superintendent, and I will only say in regard to it that the value of its register, now so immense, is receiving constant and increasing illustration. Reports from all the hospitals in this department come in with regularity, and I have reason to believe that the great importance of this branch of our work is now fully recognized as well by the military and medical authorities as by the people.

The demand for the REPORTER has been gradually increasing, and we are now compelled to print an edition of about 7,500 copies. We have satisfactory evidence that we are far more than compensated for the expenditure by the influence it exerts, in spreading a knowledge of, and fostering an interest in, our work.

The Pension Agency, as you are aware, but recently established here, has been rapidly gaining in importance, and has already secured the presentation and acceptance of the claims of very many deserving persons, too ignorant or too poor to prosecute them without its assistance.

DISTRICT OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

The work of the Commission on the Mississippi, so greatly reduced by the withdrawal of the Army of the Tennessee, has of late claimed more of our attention, from the activity of military movements in that quarter. The agencies of the Commission at Cairo, Memphis, and Vicksburg, have been constantly maintained, it is true, and the first of these has grown rather than diminished in importance, but the garrisons of the posts along the river have been comparatively small, requiring only a limited amount of assistance from us; and the army in Arkansas, mostly composed of troops from the Department of the Gulf, has been considered still within the sanitary jurisdiction of Dr. Blake, of New Orleans, and has been followed by his representatives, who have, as a general rule, looked to him for supplies.

The prevalence of a scorbutic taint in this army has, however, created a demand for such a quantity, and such kinds of stores, as could not be readily supplied from the Atlantic States. In these circumstances, Dr. Blake appealed to me for vegetables, and other anti-scorbutics, and in answer to this, the *Dunleith* was fully freighted and sent down the Mississippi, delivering half her cargo at New Orleans, distributing the other half at way stations along the route. This shipment was most timely, and was welcomed with enthusiasm by Dr. Blake and the military authorities. As, however, it furnished but a temporary relief from the wants it was intended to meet, it has seemed to me necessary to forward further supplies by the same means, and the *Dunleith* has been reloaded and again despatched on the same route. It is scarcely possible that the troops on the lower Mississippi and its tributaries can receive an adequate supply of anti-scorbutics from any other source than the Western States; and should the difficulties now existing of procuring adequate transportation through the Quartermaster's Department continue, it may be desirable to make further shipments by steamers chartered for that purpose.

The business of the agency at Cairo, as I have intimated, has of late been greater than ever, and I cannot speak too highly of the zeal and wisdom with which it has been managed by Mr. Shipman. The Home at this point has been for weeks and months past, literally inundated with the tide of soldiers that has flowed through it, and there are few who see the crowds fed and sheltered there that fail to ask themselves what would be the fate of these poor fellows were no such asylum provided for them.

In compliance with the request of the Medical Director, Dr. D. W. K. Danforth, approved by Lieut. Colonel Allen, Medical Inspector, I have recently established a "Home" at Paducah, under the supervision of Mr. Edward D. Way. A commodious building, and all other needed facilities, have been provided by the military authorities, and I have reason to believe that the

"Home" at this point, though not large, will be complete in its appointments, well managed and a great blessing to those who may become inmates of it.

DISTRICT OF KANSAS.

During the past quarter, our work in Kansas has been thoroughly reorganized, and freed from some incumbrances by which it was formerly somewhat clogged. Our efficient agent there, Mr. J. R. Brown, embraced in his wide-spread sympathy every object of compassion or charity in any way consequent upon the war, so that the refugees and contrabands, as well as the sick and wounded of our soldiery, found in him a most earnest and devoted friend.

So untiring and successful was he in his efforts, that he became recognized by both the people and the military authorities as the great, if not the sole, medium through which all cases of want and suffering were to be relieved. As a natural consequence, he found himself rapidly involved in duties and responsibilities which made drafts on his strength and resources he was utterly unable to meet. After struggling bravely with accumulating difficulties, finally overburdened and discouraged, he applied to me for counsel and assistance. At my suggestion he accompanied me to New York, and presented the claims of the refugees to the officers of the societies formed for their care. As I hoped, his appeal was answered at once, and such provisions made for the support of both white and black refugees, that Mr. Brown has relieved himself of all but a general supervision of their interests, and has thus been able to give a more undivided attention to our work. The present invasion of Missouri, and threatened invasion of Kansas, have given great activity to military operations in this quarter, and I have authorized Mr. Brown to employ additional assistance, if necessary, to meet the increased demand upon him.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The concentration of troops in the Valley of the Shenandoah has withdrawn from Western Virginia the larger portion of those for whose care we have been in some degree responsible. Our work has therefore materially decreased in this district, and I have directed Mr. Fracker to break up the agency at Marietta and transfer his stores to Wheeling; trusting to be able to meet the demands arising in this district from that one station. All parts of this field have been recently inspected by Dr. Parker, and the change I have designated has been made in accordance with his recommendation.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

A marked change has taken place in our work in this department since the beginning of the war. Then everything was needed, of diet, clothing, or medicine, by well men or sick, that we could furnish. Now, the number and variety of cases of desease in the veteran regiments is comparatively small. The heads of the hydra which formerly devoured at such a fearful rate our newly-recruited forces, have been by various influences scotched, until but two formidable ones remain—scurvy and chronic diarrhœa.

The resources and methods of the Medical Department have been so far improved, and its officers are now so thoroughly trained in their duties, that comparatively little is needed from us of clothing, medicine and delicacies, of which we formerly supplied such large quantities.

Our efforts, therefore, of late, have been mainly directed to the supply of the universal and pressing demand for vegetables and other anti-scorbutics, which are not, and cannot be, furnished in sufficient quantities through the regular channel.

During the year past, the quantity of potatoes, onions and cabbages, fresh and canned tomatoes, kraut, pickles, dried apples, &c., which we have forwarded to the army, has been, as you will see by our tabulated reports, unprecedentedly large. To procure these, our friends all over the Northern States have been actively engaged, and our agents have not only visited all our own markets, but also those of Canada.

The season for the production and distribution of these articles had, at the 1st of October, but just commenced; but our shipments of onions, for example, had, up to that time and since the last report, exceeded twenty thousand bushels.

In addition to the supplies just enumerated, soft crackers and codfish, not furnished in any considerable quantities by the Commissary Department, have formed an important part of our shipments. Of stimulants, since they are freely supplied through the regular channel, and are, of all stores, most liable to misappropriation, we have forwarded as few as possible. Concentrated beef and concentrated milk have been in such constant demand, and are articles so generally and decidedly useful, that we have

been in the past, and shall be in the future, compelled to make them prominent items in our supply table.

From the statements I have made, it will be seen that we have now relieved ourselves from the most fruitful cause of anxiety and reproach in the administration of our Supply Department; and any one who will examine the invoices of our shipments to the army will soon discover that canned fruits, wines, and other domestic delicacies, in regard to the use of which our contributors have had so much concern, form a very insignificant part of them; and we may hereafter effectually silence the criticisms of those who question the purity of our work in this department, by the assertion that scarcely one per cent. of our stores are such as are susceptible of misappropriation or unworthy use.

In the transportation of supplies, we have had no other difficulties than such as were incident to the interruption of communication with the front, and the crowded state of the road when open. On the contrary, we have enjoyed every facility which we could ask at all points, and from the officers in every branch of the service. The recent break in the road has occasioned the accumulation of twelve car loads of onions at Chattanooga and six at Nashville, all of which were intended for Atlanta. But since there is now a large force on this side of Tunnel Hill, where the break begins, there is ample demand for all we have to issue.

On the Mississippi, the interruption of trade has so far diminished the opportunities for shipment, that it has been necessary, as I have before stated, to charter a steamer for the supply of our stations in that district. As soon as adequate transportation can be otherwise procured, this source of expenditure will, of course, be removed.

In our constituency of the Home Field a cordial and harmonious spirit of co-operation prevails. Where large funds have been collected by Sanitary Fairs, a disposition has been manifested to rest upon the unusual exertion made in connection with them; there has been a relaxation in the efforts to collect supplies, and, as a consequence, a diminution in the quantity received. In every field, however, the produce has been precisely proportionate to the thoroughness of the tillage, and there is scarcely a portion of the country from which we derive stores that could not be made doubly productive by a more vigorous and systematic canvass.

DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL RELIEF.

Our work in this department has so far increased as to be inferior to no other in magnitude and importance, and there scarcely seems to be a limit to the work of mercy which may be done by the different offices and institutions which it includes. The number of "Soldiers' Homes" under the superintendence of the Sanitary Commission in this department was, at the date of my last report, eleven, namely, those at Nashville, Louisville, Camp Nelson, Memphis, Cairo, Cincinnati, Columbus, Cleveland, Buffalo, and New Albany. To these I have recently added one at Paducah, and another at Jeffersonville, Indiana. In the accompanying report will be found an enumeration of the lodgings and meals furnished to the inmates of these homes, during the past quarter, forming an aggregate of 111,748 lodgings, and 322,881 meals. While these large numbers will impress any one with the magnitude of the work accomplished by the "Homes," they form but an imperfect exponent of the many and varied good offices which they perform to the objects of their charities. I must refer you to the detailed reports from their superintendents for a fair presentation of a subject to which space will not now permit me to do anything like justice.

HOSPITAL TRAINS.

The transportation of sick and wounded, at one time a conspicuous portion of our work and expenditure, has now become so far self-sustaining as to require little intervention on our part. The hospital trains organized by the Sanitary Commission, and for eighteen months manned and sustained by it, were turned over to the medical authorities as soon as they were willing to accept the responsibility; and the major part of the expense attending the fitting up of the numerous and complete hospital cars on the road has been borne by the Government, although the contributions made by the Sanitary Commission have, in the aggregate, amounted to some thousands of dollars.

In the transfer of the care of the sick to the Government, Dr. Barnum, who was in our service, was employed by the Medical Department, and he has since been given the supervision of the whole matter of the transportation of the sick

and wounded to the rear, and the superintendence of all the trains upon the road. By his wisdom and energy, the work has been so far systematized as to form one of the best ordered branches of the medical service in this department.

To enable Dr. Barnum to accomplish his purposes fully, he has been authorized to draw freely upon the resources of the Commission, and a small number of his assistants continue to be paid from its funds.

HOSPITAL VISITORS.

The duty performed by the Hospital Visitors continues to hold the high place in my respect which I have heretofore given it, and my only regret, in this connection, is that the number of devoted and faithful men engaged in it cannot be largely increased. The reports of several of the Hospital Visitors are herewith submitted, and from them you may judge whether I overestimate their value. The Commission has sustained a serious loss in the resignation of Rev. J. P. T. Ingraham, for the year past our Hospital Visitor at Nashville. Greatly to the regret of all with whom he has been associated, he has felt compelled to return to his pastoral duties.

In this connection I ought to refer to two sources of expenditure which properly belong to the Department of Special Relief; of these, the first to which I refer is the pre-payment of postage on soldiers' letters, retained in the offices of Chattanooga, Nashville and Louisville. The number of letters, mostly kind words from home, thus made to reach their destination, is something like 16,000 per month, forwarded at a cost of about $800. I cannot but think that the present arrangement, useful as it is, should be but temporary, and that if this great and richly deserved blessing cannot be secured to the soldier through the Post Office Department, the subject should receive the attention of Congress at the commencement of the next session.

Yours, respectfully,
J. S. NEWBERRY.

A—FINANCES.

The cash expenditures of this department have been almost entirely made from funds collected in the East and in the far West. The contributions made to the Sanitary Commission by the loyal States of the Mississippi Valley have equalled, both in gross amount and in proportion to the population, those derived from any and all other portions of the Union; but they have been for obvious reasons, mostly made in kind, and not in cash. The great West is still comparatively poor in money, but rich in the vast though unconverted capital of her fertile plains and exhaustless mines, and richer still in the conspicuous patriotism of her warm-hearted people. That which she has had—the fruits of the field, the treasures of the earth, the products of the loom and anvil—she has given without measure.

The East, richer in capital, has given most freely of that; while the extreme West, too distant to send her less valuable products, has made her contributions in silver and gold.

Thus it happens, that the cash expended through my hands has been drawn directly from the treasury of the Commission in New York, while the contributions of the Western States, as they have reached me, have been altogether in stores; the cash collected by cities, towns, and villages for the Sanitary Commission, by fairs or otherwise, having been kept by each, for such things as could be better bought at such points than elsewhere.

The money expended by the Western Secretary is deposited to his credit in New York, and drawn upon as wanted. All such money is accounted for with rigid exactness. A statement of account, with vouchers, is forwarded at the close of each month, at which time the accounts of the Western Department, like all others, are balanced and closed. In addition to the careful examination of our accounts at the central office, at each quarterly meeting they are audited by such men as Prof. Bache, Horace Binney, C. J. Stillé, J. Huntington Wolcott, &c., whose high character for intelligence, conscientiousness, and great business experience, are a sufficient guarranty that they have been accurately kept.

B—SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Hospital stores distributed by the Sanitary Commission in the armies of the West, have been mostly contributed in kind from the several branches of the Commission in the Western Department. In addition to such contributions, purchases of stores have been made from this office to the amount of $139,119 38; and others of the value of $23,471 55, purchased in New York and sent to Louisville. A statement of the kinds and quantities of stores distri-

buted in this department during the quarter ending September 30, 1864, and another showing the aggregate of distributions, from Sept. 1, 1861, to the same date, are herewith given. The value of the supplies distributed by the Sanitary Commission in this department to July 1, 1864, giving each article its value in the home market, was $2,790,811 01.

During the quarter ending Sept. 30, supplies of the value of $385,439 00 were distributed: adding these sums we have as the value of supplies distributed in this department to Oct. 1, 1864, $3,176,270 01.

The expense account of the Supply Department, for this period, is as follows:

Canvassing, - -	$11,122 79
Freight paid on Stores,	45,404 12
Distribution of Supplies,	62,718 70
	$119,245 61

To this should be added one-third of the expenses of general administration, viz., $11,016 58—making the gross expense account of the Supply Department $130,262 19, or about four per cent. on the value of supplies distributed.

It should be remembered, however, that the expenses attending the employment of Lecturers and Canvassers in the Home Field —an item of $11,122 79—in the preceding account has inured to the benefit of the Aid Societies and Branches in all their interests, and is therefore not all chargeable to the Supply Department, and no part of it to be reckoned as the expense of *distributing* stores.

The Freight Account, too, amounting to $45,404 12—since it was altogether incurred in the transportation of stores to the water bases of the different armies, Louisville, Cairo, Memphis, &c., conferred at least an equivalent value on the stores transported, and should therefore be reckoned with donated transportation, as an addition to the valuation of stores as before given. The *distribution* of stores of the value $3,176,270 01 in the home market has been accomplished at a cost of 2⅛ per cent. upon their valuation. Adding the cost of transportation to the value of the stores, and the cost of distribution would be 2 per cent. of that value. Giving the stores distributed their cash value at the water bases of the armies supplied, and the cost of distribution would be 1½ per cent. of their value; and the whole expense account of the Supply Department would equal less than 3 per cent. of such valuation.

The manner in which the records of the Supply Department are kept, and the credibility of the results given above, can hardly be learned without an inspection of our books and methods; yet I think I can safely say, that all the many experienced men who have carefully examined our system have been satisfied that the methods pursued were economical of labor and money, and the results reported worthy of confidence.

To those who cannot in person examine the manner in which the stores they entrust to us are handled and used, I may say briefly, that the *raising of supplies* is especially the work of the members of our Branch and Auxiliary Societies. In the Home Field the methods pursued are theirs, and the responsibility of the entire work is theirs. I have assumed no control over it, and have taken no part in it, further than to furnish by manuscript or printed reports, or by lecturers, fresh and full information in regard to the condition and wants of the Western armies, the means taken to meet such wants, and such other matters as have a practical bearing on the home work.

From time to time assistance has been needed by the different Branch Societies, and it has been liberally afforded. Canvassing agents, lecturers, messengers, and various assistants, in the work of the Supply Department have been placed at their disposal, and money paid them from the general fund of the Commission to the amount of more than $60,000.

As soon as stores are shipped to me or my representatives from the various contributing depots, I become responsible for their proper use, and am vested with the control of them. The stores passing through Ohio and Illinois are transported free by the splendid liberality of the officers of the railroads terminating in Cincinnati and Cairo. On those coming through Indiana we are compelled to pay freight. Arriving here or at Cairo, stores are carefully checked off from cars and boats into the warehouses. All missing packages are at once looked up, and necessary repairs and cooperage done. From these points stores are forwarded as rapidly as possible, on the theory that any accumulation of stores should be near the army.

With all important divisions of the army, and in every hospital centre, depots are established in care of competent business men, by whom stores are received and issued

to those needing them, on personal application, or on the requisition of the agents of the Commission, or the Surgeons of hospitals and regiments; for all of which receipts are given and record made. Weekly and monthly reports are sent to the Louisville Office of all issues from all the depots, and from these reports the tabular statements, now or heretofore given of our aggregate issues, are compiled.

NINE "SOLDIERS' HOMES."

Number of Lodgings and Meals furnished by the People to the Soldiers, through the Western Department of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, at NINE *of the "Soldiers' Homes," during the months of July, August and September,* 1864.

	LODGINGS.				MEALS.			
	July.	August.	Sept.	Total.	July.	August.	Sept.	Total.
Cairo, Illinois	4,374	4,593	7,712	**16,679**	15,284	13,262	17,630	**46,176**
Nashville, Tennessee	4,646	5,731	9,518	**19,795**	14,552	16,956	25,820	**57,328**
Memphis, Tennessee	913	1,214	1,335	**3,462**	4,176	5,187	4,501	**13,864**
Louisville, Kentucky	8,427	10,761	12,188	**31,376**	15,929	23,320	26,329	**65,578**
Camp Nelson, Kentucky	13,470	1,385	5,995	**20,850**	37,179	5,173	12,805	**55,157**
New Albany, Indiana	762	1,010	674	**2,446**	2,372	2,614	2,391	**7,377**
Detroit, Michigan	1,149	1,638		**2,787**	1,914	3,462		**5,376**
Cleveland, Ohio	242	619	333	**1,194**	1,485	2,610	1,608	**5,703**
Cincinnati, Ohio	1,573	3,135	8,451	**13,159**	13,894	18,146	44,282	**76,322**
	35,456	**30,086**	**46,206**	**111,748**	**106,785**	**90,730**	**135,366**	**332,881**

Taking this ratio as a basis of estimate, these nine "Homes" would give to our soldiers during one year, **446,992** lodgings and **1,331,524** meals. That the estimate would be too low, however, is apparent from the fact that in the single month of October, Louisville gave 28,203 lodgings and 84,609 meals, and in November 33,449 lodgings and 100,347 meals; thus in two months giving twice the number of lodgings, and treble the number of meals that it furnished in these three. But at this rate there was an average of **3,700** meals given to our soldiers each day of the quarter by the above nine Homes.

WOMEN'S COUNCIL IN BOSTON.

On the 13th and 14th days of December last, the New England Branch of the Sanitary Commission called a meeting of Associate Managers, and of delegates from "all societies working for the soldiers," that by counsel together, all might be aided to more intelligent and faithful pursuance of the work resting on every woman and child in the land. They were asked to bring all questions, doubts and criticisms which they found as obstacles in the way, and by their frank expression show us where we were wrong, or strengthen us in our convictions of right.

Upwards of two hundred women answered the call. Every shade of belief in the Commission found representatives among them, and as result, the discussions were earnest and free, touching on fundamental questions and developing clear convictions. Our hopes of the usefulness of such a meeting were not disappointed. The presence of delegates who came through the heavy snow-storm from far off in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, was encouragement and incentive, and amongst all, there shone forth a warm sympathy and earnestness, giving the meeting a tone of outspoken friendliness which was a most striking feature.

The preliminary meeting, at which we had the pleasure of welcoming Miss Amy Bradley, whose name is so dear to the thousands of soldiers who have felt her care in the great Rendezvous of Distribution, was held on the afternoon of the 13th. The object of the Convention was clearly set before the meeting, as simply a search after the most economical, effective and thorough method of reaching our sick and wounded soldiers; a question not to be decided by light and inconsiderate preference, not one where prejudice could be allowed to influence. The great responsibility bound us all to rest only on honest, thoughtful conviction. Associate members from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts, were called on for information regarding the work in their districts, and the testimony came clear from all that more interest was felt now than heretofore in the subject of army relief, but they were constrained to believe that less work was in truth accomplished. The conflicting claims of so many systems of distribution proving

a clog upon action, checking even the earnest, and giving the indifferent a comfortable and reputable mantle of doubt with which to cover their coldness. This difficulty they found at every turn, taking a thousand changing shapes, and they asked for more clearly stated facts, fuller imformation and advice to guide them.

MISS BRADLEY.

Miss Bradley here spoke some most appropriate words, telling how, practically, waste must ensue where two plans were on the field, each liable to be deceived, and unconsciously repeat the work already done by the other. In illustration, she gave her own experience in the Rendezvous. For ——— she had been there as agent for the Sanitary Commission, and since its organization, the Christian Commission has also had an agent at that place. At first, this agent carried on his work independently, giving his stores according to his own plan, but soon finding how often he was deceived into giving a double portion, he brought them to Miss Bradley, asking, as a favor, that she would distribute them with her own. When this agent's successor came, the same story was gone over once more, till, in the long-tried system of the Sanitary Commission, was found the safeguard from deceit and unjust waste. And in this connection, she deprecated, earnestly, sending supplies through private hands, and told a surprising instance of the manner in which too facile kindness of heart is abused by the men. She received, one day, from the Commandant of the post, a remonstrance against her lavish waste of stores, being told that the expresses complained of the number of boxes sent from the camp as an annoyance to them, and that these boxes were known to contain new garments and delicacies of food. In answer, she assured him she had never so failed in her duty, but drew his attention to certain constant visitors, called ambulance women, as the cause of the trouble. A few ladies, through special favor, had received the privilege of using ambulances, and were in the habit of filling these with clothing and stores, which, when arrived at camp, they distributed, with open hands, to any who would ask, tempting the loud-tongued to lie, and utterly wasting their stores. From that time these visits were prohibited.

Being urged to tell still more about the work she had left for one short week for our benefit and pleasure, she gave an account of the manner in which she is allowed to help men in distress through loss of papers of discharge. Government gives no duplicate of these, unless there be absolute proof of their destruction, otherwise it would be liable to lose two men for every one really discharged. Even a written statement from an official that the man is entitled to transportation is impossible, for that would amount to a duplicate. So the poor fellows stood helpless till she devised a plan, which Government gladly approved. It is simply this: In her own hand she receives from the Commandant the requisition for transportation for each man, fills up her little train of ambulances with the men named, drives over the river to the Quartermaster's office, shows these requisitions, sees they are filled, and then carries them back to the Commandant to be destroyed. In this way she has helped hundreds of weary, sick men back to their homes.

The meeting listened with the greatest pleasure to her simple account of her labor as it is now, and has been, finding, in her cheerful earnestness, a stimulus to more and better work for our own hands.

The afternoon having worn away, the meeting closed with a few remarks from the Chairman regarding minor business questions. The ladies then adjourned to the office of the Association, to partake of tea and bread and butter, provided by friends especially for their refreshment. The meal was pleasant and cordial, and a most desirable prelude to the public meeting in the evening, to which the delegation proceeded from our rooms.

PUBLIC MEETING.

In the unavoidable absence of Governor Andrews, this meeting was presided over by the Hon. Charles G. Loring. It was addressed by R. H. Dana, Judge Russell, Chaplain Quint, of the 2d Massachusetts Regiment, and Dr. Agnew, of the U. S. Sanitary Commission. The earnest eloquence of Judge Russell, as he described the watchful care of the Commission over the furloughed and discharged soldiers, away from the discipline of camp, away from the influences of home, reached every heart.

Mr. Dana, in his address, put forcibly a truth which lies at the foundation of the Commission's plan: that even if Government could provide all the Commission now gives the soldiers, it ought not to be allowed

so to do, for it would thus rob the people of the work which belongs to them by right, which is felt by them to be a great privilege of the time, developing noble sentiments, giving scope to all unselfish desires, soothing many a grief the war has brought, and fostering, in countless hearts, a true and fervent patriotism.

Dr. Agnew gave some interesting and valuable statistics regarding the work already done, and that which is hoped for, and Chaplain Quint followed with an account of experiences in the field during his Chaplaincy.

At the close of the meeting, a committee of prominent gentlemen was formed for the purpose of soliciting subscriptions adequate to the needs of the Commission.

FINAL MEETING.

The final meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday morning, the 14th. Miss Bradley was again present, also, Dr. Marks, a minister of the Presbyterian Church, from Pittsburg, Pa., who entered the service of his country in the spring of 1861, has now served her for three years and a half, first as Division Chaplain, and since, as one of the laborers of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

The Chairman opened the discussion by saying no one could doubt the earnestness of the women in their great purpose of relief, nor that they all meant to include in it not only succor for the suffering body, but help and soothing for the spirit as well. All were bent on the same end: drawing the tortured frame, out of horror and anguish, and opening the eyes of the soul to the blessedness and peace of loving God. Why, then, should the two principal organizations stand nominally opposed to each other? They each have their own work to do, which all would rejoice to see well and faithfully done. Let them labor together, each doing its own duty, but giving help and sympathy the one to the other. If a child be sick unto death, does not the parent send first for the physician, that he may use his utmost skill to save the life God made? And then, when he has done his best, you turn to your minister, asking from him the words of help your heart needs—the prayers with you and your child, which takes you nearer to God with your pain and danger. You need them both, the physician and the clergyman, but they cannot interchange without loss and failure.

The Sanitary Commission was organized from the beginning to soothe the misery which shuts away all thought except of the moment's pain—to save the life ebbing away on the battle-field, too faint to think of death and the coming life, but it is always eager to pour out its strengthening words of Christian faith and hope. Let these two Commissions then, in God's name, work—work together, not in opposition.

REV. J. J. MARKS.

Dr. Marks here gave an account of his first experience of the Commission at Yorktown. He described the desolation of the place and the misery of the men, and how he began his acquaintance with the Commission by making application for 400 cotton shirts, and carrying them in joyful triumph to men who cried with relief when they put them on.

At Fredricksburg, when 1,500 wounded men lay on the ground, without shelter, or blankets, or bedding, he sought the help of the Christian Commission for a portion of them lying afaint, but could get nothing, except under the direction of one of its agents. He turned to the Sanitary, and received four wagon loads, 400 quilts, 200 bottles of wine, 200 cans of soup, &c., &c., and the men blessed the Sanitary Commission. At Gettysburg also he saw it at work, carrying help even into the enemy's fire, through such scenes of misery, that those who saw, felt a nation's treasure would be well spent in relieving it. He spoke of the great superiority in the administration of this Commission, being the permanence of its agencies. Waste must follow where one man after another takes up the work, forced to learn by his own failures. The agents of the Sanitary Commission he explained are, to a great extent, men who have been officers or soldiers, who know the life and needs of those they help, and so have peculiar hold upon them.

He was asked if he had seen the stores of the Commission wasted, and his answer, in the negative, was most earnest; he had been often moved to joyful pride in seeing how faithfully its servants worked.

At one time, when in great danger, the Government officers had burned $1,500,000 worth of stores, but from that same scene, the agents of the Sanitary Commission had, by incredible efforts, brought off all its stores.

Question.—Do officers and surgeons re-

ceive help from these stores as the private soldiers do?

Answer.—Certainly; if an officer is in distress, he has the same claim upon our mercy as his men. A brave man, suffering among other brave men, that is all we see, we do not look to know whether he wears the chevron or the eagle. And the surgeons, there is no work so exhausting to body and soul as theirs. Should they be debarred from the warmth and refreshment they so much need, because they are "officers?"

Dr. Marks bore heartfelt testimony to the devotedness of the surgeons to their work. He told an anecdote of an officer, who could not say he was sick or in need, yet very much desired to buy some of the comforts the Commission had in its storehouse. He was reminded that the Commission held its goods for the suffering, and only gave, not sold. His answer was, "It is very unfortunate to be an officer."

PRISONERS.

Question.—Do the prisoners really receive what the Sanitary Commission sends them?

Answer.—It is impossible to say if they receive all, but they return to us, when exchanged, clothed in garments bearing the Commission's stamp, and speak of receiving food sent by it.

SALARIES.

Question.—Is it true that Dr. Bellows receives a salary of from six to ten thousand dollars a year?

Answer.—Dr. Bellows receives no salary whatever.

Question.—Does any woman in the service of the Commission receive a salary?

Answer, by Miss Bradley.—Yes; I receive $10 per month, and draw rations from Government.

Question.—Does any woman receive a larger salary?

Answer.—The Commission has paid, for most important services, as much as $600 per year.

Question.—Have you ever found men ashamed to receive help from the Commission—calling it begging?

Answer.—Never; such feelings, if they exist, are exceptional.

Question.—Does the Commission refuse to give to regulars?

Answer.—Never.

CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

Question.—Has the Christian Commission any salaried agents?

In answer, a letter from Dr. Parrish, of Philadelphia, was read as follows:

"I was told by an agent of the Christian Commission, a few days since, that their pay to permanent field agents is $50 per month—the Sanitary Commission pays for the same service $45. I am informed, by one of their members, that they now have canvassing agents in the field, on good salaries, and are in want of more. I was also told, by one of the agents of the Christian Commission, at Annapolis, that one of the corps at that place was inclined to work in future for the Sanitary Commission, but hesitated because he was better paid by the Christian Commission."

It was suggested, by a delegate, that in view of the fact that the agents of the Christian Commission had been chiefly clergymen, whose salaries had been continued to them, and their desks supplied during their absence, and also, that the Christian Commission paid all traveling expenses, the amount of money in reality spent for their services had been more than that paid to the agents of the Sanitary Commission.

A delegate here rose to say, that so far as she knew, the feeling in her community was not any questioning about economy, or practical methods, but about the final purposes of the two Commissions; the impression being, that while the Christian Commission, which gave the rightful first place of importance to healing the spirit, the Sanitary Commission applied its powers solely to succoring the body.

REV. W. B. MARSH.

The Rev. Mr. Marsh, of the Presbyterian Church, who is now lecturing in the service of the Sanitary Commission, speaking in answer, begged the delegates to combat this idea as utterly untrue. Any man, unmindful of such interests, would be unfit for service in the scenes he would have to share. He had never known an agent of the Commission who was not ready to give the spiritual help a man needs in the hour of death, but had seen many a bedside where they read the Bible and knelt down to pray.

A little scrap of paper was here handed to the President, who read it aloud. It said the writer had five brothers in the

army, who wrote, in grateful terms, of the services of every kind which the Sanitary Commission had rendered them.

It was asked why the two Commissions should not divide the supplies given by the people, according to the work nominally undertaken by each. The Sanitary Commission devotes itself to saving life as the first step towards better things; the Christian Commission announces its work as concerning the soul. Let each, then, take the gifts appropriate to its special duty; if the Christian Commission receives stores, let it hand them to the Sanitary Commission, and this in turn pass over to the other books, both secular and religious, which it receives in large numbers; and the means of each being greatly increased by this united canvassing of the country, let them go into the field together, friends. How simple and reasonable the question seemed. How full of usefulness and good of every kind would be the result.

Miss Bradley here put very urgently before the meeting the immeasurable loss of time and money which must be incurred in leaving an old and experienced guide in the intricate labors on which depend the life or death of thousands of men. The Commission knows the proportion of need over all the vast fields of war; by favor of Government, knows just when, in this army or that, there will be battles and misery, and men dying for want of warmth and food, and then it sends out its agents and nurses, with full measure of succor for the time. It may leave its storehouses empty, with nothing to answer the daily calls from the hospitals, but it knows such calls are not to be counted one moment in comparison with the needs of the battle-fields. It is this discrimination which makes the vast organization of the Commission the means of accomplishing the most good with the least waste.

SECTARIANISM.

She expressed her surprise at the idea which she had received, for the first time this morning, that questions of sectarianism entered into this work. She lived so occupied by constant labor, she said, that she had no time to study outside motives. It seemed to her most strange and sad that it should be so. Was not every church represented in the Soldiers' Aid Societies throughout the country? Were they not all conscious of the same desire—to do their best to relieve those who so need relief? Why, then, should there be any words of division among them? Let the question of creeds be forgotten. Christ's sermon was a sure guide to good and blessed deeds; whoever followed that was safe in the shadow of blessing for himself and his work. She told a little story, which touched, in real experience, the very point of the discussion. It was of a soldier, a young boy, who lay dying in her hospital. He asked her if it were indeed so that he must die. She told him yes, and taking her Bible from her pocket, she read to him the 14th chapter of St. John, and then knelt down beside him and prayed. Presently she left him, cheerful and submissive. Returning soon, she found the agent of the Christian Commission speaking to him of his danger, asking him if he should read the Bible to him? "*She* has read to me," was the answer. "Shall I not pray with you?" "*She* has prayed with me." Although a woman, and a member of no sectarian church, her words had brought him into the peace of God.

The hour having arrived when many of the delegates were forced to leave, the Chairman closed the meeting with a few words, refering to the earnest feeling displayed, expressing regret that our intercourse could not be longer, and bidding all good-bye as friends.

Documents of importance were freely distributed, and the delegates dispersed. We were glad to welcome some of them again in our office during the week, to show them our whole system of management, and talk with them over details. We felt the insufficient time that the two meetings allowed for the many questions and remarks which would have been pleasant and most useful to both parties, and if another year finds us still needed at our post, we shall profit by this experience, and keep our friends with us for a longer space.

The reports of the Soldiers' Aid Societies, brought to us by the delegates, contained most valuable details of information, and we propose to draw up a tabulated resume of the items for constant reference; the reports themselves being filed among our original documents. The testimony that many of them bear to the hopefulness and faithfulness of these societies, often very poor, yet never desparing that means would come, makes the reading a lesson to sink deep in the heart.

In closing this report, we wish personally to express our heartfelt appreciation of the sympathy and support which were so cordially expressed. Feeling the paramount usefulness of the Commission whose name we bear, we rejoice to find such earnest approval and firm faith among the workers of New England.

MARY G. LORING,
Sec. Exec. Com. New Eng. Women's Aux. Asso.

Special Relief Department.

SPECIAL RELIEF REPORT FROM BOSTON.

BY JOHN S. BLATCHFORD.

For Executive Committee of Boston Associates.

I submit herewith, on behalf of the "Executive Committee of Boston Associates," under whose direction it has been administered, a Report concerning the Special Relief Service of the U. S. Sanitary Commission in this city, for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1864.

With the quarterly statement is also presented the total results of the service, embracing the whole period since its organization, April 1, 1863, to Dec. 31, 1864, a period of twenty-one months.

Aid Rendered,	Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1864.	Total.
Furnished transportation at Government rate,	2,179	10,369
Do. paid by Commission,	9	228
Do. by U. S. Quartermaster,	1,022	1,956
Furnished carriage within the city,	632	4,707
" special attendance to their homes,	10	110
Furnished lodging,	5,424	18,497
" meals,	6,444	23,666
" Clothing,	63	613
" Aid in arranging papers,	27	209
" Aid in obtaining pay,	19	245
" Medical advice,	915	1,604
Wounds dressed,	1,156	4,344
Procured commutation of rations,		76
Loaned money,	43	175
Gave money,	16	184
Sent to Hospital,	17	147
Referred to local Relief Associations,	10	66
Re-enlisted,	1	28
Deaths	2	8
Furnished undertakers' services,	2	11
Amount of pay collected,	$2,271 04	$28,799 76
Furnished transportation by hospital cars,	4,125	15,876
Number of soldiers aided,	12,397	47,368
Daily average,	137 2-3	

Of the whole number that have received aid at our Relief Rooms, amounting to 31,512—as distinct from the "Hospital Car Service"—Maine has furnished 12,502, New Hampshire 1658, Vermont 201, Massachusetts 12,209, Connecticut 148, Rhode Island 101, New York 260, New Jersey 7, Pennsylvania 57, Maryland 7, District of Columbia 224, Ohio 95, Kentucky 14, Michigan 12, Indiana 12, Illinois 28, Kansas 7, Iowa 13, Minnesota 38, Wisconsin 26, Missouri, 12, Tennessee 3, North Carolina 4, Louisiana 6, Alabama 4, Virginia 4, Georgia 2, California, Mississippi, Florida, Arkansas, Delaware, and South Carolina, 1 each; U. S. Regulars, 1,185; U. S. Navy, 270; Veteran Reserve Corps, 2,251; Corps D'Afrique, 24; Rebel Army, 3.

The following supplies have been drawn from the Supply department of the, "N. E. Women's Auxiliary Association," Woolen shirts, 102; woolen drawers, 96; socks, 108 pairs; pants, 3; 1 lot old clothing; 2 lots bandages; 6 vests; 2 lots lint.

For Hospital Cars—6 pairs socks, 6 pairs slippers, 1 lot lint. For special use—1 pair pants, 2 blouses, 1 comfort bag, 1 bed-sack, 1 wool shirt, 1 pair socks, 1 pillow, 1 pair wool drawers.

The whole amount of supplies furnished by the "N. E. Women's Auxiliary Association," for use in the Special Relief Service in this city, since its organization is as follows:

Bed quilts, 13; blankets, 61; sheets, 286; pillows, 97; pillow-cases, 224; towels, 78; tin cups, 6; water pails, 2; bed comforters, 37; bed sacks, 74; woolen shirts, 308; cotton shirts, 140; woolen drawers, 217; cotton drawers, 119; socks, 388 pair; handkerchiefs, 73; slippers, 62 pairs; slings, 518; dressing gowns, 2; pants, 7; overcoats, 1; coats, 2; old clothing, 4 lots; bandages, 14 lots; crutches, 12 pairs; gaiters, 20; vests, 6; lint, 2 lots. For 55th Massachusetts Regiment at Readville Hospital, May 30, 1863—1 dozen wool shirts, 12 pairs wool socks, 12 wool drawers, 12 sheets. June 24, 1863—7 pillows, 7 pillow cases.

For Springfield Street Home, August 10, 1863—24 woolen shirts. For Hospital Cars, October 23, 1863—2 dozen each of towels, sleeping-caps, handkerchiefs and slippers; 12 each of woolen socks and dressing-gowns.

For camp at Long Island, December 7, 1863—35 bed sacks, 24 pairs mittens.

For Hospital, Fort Warren, February 4, 1864—1 pair pants, 3 pairs socks, 2 pairs drawers, 2 shirts.

For Pemberton Square Hospital, April 23, 1864—1 lot of old linen.

For camp at Concord, July 1, 1864—6 pairs cotton drawers, 6 cotton shirts, 3 pairs slippers, 1 lot bandages and lint.

For Hospital Cars, October 11, 1864—6 pairs socks, 6 pairs slippers, 1 lot lint.

	Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1864.	Total.
Transportation has been furnished by orders issued upon respective railroads to	2,179	10,369
Do. procured from U.S. Quartermaster,	1,022	1,956
	3,201	12,325
Transportation by Hospital cars, between New York and Boston, has been furnished to	4,125	15,876
Cost of Hospital Car service,	$431 42	$3,022 95
Average cost per man,	10 3-7c.	19 1-24c.

The following supplies have been furnished to the Hospital Cars during the quarter: Brandy, 7 bottles; whisky, 8 do.; wine, 4 do.; crackers, 1 keg; extract of coffee, 1 can; slippers, 12 pairs; 4 ounces quinine; 4 do. ginger; 1 bottle spirits ammonia; 1 do. camphor; 4 rolls adhesive plaster; 1 lot bandages; 1 do. rags; 1 do. lint; 1 lancet; 6 pairs woolen socks; 1 hatchet; 1 lantern.

The total expenditure for the quarter has been $7,465 50, classified as follows:

Rent and taxes,	238 84
Furnishing and repairs,	66 70
Salaries,	753 99
Traveling expenses,	24 00
Advertising,	97 03
Stationery and printing,	252 05
Postage,	8 00
Hospital stores,	27 00
Superintendent's expense account,	5,547 61
Miscellaneous,	10 66
Hospital Car service,	431 42
Document account,	8 20
	$7,465 50

Classification of Superintendent's Expense Account.

Transportation,	174 75
Traveling expenses,	26 93
Meals,	4,726 74
Furniture,	15 50
Fuel,	37 60
Washing,	209 50
Salaries,	98 00
Money loaned and given,	123 99
Postage,	6 00
Sundries,	137 25

The results of the Special Relief Service of the Commission in this city, for the whole period since its organization, may be briefly summed up as follows:

Whole number of men aided,	47,388
Whole expenditure,	$35,377 38
Average cost per man,	74 3-4c.
Number of soldiers furnished with meals,	23,666
Number of meals furnished,	47,096
Average number of meals per man,	2
Amount paid for meals,	$16,293 25
Average cost per meal,	34 3-5c.
Number of orders issued for transportation at Government rate,	11,802
Aggregate miles of distances,	1,502,403
Resulting in a saving to the soldier of	$13,258 01
Amount of money loaned and given,	$561 19
Number of recipients,	309
Average amount to each,	$1 87
Amount returned,	$220 44
Average amount returned,	2-5
Number furnished with clothing,	613
Number of garments furnished,	1298
Average per man,	2 1-8
Number transported by Hospital car,	15,876
Total cost of "Hospital Car Service,"	$3,022,95
Average cost per man,	19 1-24c.

The comparative cost of the service (including "Hospital Car Service,") is exhibited by the average cost per man for the successive quarterly periods since its organization as follows:

First Quarter ending	June 30, 1863,		$2 35
Second "	"	Sept. 30, 1863,	$1 28
Third "	"	Dec. 31, 1863,	99 15-21c.
Fourth "	"	March 31, 1864,	73 21-44c.
Fifth "	"	June 30, 1864,	68 17-22c
Sixth "	"	Sept. 30, 1864,	63 1-3c
Seventh "	"	Dec. 31, 1864,	60 1-5c

REPORT OF SPECIAL RELIEF WORK IN WASHINGTON.

For the Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1864, *to Rev. F. N. Knapp.*

BY J. B. ABBOTT.

SIR:—I respectfully submit the following report of the "Special Relief" Office, and the several Lodges under my supervision, for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1864.

Number of pay accounts of discharged soldiers received for adjustment,	362
Number of cases settled,	362
Amount collected,	$67,175 00
Number of bounty claims received,	97
Number of claims allowed,	115
Amount collected on claims allowed,	$10,750 00
Number of cases for back pay, received,	543
Number of cases adjusted,	487
Amount secured on the cases adjusted,	$35,121 97
Number of prisoner of war claims entered,	147
Number allowed,	56
Amount collected on claims allowed	$5,324 45
Number of naval claims filed,	248
Number of naval claims allowed,	155
Amount collected on claims allowed,	$24,560 55
Number of pension claims filed,	654
Number of pension claims allowed,	257
Amount saved to claimants on the claims allowed,	$2,570

Number of claims for arrears of pay and bounty filed,	71
Number of claims allowed,	10
Amount saved to claimants on the claims allowed,	$100
Whole number of cases and claims entered upon our record,	2,122
Whole number of cases and claims completed,	1,442
Total amount of money collected on the claims completed,	$144,378 61

The amount collected does not include the amount received on pension claims.

In calculating the amount saved on pensions, and arrears of pay and bounty claims, I have only allowed the legal fee on each claim.

Number of drafts forwarded,	295
Amount of drafts forwarded,	$29,977 98
Number of letters received,	5,039
Number of business letters mailed,	5,017

RELIEF STATIONS.

Lodge No. 4.

Number of lodgings furnished to soldiers and seamen,	5,410
Number of meals given to soldiers, seamen and others,	41,383

I have no reports from the other relief stations for the quarter as yet.

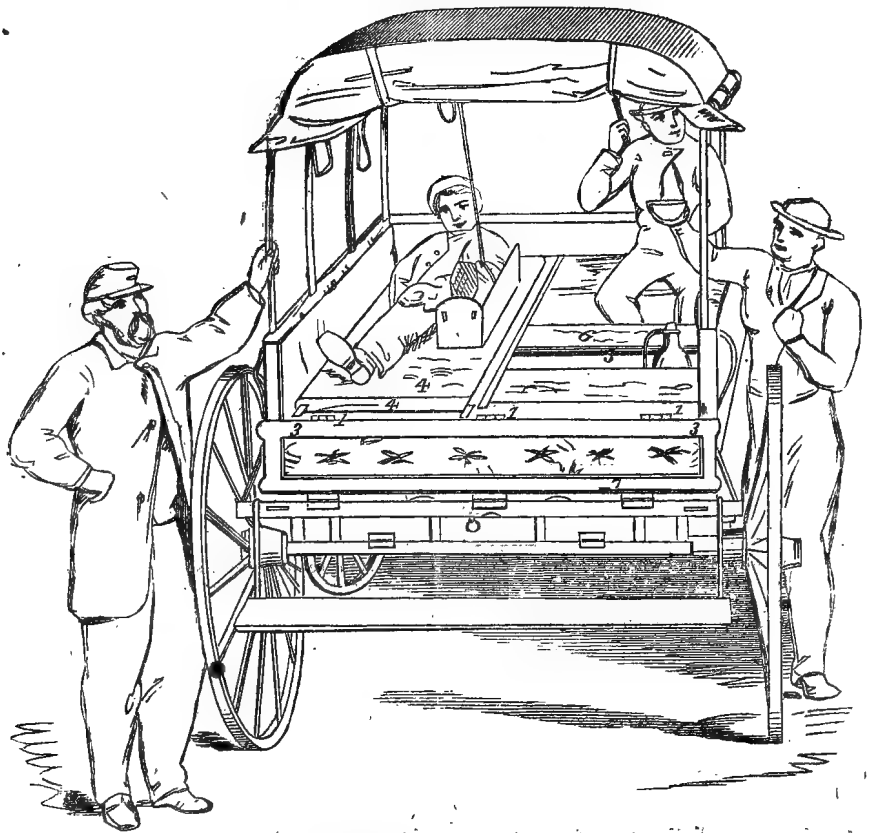
The monthly reports of the relief stations for October and November were sent to you.

AMBULANCES.

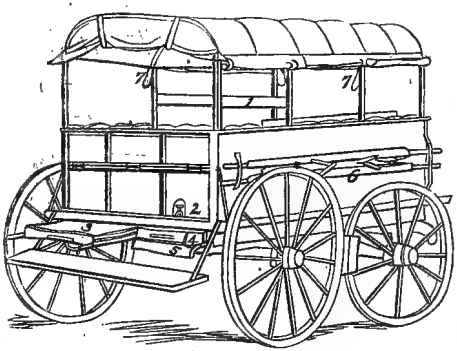
In the early history of field warfare but few appliances were at hand for the benefit of the wounded in battle. Prior to the invention of gunpowder, wounds were inflicted by swords, daggers, spears, &c., or by dull heavy weapons, which caused only contusions. But little skill comparatively was needed to dress such wounds, and the military surgery of those days was necessarily limited to but few means for relief. Gun-shot wounds, however, are much more serious and alarming, and with the introduction of gunpowder, there was a marked development in surgical skill, and in the means for relieving suffering, though it was not uncommon to leave the wounded to the casual sympathies of the people among whom the battles were fought. Surgeons, however, were found without military rank or emolument, rendering services to the afflicted as they had opportunity. The celebrated military surgeon, in the time of Henry IV., of France, by name Ambroise Paré, held no rank whatever in the army, and in the function which he voluntarily assumed in the service of his country, acquired a reputation for probity and skill to which his superior genius justly entitled him; but it was not till the time of Louis XIII. that a chief military surgeon, with rank, was attacked to each regiment of the French army. It was there likewise that hospitals were established, both stationary and moveable; and it is to these latter that the term ambulance is applied.

An ambulance is a covered wagon for the immediate conveyance of the wounded from the scene of battle to the field hospital immediately in the rear, and indeed, for the conveyance of the sick and helpless from one hospital to another. Each army corps has its organized ambulance corps, with its chief to control all its movements, with its surgeons, stretcher-bearers, drivers, &c. In a subsequent number, we shall furnish the plan of working an ambulance train. In this, we introduce the subject only, with the following cuts of an improved ambulance, which will bear the study they demand for a complete understanding of their arrangement.

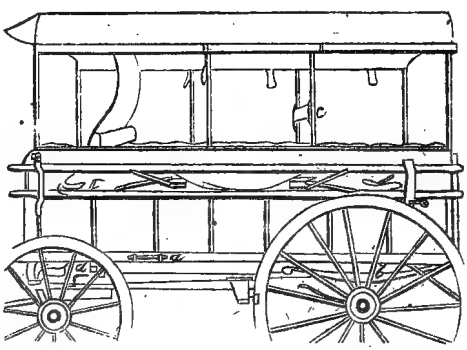
Springs, cushions, beds, water tanks, fracture swings, &c., &c., enter into the arrangement, and every comfort that could be contrived for a moveable or flying hospital seems to have been anticipated. We commend the sketches below to the investigation of the curious, and have only to say, that the minuteness in the detail, as well as the general plan of construction, are the result, in a measure, of the thoughts and efforts of members of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.



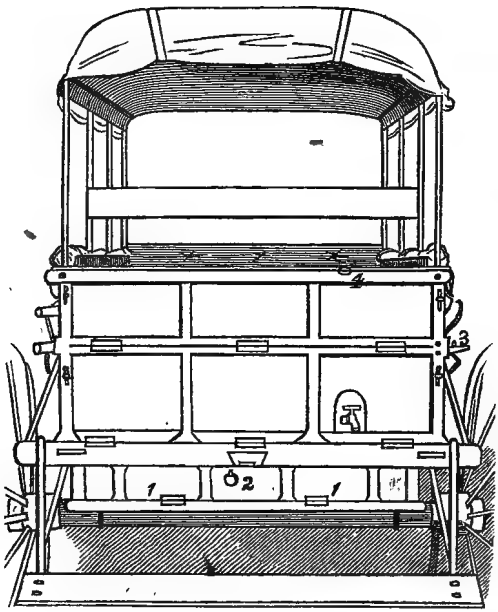
1, frame in which beds and seats rest; 2, interspaces between frame and body for lateral counterpoise springs; 3, inside of upper section of tail-board; 4, bed sliding over seats; 5, rollers on which bed slide, clearing seats; 6, 7, spigot of water tanks protected by upper leaf of tail-board, lowered.



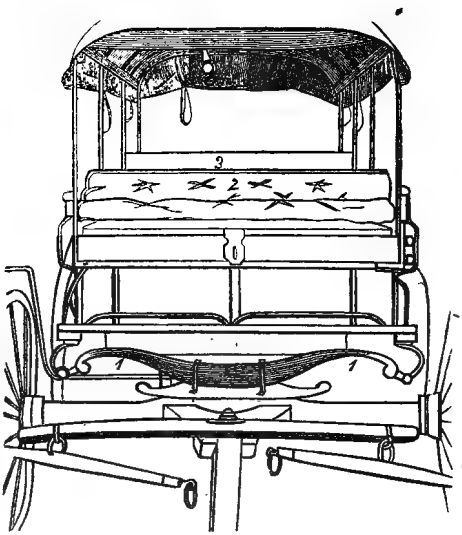
1, leather moveable back for middle seat; 2, spigot of water tank; 3, bed with handles, drawn partly out, on small steel rollers sunk in floor of compartment; 4, bed in position; 5, inside of door for compartment for beds; 6, stretchers; 7, loop for gun rack or head rests.



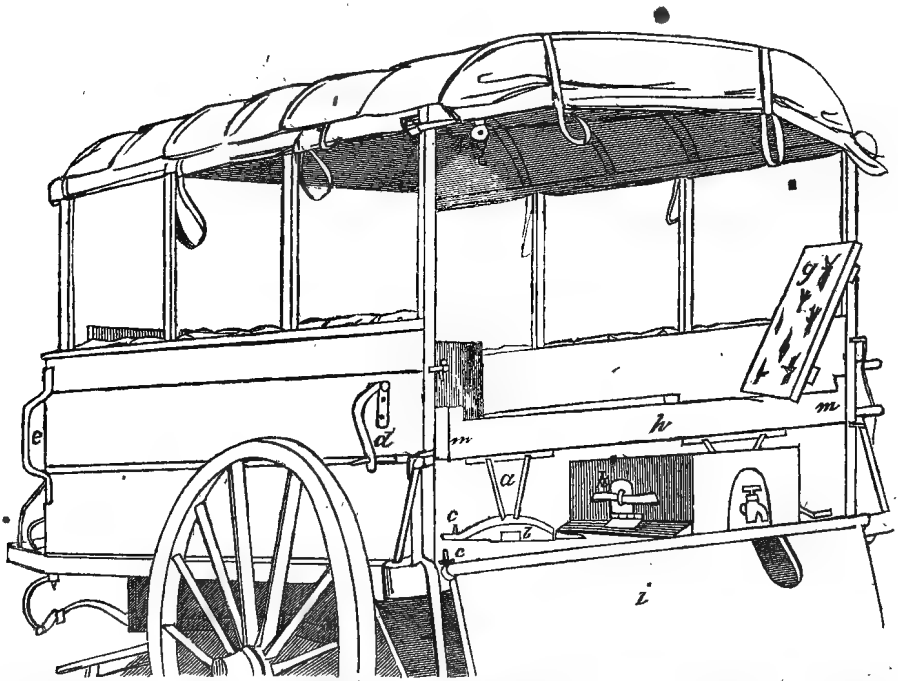
a, iron rowel (revolving) to facilitate turning; *b*, semi-eliptical spring; *c*, moveable leather back on iron brackets; *d*, compartment for beds when not in use.



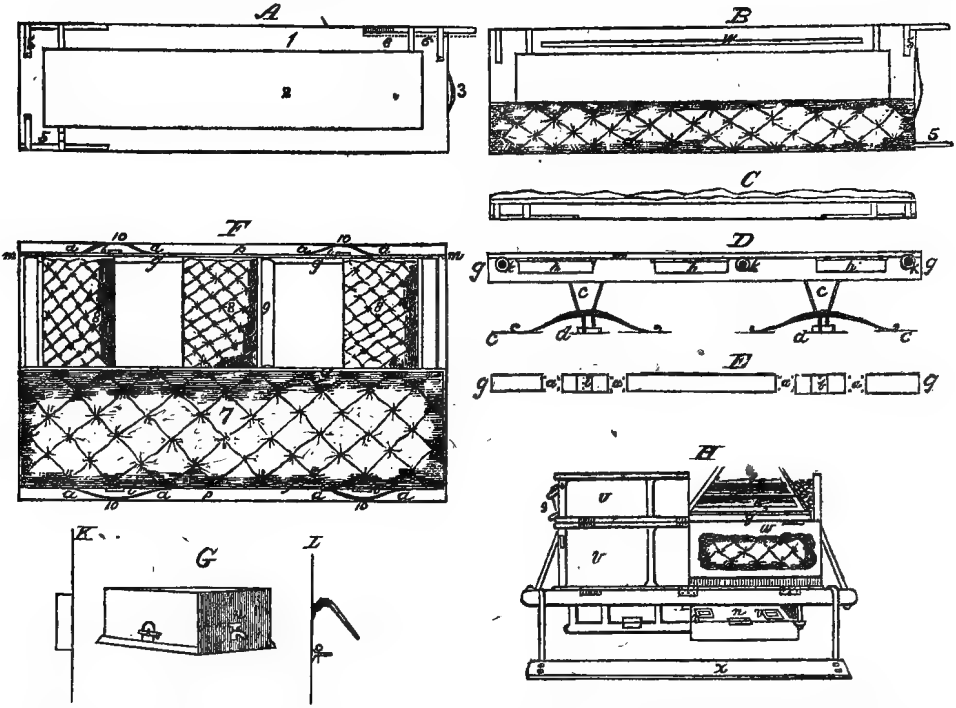
1, compartment for beds when not in use, fastening by a spring catch at 2; 3, clasp for stretcher; 4, notch, forming arch over and protecting spigot of water tank, when upper section of tail-board is let down.



1, stout semi-eliptical spring; 2, complete back to driver's seat; 3, leather back to middle seats; 4, hook for fractures.



a, stancheons of frame on counterpoise springs, with blocks of india-rubber at *b*, and pin at *c*, to prevent lateral displacement of spring; *d*, iron clasp, and *e*, loop for stretcher; *f*, hook and wheel running on parallel iron bars for suspension of fractures; *g*, one of the seats removed from its bed in frame *h*; *i*, inside of lower section of tail-board; *k*, fastening rendering water tank motionless; *m*, interspace between body of ambulance and frame for lateral springs.



Figs. A, B, C and F, beds. Fig. A, underside. 1, rail; 2, panel; 3, leather handle.
Fig. B, upper side, one-half cushioned. 4, iron bars let partly in rail; 5, (figs. A and B), iron handles, dotted lines indicate grooves in which tongue of handle work. The part handled is round, the rest of handle square. Fig. C, side view. Fig. F, 7, bed in position.
Figs. F and H, 8, 8, 8, seats, permanent but one; 9, rollers, clear cushions of seats ¼ inch.
Fig. F, 10, counterpoise springs lateral, fastened inside of ambulance body.
Figs. F and E, *a*, iron slides on which ends of springs play; *b*, rubber block.
Fig. D, perpendicular. *c*, iron plates on floor of ambulance on which ends of springs play; *d*, by which spring stanchion and frame are secured; *e*, block of rubber in staple. Figs. F, D, E and H, frame.
Fig. D, ledges for seat *h*; *k*, ledges for rollers. Figs. D, F and H, *m*, ledges for bed on rollers.
Fig. E is outside of D. Water tanks, fig. G, showing grooved slide and fastening.
Figs. G and H, *n*, spigot. Fig. D, *o*, stanchions, of which only four.
Figs. F and H, *p*, interspace for lateral spring between frame and body of ambulance.
Stretcher holders, K, L and *q* H.
Fig. H, *r*, compartments for beds when not in use; *s*, steel rollers; *u*, spring catch; *v*, tail-board upper and lower sections closed; *w*, inside of upper section showing cushions and back of seat; *x*, step.

INTERESTING LETTERS FROM ANNAPOLIS.

BY MRS. PARRISH.

THE NAVAL ACADEMY HOSPITAL.

This commodious establishment, which is capable of accommodating two thousand two hundred patients, is in charge of Dr. Vanderkeift, who is assisted by his executive officer, Dr. Ely. At this writing there are two hundred and one officers and four hundred and twenty-eight privates under treatment. What a vast household for the medical skill of physicians, the judicious management of nurses, and the philanthropy of all to care for.

A pretty chapel stands conspicuous among the groupings of other buildings which compose this vast establishment, in which religious service is held every evening in the week, beside twice on the Sabbath day. Here too is the place where so many suffering martyrs are borne to have the solemn funeral rites performed by one who represents a friend indeed, for those who cannot be present to witness the accomplishment of the last sad duty. Nearly every day for the past two weeks many have been deposited here for funeral service; fifteen more bodies were laid before the chancel to-day to have the solemn ceremony read over them; indeed every day some one, or more are borne from this house to the burial lot, where you may at any time find friends searching for the names of loved ones. The Chaplain is most

assiduous and faithful in the performance of his charge, and every heart at home may rejoice that such an one is stationed here for this responsible and sad duty. So far as a visitor can judge, there is no lack of care from any one engaged in this hospital; women nurses hold an honorable rank among the sick; detailed soldiers also render important assistance to them. Miss Howe, of Boston, one of the chief nurses, does much to comfort the soldier, in her wards; she often spends the twilight of the day in playing many sweet and choice hymns on the melodeon, which soothe and cheer the weary and depressed patients. Miss Clarke also renders excellent service to the men so lately arrived from Southern slavery. I have met her in the tents with an encouraging word for each, and a kind promise for the morrow, while busily directing and stamping letters for them.

At this hospital too, is found the Sanitary storeroom, on a larger plan than I have before seen it; every appliance that can be devised by the numerous friends at distant homes, is here represented. Delicacies of great variety, wines, cordials, restoratives, form a large per centage of the needfuls, to say nothing of the clothing that abounds, all of which is distributed with much care.

The government supplies are in much greater variety, and more abundant than formerly, yet there are times when it is necessary to supplement the government. For this purpose the wise foresight of the Sanitary Commission has provided a full amount in large variety, so that no matter what accident may befall the government supplies or transportation, the soldiers shall have a second chance, if the first fails. This strikes us as among the most important features of the Commission—to anticipate want—to be prepared for it.

PRISONERS' FUNERAL.

Attended the funeral of forty-two soldier prisoners, who had died on their passage home. None can tell the sadness of such a scene but those who have been present on a similiar occasion. Fourteen ambulances stood at one time before the "Dead House" to receive the bodies, which were placed in coffins, and each one marked with name, regiment and company to which deceased had belonged. They were then carried to the wagons, three in number being assigned to each. Four men accompanied each ambulance, and moved slowly on toward the chapel, preceded by a band of musicians who sounded their usual mournful dirge, till all had drawn up in front of the building where service was to be performed.

A promiscuous company had assembled —ministers, surgeons, officers, and comrades of the battle-field and prison were gathered about the place. Women, who represented mothers, wives and sisters were there, and sang with pathos several beautiful hymns.

Chaplain Henries read, in an audible voice, the names of the dead, as corresponding with those on the coffins before us. He was followed by another minister who addressed those present, and offered an appropriate prayer.

The procession then wended its way slowly through the town to the cemetery, distant two miles, the musicians leading the train, followed by an escort, the chaplain on horse, and soldiers walking as pall-bearers by the side of the ambulances.

While we witnessed this sad ceremony entrusted to stranger hands, I was much impressed with the great order and solemnity that pervaded the occasion, and wished that all the mothers in the land, whose sons had been sacrificed in the strife of battle, could know how faithfully and tenderly the last duties to their loved ones were attended to. The pastor at home was represented by the chaplain, the family by sympathizing friends, the neighbors and associates by those who had been comrades with the deceased in camp or in battle, in prison or in hospital, and now followed them to their final resting place, and the soldier, no longer a prisoner, but released from the slow torture of hunger and disease, was laid away forever.

After all were interred, the musicians gathered near, and in plaintive melody united in the hymn, "Come, ye disconsolate," after which the chaplain read the burial service, prayed for those about him and the anxious ones at home, who yet knew not what sorrow awaited them. The body-guards, or escort, then came forward, and, according to military custom, fired a volley three times over the graves of the departed, and, with uncovered heads, passed in single file along the row of open sepulchres and resumed their march to the hospital.

FLESH EXTRACT FOR THE DIET OF FEVER PATIENTS.

Half a pound of fresh beef or fowl, minced fine, without fat, is macerated one hour in a pint of cold water, to which four drops of

strong muriatic acid (hydrochloric acid) and a drachm of salt have been previously added. Strain through a jelly bag or fine lawn sieve, and if to be very nice, filter through coarse French filter paper. No fat globules or muscular fibres are allowable in the filtered liquid. To improve its flavor, a pinch of allspice or mace (ground) may be thrown into the mince, and to the filtered liquid add, if desired, two or three teaspoonfuls of good sherry wine. This soup may be administered in doses of two drachms once in two hours, and oftener in convalescence.

B. S. SILLIMAN.

NORTHWESTERN SANITARY COMMISSION.

Branch of U. S. Sanitary Commission, Rooms No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

FINANCIAL REPORT,

From the organization of the Commission, November 4, 1861, to December 31, 1864.

I.—SUPPLIES COLLECTED.

During the three years and two months existence of the Commission, there have been donated, collected, purchased, packed and forwarded through its agency, for distribution to our soldiers in the hospitals, armies and on the battle-fields, sixty-eight thousand eight hundred and three packages of Sanitary and Hospital supplies. Of this number there were sent directly by the people from their homes to the soldiers, ... 27,681
The remainder contained supplies purchased, as stated below, 41,122
68,803

II.—OF WHAT THESE SUPPLIES CONSISTED.

These supplies consisted of articles of diet, medical supplies, clothing, bedding, bandages, hospital furniture, ales and liquors.

III.—THEIR APPRAISED CASH VALUATION.

The appraised cash valuation of these supplies at the respective dates of their receipt by the Commission, amounts to the total sum of $964,059 71

Classified as follows:

Articles of diet and medical supplies, . .	$337,871 14	
Clothing, bedding, bandages, &c., . . .	558,023 83	
Hospital furniture, cots, mattrasses, stoves and fixtures, washing machines and wringers, table furniture, &c., .	16,800 44	
Ales and liquors, . .	8,974 30	
1,413 boxes received by the Commission, without accompanying invoices, appraised cash value, ...	42,390 00	
		$964,059 71

IV.—FROM WHERE RECEIVED.

The 27,681 packages above mentioned—received directly from donors—came from the following sources:

	Pkgs.
Illinois, ...	9,593
Wisconsin, ...	6,969
Iowa, ...	4,085
Michigan, ...	5,264
Indiana, ...	369
Ohio, ...	22
Minnesota, ...	266
New York, ...	87
Pennsylvania, ...	4
Through "Board of Trade," Chicago,	855
Unknown, ...	167
	27,681

V.—TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

The total amount of cash received by the Commission since its organization, is	$307,390 55
Total amount expended, . . .	287,479 76
Balance in the hands of the Treasurer, as per certificate of Auditing Committee, dated December 31, 1864,	$19,910 79

VI.—FROM WHERE RECEIVED.

The above amount of cash collected—$307,390 55—was received from the following sources:

Citizens of Chicago, . . .	$40,331 13	
State of Illinois, outside of Chicago,	55,541 68	
Iowa, (of which amount, $48,348, was the proceeds of the Northern Iowa Sanitary Fair, held at Dubuque, September, 1864, . .	50,229 40	
Wisconsin, ...	8,597 86	
Michigan, ...	7,901 28	
New York, ...	1,054 75	
Connecticut, ...	650 78	
Minnesota, ...	565 02	
Tennessee, proceeds of Ladies' Fair at Memphis, ...	398 31	
Indiana, ...	220 53	
California, ...	203 45	
Pennsylvania, ...	100 00	
Nebraska, ...	11 60	
Utah, ...	5 00	
Missouri, ...	3 40	
Berlin, ...	10 00	
Bavaria, ...	8 00	
Soldiers in the Army, . . .	20 05	
Proceeds of sale of cotton, donated to the Commission by Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant, ...	1,752 20	
Net cash proceeds of N. W. Sanitary Fair, held in Chicago, Oct. 1863,	75,100 27	
U. S. Sanitary Commission, expended in purchase of potatoes and onions, shipped to army in Tennessee and Georgia, ...	47,168 58	
U. S. Sanitary Commission, expended for salaries of agents and nurses,	3,526 55	
Amount received from "Hospital Fund" of sundry hospitals, and expended for purchase of supplies as requested by surgeons in charge,	8,654 69	
Amount specially contributed for the relief of Union refugees, . .	1,829 52	
Amount contributed by friends in Huntsville, Ala., for relief of prisoners at Camp Douglas, and		

handed to officer in command,		108 00
Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill., amount received for "Savings," up to December 1, 1864,		6,398 50
Total receipts,		$307,390 55

VII.—ACCOUNT OF EXPENDITURES.

The total amount of cash disbursements, as above stated—$287,479 76—during three years and two months, was expended as follows:

Supplies, hospital and sanitary, including articles of diet, medical supplies, clothing, bedding, hospital furniture, ales and liquors, purchased and forwarded to the hospitals, army, battle-fields, and Soldiers' Homes at Chicago, Cairo, Columbus, Paducah and Memphis,		$230,645 02
Material for hospital garments, made up at the sewing-room,	$9,162 20	
Cost of making up into shirts, drawers, socks and eye-shades,	758 79	
		9,920 99
Appropriations to Soldiers' Home, Chicago,	$6,000 00	
Appropriations to Soldiers' Home, Dubuque,	1,000 00	
		7,000 00
Salaries of agents and nurses in the field and at post hospitals, and their travelling expenses ($1,779 84)		8,965 79
Clerk hire at rooms of the Commission,		6,178 52
Labor, for handling, unpacking, distributing, marking and packing goods at rooms, loading cars at railroad stations, cleaning, painting and fitting up of office and warehouse at Chicago, and labor at Soldiers' Home, Cairo,		4,562 27
Drayage, Express and freight, including drayage on goods to and from railroad stations, Express Company's charges on money and goods, and freight charges on goods,		6,383 91
Stationery, including paper, envelopes, wrappers, pens, ink and blank books,		180 29
Printing Circulars advising of supplies needed, &c., reports of army inspection, reports of receipts, shipments and disbursements, direction cards, letter and envelope headings, labels, blank receipts and advertisements,		4,290 21
Postage on letters and documents,		1,229 15
Telegraphing,		203 93
Warehouse and office furniture and fixtures, including signs, locks and keys, chisel, watering-pot, pails, maps, chairs, oil cloth, desks, saws, hatchets, skids, matches, and carpenter work,		205 91
Rent of office, warehouse and sewing-room,		1,306 64
Fuel,		285 72
Sewing-room Expenses—Brushes, tables, shears and scissors, pail, brooms, pitchers, dust pan, wash bowl, chairs, stationery, needles, machine oil, soap, screw driver, carpenter work, and repairing sewing machines,		141 51
Amount advanced for proposed "North-western Sanitary and Soldiers' Home Fair,"		505 33
Agents and nurses of the U. S. Sanitary Commission paid from funds received for this purpose,		3,526 55
Union refugees, amount specially contributed for this object,		1,840 02
Camp Douglas, prisoners, amount received for this purpose,		108 00
Total expenditures,		$287,479 76

E. W. BLATCHFORD, *Treasurer.*

NECESSITY OF SANITARY COMMISSION'S CONTINUANCE.

Extract from Report of DR. M. M. MARSH, *dated Beaufort, S. C., Dec. 26, 1864, relating to the recent advance of a portion of Maj. Gen. Foster's command towards the Charleston and Savannah Railroad.*

* * * The present Expedition, now four weeks in progress, has been very exhaustive of stores. From the 30th of November to the 6th of December the entire sick and wounded subsisted upon the Commission. This condition of things resulted from a lack of commissary stores for the first four days; the remaining two, from the slow working of the machinery necessary to draw rations after arrival on the ground. The drafts upon clothing, too, have been disproportionate to the number of men. All were ordered upon the field in light marching order, *i. e.* with rubber blankets only, and many of the regiments were even unprovided with these. They were ordered to take five days food only, with the expectation of returning to camp at the expiration of that period. Food was obtained from the surrounding country, in part, but the underclothing worn from camp, was the only clothing aside from the issues by the Sanitary Commission, for three successive weeks, for almost the entire army. And during this period was experienced a storm of wind and rain of unusual length and severity, and the mercury for two successive mornings down to 24°. Our issues of shirts, drawers and socks exceeded three thousand each, and blankets proportionate; but these last will, to an extent, be returned, as their own are obtained from their previous camp, or the deficiency drawn from the Quarter-master. * * *

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THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

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The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regi-

ment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, State House, New Haven, Conn.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 244.F Street, Washington, D. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Distribution, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 46 Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

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U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Parole, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, City Point, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Newberne, N. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Beaufort, S. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, New Orleans, La

Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

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U. S. Sanitary Commission, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.

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U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Columbus, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

EAST.

"Special Relief" Office, 76 Kingston Street, Boston, Mass.

"Special Relief" Office, 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

"Soldiers' Rest," Buffalo, Exchange street, opposite R. R. Depot.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C., where assistance is rendered in procuring Pay, Pensions, Bounty, Prize Money, and arrears of Pay and Bounty, and in various other ways.

"The Home," No. 374 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

WEST.

Soldiers' Home, No. 81 Jefferson avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Soldiers' Home, Third Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky., James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, New Albany, corner of Main and State Streets.

Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill., C. N. Shipman, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn., Captain I. Brayton, Sup't. Rev. J. Hoblit, Relief Agent

Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio, Col. Isaac Dalton, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio, Joseph Jerome, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

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SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General. C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

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U. S. Sanitary Commission.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT to October 1st, 1864.

In the "Cost of Purchasing Supplies" are items 1, 2 and 5 of "Supply Department."
In the "Cost of Gathering Supplies" are items 3 and 4, together with expenses of New York and Brooklyn Fairs.
As "Equipments on Hand," are counted the present value of horses, wagons, barges, etc.
As "Transportation," is reckoned the remainder of items 7 and 8.
Of the "Expenses of Field Relief Corps" ($176,088 79), one-third part is transferred to "Special Relief," so that "distribution on Field" consists of two-thirds of the expenses of "Field Relief Corps," and one-half the expenses of "Auxiliary Relief Corps."
The "General Expenses" are distributed among the several accounts, *pro rata.*

Total Cash Expenditure	$2,293,604 15
Transferred to Western Sanitary Com...	50,000 00
Cash in hands of Agents	64,027 90
Balance in hands of Treasurer	615,166 03
Value of Equipments on hand	60,326 50
	$3,083,124 58

Value of supplies received in kind	$7,134,661 15
Cost of supplies purchased	1,200,579 29
Value of supplies distributed	8,335,240 44
Outlays not for supplies	1,093,024 86
Total	$9,428,265 30

		Cost increased by Proportional share General Expenses.	Percentage of Cash Outlays.	Percentage of total supplies distributed.	Percentage of Total
Money paid for supplies	$1,200,579 29	$1,243,280 01	54.21	14.92	13.19
Cost of gathering supplies	86,657 13	89,739 25	3.91	1.08	0.95
Storehouse account	23,351 85	24,182 14	1.05	0.29	0.26
Transportation	192,404 40	199,247 52	8.69	2.39	2.11
Distribution on Field	135,992 53	140,829 27	6.14	1.69	1.49
Medical Inspection	119,985 69	124,201 32	5.42	1.49	1.32
Special Relief	309,796 94	320,815 10	13.99	3.85	3.40
Hospital Directory	47,564 94	49,257 01	2.15	0.59	0.52
Statistical Department	14,241 98	14,748 50	0.64	0.18	0.16
Publications	38,800 37	40,180 50	1.75	0.48	0.43
Office Salaries	45,504 72	47,123 53	2.05	0.56	0.50
Sum	2,214,830 16	2,293,604 15	100.00	27.52	24.33
General Expenses	78,774 31				
Total Cash outlays	$2,293,604 15				

Consequently, of the supplies distributed, 14.92 per cent. were purchased.
85.08 " " received in kind.

The cost of Supplies purchased	was	14.92 per cent. of supplies distributed	and 13.19 of "Total."
" " Gathering, Storing, Assorting, etc.	"	1.37	1.21
" " Transportation and Field Distribution	"	4.08	3.60
" " Medical Inspection	"	1.49	1.32
" " Special Relief and Hospital Directory	"	4.44	3.92
" " Office Salaries	"	0.56	0.50
All other cash outlays		0.66	0.59
All cash outlays, except purchasing supplies		12.60	11.14
The value of Supplies received in kind		85.08	75.67

THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

No. 32. PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 15, 1865. No. 32.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 15,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No.* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

FOR THE SOLDIERS.

BY A. E.

A CALL came up from the soldier's camps,
And sounded in our ears,
Above all the roar of the heavy guns,
And the ringing battle-cheers.
It said: "We are fighting for you, for yours,
In the forefront of danger we stand.
We are driving the ranks of the rebels back;
Will you lend us a helping hand?

"We give you all of our health and strength;
We are flinging our lives away;
Our days and nights, they are spent for you;
Will you give to us just one day?"
And the farmers afar, in the Prairie State,
Heard the call as it sounded by;
And they answered the voice from the far-off camps
With a cheerful, whole-souled "Aye!"

A little girl stood and watched the teams,
With their treasures running o'er,
With their loads of the full-eared, yellow corn,
Drive up to her father's door;
Till the rosy apples, and onions white,
And squashes, golden and round,
That the farmers brought of their hard-earned stores,
Lay heaped all over the ground.

And she said: "Oh, papa! I have nothing to give
That the soldiers would care to hold;
I am *so* sorry I am so small—
I have neither silver nor gold.
There is my doll, and my hoop, and all my toys,
But they don't want those, you see;
And they would not care for the games nor the books
Of a little girl like me.

"I think, papa, it is very hard;
I have thought all my playthings o'er,
And there isn't a thing they would want to take;
I wish I wasn't so poor.
I am sure there is nothing I would not give
To make their work some less—"
And here she stopped, for her little pet lamb
Was pulling at her dress.

They had played together—the child and lamb—
All the long, bright summer days;
It had shared her supper of bread and milk;
She had taught it its winsome ways.
It would run at the sound of its whispered name
To the mistress it loved so well,
As she loved it, her darling little pet,
Far better than I could tell.

She stopped, and looked in her father's face,
And her eyes grew large and wide;
Then she flung her arms round the lamb's soft neck,
And knelt down by its side.
And her eyes grew full of the blinding tears
That she could not wipe away;
And, "O papa! my darling lamb!"
Was all that she could say.

And closer and closer she held it then,
And faster the tears ran down,
Till she lifted her head and spake again,
Through the sobs that her words would drown:
"O papa! I never had thought of this;
It is all my own, you know.
O pet! you must go for our soldiers brave.
My darling! I love you so."

And, stronger growing: "Oh! yes, papa,
You must not look so grave.
Why, they give up their aims and lives for us;
It is everything I have!
It isn't much; I'm a *little* girl;
But perhaps, if you tell them so,
They will take it with all the bigger things.
O darling! I love you so."

I think the angels looked down from heaven,
With tears in their shining eyes,
At the tearful little upturned face,
And the noble sacrifice.
God love her, and bless her, and save the land
That claims her among its brave,
Who, 'mid their tears, with unfaltering hand,
Have given all they have!

AMBULANCES.*

[Continued from No. 21.]

An ambulance has recently been constructed by Dr. B. Howard, of New York, late of the United States Army, which seems to combine in an eminent degree the various advantages so much desired in vehicles of this description. (See diagrams in last No. of BULLETIN.)

1. *To enable the badly wounded to be easily loaded and unloaded,* two litters or beds are provided, made of wood, like an ordinary shutter, with sliding handles at each corner, as seen at figure A B C. Upon this the patient is easily shifted, and without any further disturbance. The litter is slid into the ambulance on rollers, *g*, figure F and H. In the same way the patient is removed on arrival at the hospital, and without being disturbed until he reaches his bed.

2. If part or all *the patients are able to sit up*, one, or both of the litters can be slid into a compartment provided for that purpose under the floor of the ambulance, as seen at figure H *n*, showing the interior with steel rollers in the floor of the compartment on which the litters slide. There are six permanent seats, each situated transversely, and each a corner seat with back and cushioned sides. This gives a comfortable purchase, secures the patients against much of the usual jolting, and prevents them being driven against each other in going over rough roads. The seats are let into the frame of the platform as seen at D *h*, F 8; the rollers being fixed about a quarter of an inch above them, so that the bed sliding on them do not chafe the cushions. The sides of the ambulance, as also both sides of the back of the driver's seat, and the inside of the upper section of the tail-board, are cushioned, while the middle seats have for a back a wide leather strap, like that used in stage-coaches; thus each seat is rendered very comfortable, and being transverse instead of longitudinal, is in every respect easier for the patient.

3. *In order to diminish the motion* of the body of the ambulance, and prevent rolling and pitching so intolerable in the ordinary ambulance, semi-elliptical springs have been substituted for the elliptical ones. These keep the body of the ambulance steady, and are very strong, while they have a limited elasticity.

4. *In order that the limited motion thus obtained be so modified as to give least jar to patients,* internal counterpoise springs are used, the delicacy of which may be modified to any extent desired.

The platform or frame on which the seats and beds rest, of which an internal view of one side is seen at D, and an external one at E, is as long but not so wide by about two inches, as the inside of the body of the ambulance.

Between the inside of the body and the frame of the platform, is an interspace, F *pp*, this is occupied by two lateral semi-elliptical steel springs on either side, fastened at the center of their arc to the inside of the body of the ambulance, as at F 10, the feet of which play upon iron plates on the outside of the frame E *a*. Opposite the center of the arc on the frame is fixed a block of soft rubber so that on the application of much force, it should be received by the rubber blocks which thus act as buffer.

The platform or frame on which the seats and beds rest, stands upon four iron stanchions, each of which rests on springs like the lateral springs described above, but much stronger, as seen at D. Figure D *c*, represents the iron stanchions resting on steel springs, the feet of which play upon

* The statement in last BULLETIN that members of Commission constructed the ambulance is an error. Dr. Howard is the inventor.

iron plates let into the floor of the ambulance at *c*. The spring is restrained in its motion upwards by an iron staple, and when by an unusual weight, it is pressed down heavily, the force is received by a block of soft india-rubber enclosed within the staple. An impulse communicated to the floor of the ambulance, instead of being propagated to the beds or seats, causes a counteraction downwards of the spring at *d*, which, if the force be very great, spends itself upon the block of rubber, *d*. In this way, both laterally and perpendicularly, a constant poise is preserved, and what would otherwise be a very violent jar is reduced to little more than a vibration. The steadiness of the entire vehicle is preserved by the stout semi-elliptical spring beneath the body, and the delicacy regulated to any degree by the internal counterpoise springs within the body.

5. *That the water may be carried securely*, immobility of the vessel containing it during transportation is necessary. This is effected by substituting for the casks in ordinary use, a tank, G, which slides into a groved bed, and is secured by an ordinary fastening. The tank is made of wood, lined with zinc and bound with metal bands. It is readily accessible, the spigot protruding through the tail-board as in figure N and R 2, and is fully protected during loading and unloading by the upper section of the tail-board, which falls down over it.

6. *In a military point of view*, it possesses a great advantage in this, that beside the prescribed articles which may be carried in the driver's box, a large amount of medical supplies may be carried in the body of the ambulance, without interfering with the comfort of badly wounded patients.

There being but four stanchions, and these being close up to the side of the ambulance, the entire body beneath the platform is free for transportation of supplies. It is during the first few days after great battles, and on almost every occasion after cavalry engagements, that from the necessary absence of the supply wagons, the wounded are most likely to suffer. By packing hospital and other supplies, and thus occupying the available space in a certain number of these ambulances in each division and train, the proper care of the sick and wounded would not be impeded by the absence of the trains, everything necessary being always on hand sufficient to last for several days of active operations.

7. Although at first sight this ambulance might appear somewhat complicated, there is nothing about it which is liable to get out of repair. No spiral spring or anything of a fragile nature is introduced. One of the best guarrantees of this may be the fact that in the construction of the first ambulance of this kind, and the one which was most fully tested, nothing except the blocks of rubber was used which was not found in old ambulances or otherwise on hand at the repair shops of the Army of the Potomac, in the field.

8. The various parts are so simple that any one of them being broken could be at once repaired in any ambulance camp or battery in the field. The internal springs which are more subject than any other part perhaps, to accident, consists simply of single leaves of the ordinary ambulance spring, and could be introduced or exchanged in a few minutes. Like the common ambulance, it is drawn by two horses.

There is an arrangement for suspension of fractures of the lower extremity, which is very grateful to the patients. Two parallel iron bars are attached to the roof of the ambulance longitudinally over each bed, between which runs a roller with a dependent hook. The fractured limb being placed in a double inclined plane, or other splint, a bandage is passed through terrestra of the box splint, and then carried over the hook from which the limb is suspended.

In this way, instead of the jolting and jarring so commonly experienced, simple oscillation is substituted, or if desired, guys of bandage may be so extended to the up-

rights of the ambulance as to render the limb nearly motionless during transportation.

An iron looped rack and clasp K and L, are also fixed to each side of the ambulance in which stretchers of any size may be firmly carried without motion or loss during transportation.

We are indebted to Dr. Howard for the description of the plates, and have given it in his own language.

Ambulance Train.—There is a regimental ambulance train, a brigade, and corps train, with a chief over each. The rank of chief for corps is that of captain, for each of the others of first and second lieutenant respectively. They are all under charge of Medical Director.

Six stretcher bearers go with each regiment of not less than five hundred men, and two men with each ambulance.

It is the duty of the stretcher bearers to take the wounded from the field, and carry them to the ambulances, by which they are taken to the field hospitals, and as these become filled, to remove those patients who may be able to bear transportation to base or post hospitals, which are usually several miles distant.

DEFINITIONS.

People are often puzzled about the meaning of certain military terms, an understanding of which would afford them an intelligent appreciation of our military operations, and to meet this defect, we propose to give in the BULLETIN a series of explanations of a few technical terms used in the army, which we gather chiefly from the Military Dictionary of Col. H. L. Scott, Inspector General, United States Army.

Abatis.—(French,) are rows of felled trees, deprived of their smaller branches, the remainder being sharpened to a point, and employed for blocking up roads, defending houses, or isolated posts, as well as more formidable intrenchments or fortifications. When a road passes through a forest, the trees may be cut down on either side, and allowed to fall across it, so that their disengagement is rendered very difficult, and the road rendered impassable, as is seen in

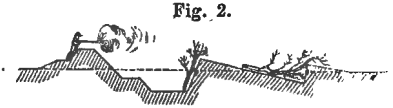
Fig. 1.



In fig. 2, which represents an intrenchment, they are usually fixed in an upright position at the outer boundary of the ditch, (*countersarp*), so that they are consealed from an advancing enemy.

They are also placed at the foot of the slope, (glacis) in front of the works, the plane of which is broken so as to conceal the abatis from the view of the enemy, and to guard against obstructing the fire from the parapet, where the figure of a man stands with his musket.

Fig. 2.



Alarm Post.—Is the place appointed for every regiment or detachment to assemble in case of sudden alarm.

Approaches are the first, second and third parallels, trenches, saps, mines, &c., by which the besiegers approach a fortified place.

Apron.—A piece of sheet lead, used to cover the vent of a cannon.

Arm.—Infantry, artillery and cavalry are *arms* of the service.

Armorer.—The person who makes, cleans or repairs arms.

Artillery.—The word is more ancient than the use of gunpowder, and was applied to machines of war in very early times. "And Jonathan gave his *artillery* unto his lads, and said unto him, go carry them to the city." Javelins, spears, and arrows were the artillery of those days.

AUXILIARY RELIEF CORPS.

IT ORIGINATED

in the need of "personal service" by earnest men among sick and wounded soldiers. Up to the date of its organization, May 1, 1864, the Sanitary Commission had confined its work in the field mainly to the distribution of supplies upon the requisition of surgeons. In some instances, it had established temporary feeding stations after battles, but had never attempted organized systematic personal work in hospitals or among wounded on the field.

This the Auxiliary Relief Corps was designed to do, and has done.

WHEN?

Arriving at Belle Plain, with forty men, in season to meet the first wounded from the battle of the Wilderness, leaving a detachment there, the balance pushed on to Fredericksburg, where twenty thousand wounded arrived in twenty days. The Corps was increased largely by volunteers, and consisted, at times, of one hundred to one hundred and fifty men; devoted, earnest, self-sacrificing, saving, as we believe, many lives, and helping to restore order in that bloody chaos. Going on to Port Royal, White House and City Point, at all of which places, with four hundred different agents, at least seventy-five thousand patients have been served, between May 1, 1864, and January 1, 1865. The agents have represented all shades of religious opinion, and have been drawn from the various walks and occupations of life, and have consisted of Rev. Doctors, Professors, Surgeons, Divinity, Medical and Law Students, Merchants, Clerks, etc., etc.

The Corps now numbers thirty-five men, stationed in the 2d, 5th, 6th, 9th, 25th, Cavalry, and Post Hospitals, and Feeding Stations, at City Point and Point of Rocks.

WHY?

1. To ensure faithful, prompt and discreet distribution of supplies *by* the right men *to* the right men.

2. It makes the soldier feel he has a friend by his side, to hear his requests, grant them if in his power, be at once nurse, adviser, friend and brother.

3. Because we claim that, in this war, every soldier is our brother—more akin to us, for the time, than the son of our own mother. The one is ours by accident of birth; the other has earned his relationship by his noble service. He has fought for us, perilled for us limb and life, that we and ours may enjoy, in peace, both life and limb; that our Union may be unbroken—our nation intact.

4. Because we believe that such soldier brother is entitled from the people, the government and from us, to all of *home comforts*. We, as the representatives of the people, are called upon to strive for this. We shall fail to arrive at this high standard, it is incompatible with field service, but we have always this "high mark," to work up to, and ought never to be content while we fall below it.

5. Every one of these men should be presumed to be patriots. True, some have enlisted for bounties, some are ignorant and vile, but we must not inquire into the moral status of each man. We cannot stop for that. It would not be safe if we could. "Judge not," &c. 'Tis enough that we know here is a suffering man, whether white or black, in blue, grey or butternut, he needs our help.

6. Shall we do less for him than for the sick or wounded stranger found by the roadside at home?—fallen there perhaps, by his own imprudence, degraded, brutal even, but still a man. Do we not open our doors, public or private, and give him bed, fire, clothing, food, and personal comforts, and personal attention? Shall we do less for him who has fallen in the field in the noblest service?

Our premises granted, the claim allowed, the work has been done—

HOW?

What is the process?—As at present organized, this auxiliary work is confined generally to the Base or "Depot Field Hospitals," as they are called.

Arriving at City Point, for instance, with the army, as soon as hospitals are located, a relief station is established in each corps hospital, with five to ten agents, under charge of one of them as captain. They occupy, say three hospital tents, one each for store-room, sleeping-room and clothing. In addition to these are reading and writing-rooms for soldiers when opportunity offers.

To these stations supplies are brought daily from the Sanitary Commission Supply Depot or Barge, upon the requisition of the captain, who makes draft for supplies, according to the number of patients and their

peculiar necessities. These requisitions are revised by the Superintendent of the agents who has a general supervision of the whole corps, assigning men to duty, transferring or relieving them, and conducting the correspondence with the other departments. A certain number of tents or wards are assigned to each agent, whose duty it is to visit them several times each day, according to the patient's needs, and to become acquainted with inmates, nurses, ward-masters and surgeons. These relations established, he ascertains the wants of each patient, and *distributes to them personally the stores of the Commission*, always, of course, subject to the direction of the surgeon; as no man or organization ought, in a hospital, to be independent of the medical authorities. Non-attention to this has caused much mischief, and created much of the prejudice heretofore existing towards civilians in the army hospitals.

The list appended to this, of articles distributed in November, by the corps will show the class of needs which are met.

It can be readily seen that such relations can be established between agent and patient, by his daily visits, at the bedside, as will enable him to learn precisely what is wanted, and how best to meet that want.

This list of course, does not include the distribution of supplies to the division and regimental hospitals at the front, or to the men in the trenches.

It should also be noted that the issues in November were smaller than during any previous month, since the campaign commenced. During the summer months they were at least double that amount.

PERSONAL AND VOLUNTARY SERVICE.

The personal service in addition to the distribution of supplies, consists of reading to, writing for, and conversing with the the patient, giving a cheerful air to the tent, relieving him of the tedium of sickness, and by many little attentions, giving him a taste of home comforts, by the brothers sympathy manifested.

This service is more acceptable from the fact that it is *voluntary;* for although the soldier nurse may be kind and attentive, the patient knows that he is assigned to that duty, that it is compulsory, while the corps agent is presumed to be there from no other motive than to relieve the suffering body and raise the drooping spirits. This distinction is fruitful of profitable reflections, valuable at home and in society, as well as in the army and in the hospital.

In additien to these duties, are the answers to be made to daily inquiries from the homes of the patients as to their condition, their last hours and burial places, arranging for embalming and forwarding bodies and their effects, and innumerable "little duties," apparently trifling in themselves, but productive of much comfort and consolation to patient and relations.

EMERGENCIES.

Besides this regular hospital service, the agents are called upon to feed wounded in trains, as they are brought in from the field, and to go at a moment's warning to a temporary field hospital, after battles, to supply immediate needs. A permanent Feeding station is maintained near the Hospital landing at City Point, to supply occasional needs of patients passing to the transports, and to be prepared for emergencies likely to arise in case of a repetition of the scenes of last summer.

THE SPECIAL DIET KITCHENS

in these base hospitals are furnished, by the relief stations, with many needed articles which Government does not supply; for instance, tomatoes, canned mutton and beef, canned fruits, dried fruit, lemons, crackers, jellies, chocolate, flavoring extracts, spices and certain cooking utensils, and oftentimes, when the Government supply temporarily fails, with milk, apples, white sugar, tea, pickles, corn starch, farina, &c., &c.

SHOULDERS TO THE WHEEL.

In a word, the Sanitary Commission believes that too much cannot be done for the sick and wounded soldier. It believes that the best personal service is due to him, and to illustrate that belief, the Auxiliary Relief Corps is at work.

The writer "knows whereof he doth affirm" when he commends the "Auxiliary Corps," a part of which he has been. He knows it ought to be appreciated and sustained, and he knows it will be, if the people appreciate and sustain the Sanitary Commission.

No man properly appreciates his duty who does nothing for his country in this crisis. Shoulders were not made alone to bear a knapsack or a gun. They must be *put to the wheel.* Every man should, either by his personal presence, or his pocket and

his prayers, push on this work. The neglect to do it will be a cold record to read years hence. And let him remember, that if he has a friend or a brother in the army, he may yet need and receive friendly and brotherly care from the agents of the Commission. F. B. F.

NEW YEAR, 1865.

A VISITOR'S THOUGHTS.

What does the Sanitary Commission give to the soldiers? Shirts, drawers, socks? Yes, and much more. Preserved fruits, cordials and delicacies? Yes, but more than these.

Let me tell our friends of the North, that having just returned from a southern tour, and having had ample facilities of judging as to which of your many gifts was really the greatest blessing to the soldier, I am fully prepared to say, that the noblest service done by the Commission for the army is the bestowal of GOOD MEN as Relief Agents. I do not belong to the Relief Corps myself, therefore I feel no delicacy in speaking my mind. Down in the hospitals a man has no fictitious value, as men often have in our social system in the North. Down there, a man is seen at his true value, and the accidental accessories of dress are of no account. Keeping these facts in view, I wish our northern friends to know that there are many God-sent men among our agents—men to whom "the world is as dross"—men who are spending their lives and their private means in doing acts of mercy to "the boys."

You are doubtless in the habit of reading in the BULLETIN the "reports" sent in by these men, but I assure you that these reports give but a poor idea of the many nameless deeds of mercy done by our agents daily; and they are not the men to blazon their charities in print. In fact they don't *think* they are doing anything at all, but seem to count themselves "unprofitable servants." Good Mr. B., at Point of Rocks, told me one day with reference to his work among the sufferers, that he had got "callous," and yet during my visit to that station I learned some things regarding his self-sacrificing devotion to the soldiers, that might well put to the blush many of the more flaunting and showy charities that are current in the world.

I could particularize many instances of large-hearted goodness that came under my notice down South. But I must not—it would be a desecration. These men ask no praise, and what I have said is forced from me by the barest justice. W. H. H.

The Army and the Commission.

LETTER FROM GENERAL SPRAGUE.

POCOTALIGO, S. C., *January* 19, 1865.

DR. M. M. MARSH,
Inspector U. S. Sanitary Commission, Beaufort, S. C.

DEAR SIR:—Your note of this morning is received, and the *generous* supply of sanitary stores you so kindly furnished to this command. We are surprised that you are able to supply us so bountifully. The good things shall be faithfully distributed among the troops.

God bless the Sanitary Commission and the noble-hearted people who sustain it.

Yours, truly,
J. W. SPRAGUE,
Brigadier General.

LETTER FROM A CHAPLAIN.

HEAD QUARTERS, 1ST CONN. ARTILLERY,
BROADWAY LANDING, NEAR CITY POINT, VA.
January 7, 1865.

DR. W. F. SWALM,
Agent Sanitary Commission, City Point.

MY DEAR SIR.—It is with pleasure that I make this acknowledgment of the benefit which our Regimental Hospital has recieved from the stores of the Sanitary Commission.

From the 18th May to the 5th December, 1864, at which time I made out these statistics, we had 526 patients, of these 29 had died, 46 had been sent to the General Hospital and 414 had been returned to duty. The aggregate number of days of all spent in hospital was, to that date, 10,207, giving an average of 19·4 days for each patient. It is fair to estimate, that had the men been sent to the General Hospitals, they could not have found their way back under twice that time. The numbers and efficiency of the Regiment have been correspondingly promoted.

The stores of farina, corn starch and canned milk obtained from the Sanitary Commission have made up the deficiencies of the supplies drawn from Government. And the other liberal supplies of tomatoes, beef-stock, crackers, vegetables, lemons, pickles, shirts, drawers, socks, not to speak of many minor matters, have, in my opinion, greatly conduced to the comfort and quicker recovery of the patients. I am able to testify, on the authority of the hospital cook, that his department has never been so well

supplied with an abundant variety, as it has during this campaign.

Thanking you Dr. Swalm, and the gentlemen connected with you at City Point, in the trying and delicate duties of the Sanitary Commission, for the unvarying courtesy with which I have been met and the readiness with which my requisitions have been filled, I have the honor to be

Very faithfully yours,
S. FERMOR JARVIS,
Chaplain, 1st. Conn. Artillery.

The People and the Commission.

One of the grand results of the present war has been the development of the people in the direction of unity and fraternization. Union, not based on a dogma, but on the *idea* of nationality—Fraternity, not founded on a tradition, but on the *fact* of a common brotherhood.

The element in community that distracts the people from the idea of nationality, is that which has its source in local pride and jealousy. States have risen against the Nation from which they came and by which they were sustained.

The element in social society that diverts the people from the fact of a common brotherhood, is that which makes *caste* the judge of merit. Man has risen against his brother because circumstances have favored him with power and place.

The strife of these opposing principles, is the strife of right against might. The people are in it, to the full. It not only affects us in our political and social relations, but in our religious interests. Intolerance and bigotry, under whatever form, and by whatever name, are traitors against the common instincts of the race, as well as against the purest developments of the human mind: traitors as real, as are the political leaders of the National rebellion.

Our hospitals are crowded with men of all shades of religious belief. The Calvinist is there; the Arminian is there; the Hebrew and Romanist are there; men of no creed are there; men of deep thought and conviction, but with judgments in religious questions unformed, are there, as well as the thoughtless, heedless and profane.

What is the duty of the people towards these thousands of sick and helpless ones? They are our brothers, afflicted and needing care; not physical comfort only, such as watching and nursing can give, but such mental, moral and christian aid as the real heart and soul of the people can bestow, under the inspiration of their highest duty.

Has any individual a right, or any class or combination of individuals a right to assume the dictatorship in the matter of religious instruction? Has the Romanist a right to enforce his rosary or confession? Has the Hebrew a right to insist upon the observance of his peculiar faith? Has the Arminian a right to declare his message of free grace, or the Calvinist to claim that all are predestined to a doom that cannot be averted or avoided? The common sense and democratic sense of the people join, in the reply, that what is the right of one, is the right of all, and what is the right of all is equally the right of each; that in this matter of religious teaching, no class of people has any exclusive privilege, and that the Government has not recognized and cannot recognize any form of faith to be taught in the Army, to the exclusion of other forms.

The Jew and Romanist, the Universalist and Calvinist, the Unitarian and Arminian are each equally under the protection of the law, and each has the moral support of Government alike in the respective administration of their religious creeds among the soldiers of our army and navy.

One thing the people seem to forget in their zeal—it is this—that, though the soldier becomes virtually a machine physically, acting under orders all the time, drawing his very food and clothing by requisitions from the Goverment—going nor coming, sleeping nor waking, without leave—that he is still a responsible moral agent in the sight of his Maker. And though his movements are under the guidance of law, his instincts, thoughts, aspirations and

inspirations belong to himself and his Maker alone. They forget too, that in the employment of these inner faculties, he is an independent being, that he has a right to draw from sources around him, such aliment as he prefers for the supply of his moral appetite. The iron rule of military order cannot check a single aspiration of his unseen nature, but in spite of all else beside, he will be a morally responsible being.

In dealing with him, we must ever bear this in mind, remembering that he is like ourselves, and that we are like him in this attribute of moral responsibility.

This great principle is fully recognized by the U. S. Sanitary Commission. While its work is eminently and *esscntially* a Christian work, and the prevailing sentiment of its members, as well as the ruling influence of its deliberations is what is technically called orthodox or evangelical, there underlies it all, the great, broad, catholic idea of the brotherhood and equality of the race; while there rests over and above and around it, the bright cloud of mercy from on High, so that no state lines shall limit its action, or no denominational caste chill its benevolence.

It antagonizes no smaller or rival associations, but rather rejoices to witness the idea of unity and fraternity leavening to some extent all of them. Separate state agencies have nearly run their day, because this is a war for the union of states, and the war is fulfilling its mission. Other associations having also a narrower platform originally, find themselves, either dwindling into *dwarfage*, or under the elevating inspiration of the times, and of the spirit of the times, creating broader foundations, that are more enduring than traditional dogmas.

A GENEROUS GIFT.

A most pleasing donation was received by the New England Women's Auxiliary Association last week, from the boys in the Massachusetts School Ship. These boys who are inmates of a reform institution, had saved some spars which were drifting off in a storm; and the owners of the spars had presented them with fifteen dollars as salvage. This sum the boys, by a unanimous vote, presented to the Association. Considering the limited means of the givers, this is one of the most generous gifts which the Commission has recently received, and it is valuable as showing how universal is the sympathy felt for our good cause.

JANUARY 24, 1865.

NECESSITY FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

Extracts from Report of L. V. BEEBE, *concerning provision for sick U. S. Soldiers, exchanged prisoners, while in transit from Charleston, S. C., to Annapolis, Md., on Steam Transport, Northern Light, December,* 1864.

The next morning *after* we were placed on different vessels at Fortress Monroe, I learned that Col. Mulford had been instructed by Gen. Butler not to receive any agents of either Commission. Of course as we were already in the fleet with our supplies and ourselves, the order came too late, and we were allowed to accompany the expedition. But suppose we had not been allowed to go? How would have fared those poor, starved, sick men, who are firstly entitled, not only to sympathy, but to every attention the Government can bestow upon them. For the Steamship "Northern Light" nothing but the army ration was provided, except fifty pounds of split peas, fifty pounds of rice, and a small quantity of corn starch and farina. (This was the Hospital Boat.)

The army ration, hard tack, bacon, ham and coffee for sick men! For men, most of whom could not masticate such food, and none of whom had stomachs fit to receive it. To give it to them, though they craved it, would have been *poison* to nine-tenths. Indeed I have no hesitation in saying that I believe men did die on that ship because they did have small bits of meat. As for the other few articles enumerated above, how far would such a limited quantity go among so many men, particularly, when we had from two hundred to six hundred on board, from the seventh to the seventeenth, ten days.

Nothing but army rations were provided for the officers, (many of them right from the hospitals), and they would have had nothing else, if I had not supplied their table with tomatoes, pickles, onions and soft

crackers. I had also supplied them with some articles of clothing, handkerchiefs, towels, &c. The beans, only half a barrel, saved from the rations provided for the Rebels, were all we had. I asked Dr. Fry, Surgeon in Charge on the "New York," for more, but could not get them, and before we arrived at Annapolis we were dependent on the ship for lanterns, as I had asked for candles, but could not get them.

Of the provisions supplied by government, nothing could be used except the coffee, the rice and the peas (fifty pounds only of each) and the small quantity of corn starch, all not being enough to supply these men two days. Hard tack could only be used in soup. Of all provided, there was nothing which could be used, of which there was enough, except the coffee. But suppose there were sufficient quantities of the other articles, are these the only requirements in addition to medical stores, for a hospital boat? The Sanitary Commission was a Godsend to these men, and but for it, the mortality which was fearful, would have been terrible. They lived on the Commission, and without, many could not have survived.

Col. Mulford and Dr. Fry invariably treated me civilly, even cordially, and I am indebted to them for the kindness to the Commission, through me.

But there are many things about the fitting out of the expedition and the manner of loading ships for the return, that seem to me quite wrong. The expedition was not properly provided with supplies, *if* it was not *expected*, that the Sanitary Commission would accompany it. * * *

Extracts from Report of DR. GEORGE A. BLAKE, *concerning assistance to exchanged prisoners of war, U. S. Soldiers, en route from Galveston, Texas to New Orleans, Dec.*, 1864.

In my letter of the 16th inst. I promised a longer letter by the mail and a history of my trip to Galveston. When our Agent of Exchange effected an exchange at the mouth of Red River, an account of which you have had from Mr. Stearns, an exchange was agreed upon, by which all the prisoners confined in Camp Grace, Texas, were to be delivered in Galveston Bay, Dec. 10; at that time the number was little over five hundred. Camp Grace is two miles from the village of Hampstead, near Houston. Many of the prisoners confined there were sent from Camp Ford at Tyler, for more secure keeping, as many had endeavored to escape from Tyler and were re-captured. Camp Grace is situated in a very unhealthy location and many of our men died, so that we received only 342. We left here on Steamer "Clinton" on the evening of Dec. 8, and arrived at the blockading fleet off Galveston, Commodore Emmons, commanding, on the 10th, at 1 o'clock, P. M. * * *

Our prisoners were in a pitiable condition, many had no shirts, no drawers and bare feet, none had a decent blanket, and their general appearance indicated a great scarcity of soap and water in the Confederacy, as well as facilities for clothing adequate to the changing temperature. The men were all pinched up with the cold, and were an exhibition of extreme poverty. To the bare-footed, I gave socks and slippers, to the *shiftless*, wool shirts, and tobacco and milk punch to all. At night it was cold, the men were *stowed* between decks, a place arranged for transportation of horses, and a large demand was made for blankets.

Before leaving the city, I learned that nothing had been provided for the men except army rations and transportation By request of Agent of Exchange for this Department, I took with me 350 blankets which I was able to distribute to the men, giving each a blanket. Here was a place and a time, when and where the comforts of the Commission were specially required and appreciated. Suppose I had had no blankets —no shirts—no socks? they certainly could not be made aboard ship in mid ocean, they could not be had at any price. I can assure you it gave me no little pleasure to distribute blankets on that cold, inclement night. If the patrons of the Commission could have seen how much comfort was afforded those suffering heroes that night, two mites would be contributed where one was given before. One man died on the trip and was buried at sea with military honors. No chaplain being present, by request of Col. Dwight, our Commissioner of Exchange, I read the burial service. Many others had not lived to reach their homes, were it not for the timely gifts of the Commission. After our arrival in the city, the men were quartered in Camp of Distribution, where I served to them fresh vegetables, and provided each man with a plate, a tin cup, knife and fork, and a spoon, not furnished by the Quartermaster. * * *

LETTER FROM NEW ORLEANS.

NEW ORLEANS, *January* 10, 1865.

MR. ROBERT T. THORNE,
Ass't Sec., U. S. Sanitary Commission, Louisville.

DEAR SIR:—Since my letter to you of the 28th ult., the sanitary stores consigned to me for benefit of Union Prisoners of War at Cahawba, have all come to hand, excepting two boxes of tea; the same omission was noted on invoice I received from Mr. Shipman at Cairo.

I had opportunity through the courtesy of Col. Dwight, our Agent of Exchange, to accompany those stores to Mobile Bay, where I met Major Correll, referred to in the correspondence you forwarded to me. He was very willing to receive the stores, but had no transportation for them to the city. The steamer I was on ("St. Mary") received 603 rebel prisoners at Ship Island, being the remnant of the garrison of Fort Gaines, captured August 8, 1864, to be delivered to rebel authorities in exchange for those we received from Camp Grace, Texas, via Galveston, a few weeks previous. Judging from appearances, the rebel quartermaster's department must be at low ebb, as the prisoners were received in two flat-boats and eleven yawls, towed by a small steamer, apparently built to run in a *heavy dew*. Major Correll was very gentlemanly and was perfectly willing to receive the stores and forward them to Cahawba. To receive the stores at that time was entirely impracticable; if our steamer would wait until next day, he would come out and receive them; that was impossible, as the steamer could not be delayed, and we turned homeward. I intended to leave the stores at Fort Morgan, in charge of Lieut. Col. Clarke, 6th Mich. Art., but the wind was blowing a gale, which prevented our landing at that point. The stores are now safely deposited in my store-room. Negotiations are in progress, whereby both parties, Union and Rebel may amply provide for the wants of all prisoners. Two weeks since 1200 suits of clothing were sent to Cahawba, Ala., per arrangement negotiated by Gen. Washburne and Capt. Henderson, C. S. A., at Memphis in November last. A portion of the contract made by these two parties was annulled by the officer in command at Mobile, and the Union officer who was to go to Cahawba, Ala., by the terms of the contract, with Capt. Henderson, was stopped, and not allowed to proceed beyond the obstructions in the Bay. Our officers in the Navy say the boxes of clothing forwarded from this department, were allowed to remain on the wharf unguarded and unprotected from the rain, for eight days, before they were sent forward to their destination.

I regret exceedingly the failure of my attempt to forward the stores consigned to me. I am assured, however, by Col. Dwight, our Agent of Exchange, that every possible facility will be afforded to forward these stores hereafter.

The two half chests tea were missing. I contributed one half chest from my own stores. I shall avail myself of every opportunity to forward the stores, that they may reach our men in captivity at Cahawba, unless otherwise ordered by you. I hope Dr. Newberry will be able to send me another lot of vegetables, as my store-room is empty, and the demand constant. About fifteen thousand troops arrived from Memphis last week, they rendezvous at Kennerd, about fifteen miles distant, on the Jackson Railroad; Gen. Steele in command; their destination is problematical.

Regretting I can give no better account of my stewardship,

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
GEORGE A. BLAKE.

LETTER FROM SAVANNAH.

HOSPITAL, 15th A. C.
SAVANNAH, GA., *January* 17, 1865.

DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS,

DEAR SIR:—On arriving at Hilton Head after a pleasant voyage, we were informed that the Agent of the Sanitary Commission from Savannah had gone to Beaufort for supplies, consequently not thinking it necessary to stop, we took steamer the same evening for Savannah and arrived here on the morning of the last day of the departing year. We learned that Mr. Hoblit, the Sanitary Agent with Sherman's Army, had gone to Beaufort.

Anxious inquiries were daily made by Surgeons, other officers and patients for sanitary goods. The men coming from their six weeks campaign, with no changes of garments, were in a sad condition, and deprived of the luxuries that had strewn their path through Georgia, and on short allowance of hard bread and pork, they longed for the help your Society would joyfully have given.

Mrs. P. was ready to fly to Beaufort for

them, but waited, believing that Mr. H. would soon arrive with them.*

At length a vessel with 400 packages of sanitary goods was announced by the Medical Director, as being at Thunderbolt Bay, four miles off. Still we could not answer the earnest question, "When will those treasures be here?" or meet the wants of our emaciated patients, fearing some would die for want of suitable nourishment. We could get some poor oysters in the shell, and had a few cakes of chocolate. With these Mrs. Porter comforted many. One noble dying soldier said the first day of our arrival, with eyes swimming with tears, "Oh, it does me so much good to see a lady here!" In two days he died, sustained by a joyful, Christian hope. His last words, as he threw his arms around his kind nurse were, "John, I love you." There was a great rush to Mr. Hoblit's rooms, when at length his goods were opened, and every hospital and every patient was made a joyful participant of those luxuries and absolute necessaries. Never were sanitary stores *so fully appreciated;* though happily we had not the wounded from the sanguinary field, as the conquest of Savannah had been almost bloodless. While the prisoners taken here in their Rebel hospital, were lying on soft mattresses and in clean sheets and bed garments, ours were lying on floors, in their war-worn field garments, and the contrast was painful. Many of those prisoners were not over fifteen, and had been conscripted, who said, "If we can get home we will never take arms against the United States Government again." They testified that our authorities were feeding them well on substantial food, though some, as our own soldiers, longed for some of the Sanitary delicacies.

Our good friend, Mr. Hoblit, informs us that with General Sherman's approbation, a ship is appropriated to bring stores from your Commission, and that he is daily looking for a load from Beaufort.* I trust we shall not be disappointed.

Mrs. P. is working for the present under great disadvantages, cooking farina, corn starch, &c., and making tea over a wood fire of green pine and using emptied cans for cooking utensils, as we are too tender-hearted to take from these Rebel dwellings stoves and all needed kitchen furniture; while our northern friends are generously shipping food for these same Rebels. Forgive us this wrong. It is difficult under such circumstances, to be angry and sin not.

The Surgeon-in-charge of this hospital has sent to Beaufort for medical stores, a cooking stove and kitchen furniture; if it comes we shall be greatly comforted.

Thanking you in behalf of our gallant Army, for all you have been able to do for it and for us personally,

I am truly yours,

JEREMIAH PORTER,
Chap. 15 A. C., Hospital, Savannah, Geo.

* This delay was caused by the difficulty in securing transportation.

AN AXE TO GRIND.

A man who continually and loudly boasts of his piety or his orthodoxy, generally has an axe to grind. A man who in entering upon a business already successfully carried on by some one else aspires to become a rival of that some one, and who in an orthodox community constantly seeks to make the impression that said some one is an "infidel," very apparently wants that orthodox community to grind his axe.

The allegation has been, and is being made in many localities that the Sanitary Commission is an "infidel concern," and orthodox pastors and people are warned against supporting it there-because. Upon investigation it appears that friends of the Christian Commission, and, in some cases, agents of that organization have started this scandal. Of course we cannot suppose that the Christian Commission have authorized or could authorize such a procedure; first, because those gentlemen know that the Sanitary Commission is not an "infidel concern," and know that its work of feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick, and comforting the prisoner, is a work of genuine christian mercy; second, because they know that the circulation of such a report is unchristian; and third, because it is very bad policy. Our remarks are not intended for them; but they are intended for individuals who, either wholly ignorant of the matter of which they affirm, or, affirming against knowledge, so far depart from the precepts of Christ, and all the usages of honorable men, as to resort to the bad expedient of starting rumors which can only injure one good and christian cause, without ultimating in the permanent advantage of that which they uphold.

The Sanitary Commission has always extended cordiality and sympathy to the Christian Commission in its proper work,

and has furnished its agents with supplies upon many a battle-field. It is not the purpose of these remarks to express any diminution of that sympathy. Neither is it their purpose to allow designing men to go scot free, who, wearing the garb of the Christian Commission as a guise, seek to aggrandize their own sectarianism by slandering the greatest relief association known to the military history of any nation, and one whose very deeds constitute the impossibility of its being "infidel," or opposed to His teachings who said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

TO SURGEONS.

A Comprehensive Medical Dictionary, containing the Pronunciation, Etymology and Signification of the terms made use of in Medicine and the kindred Sciences, etc., etc. By J. THOMAS, M.D. J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1864, pp. 700.

A pretty thorough examination of this work has satisfied us that it will fulfil the expectations which its title justifies. It emphatically deserves the name of Comprehensive, for though of moderate size, it is full and complete, not only in regard to strictly medical words, but includes those occurring in collateral sciences. To the botanical student in particular, it must prove most acceptable, giving both the definition pronunciation (the latter to be found in no other book,) of all the most important botanical terms, and laying down clearly the principles which should guide us in writing and speaking.

These are explained in an Appendix, pp. 677 to 680, which also contains a valuable table of Materica Medica, a very complete table of doses evidently prepared with the greatest care; also full and explicit directions for writing Latin prescriptions, besides an admirable chapter, giving the explanations of Latin terms and phrases occurring in Anatomy, Pharmacy, &c. This is one of the most important features of the work, and must prove invaluable to those whose misfortune it is to be wholly unacquainted with Latin and Greek, and to those also whose knowledge of these tongues is imperfect, either from defective instruction or from having become rusty by disuse.

In short, we can recommend this work as one of the best, if not the very best of Medical Dictionaries, in the important feature of pronunciation without a rival, and from its comprehensiveness, the fullness, clearness and conciseness of its explanations, and its general adaptation to the needs of the Physician, Medical Student and Pharmaceutist, calculated to be of great utility to all who avail themselves of it.

FROM ANNAPOLIS.

Incidents taken from the Report of J. B. ABBOTT, *Washington, D. C., showing how the Sanitary Commission treats the friends of Soldiers.*

1. H * * * A. B * * *, Co. E, 1st R. I. Light Art, discharged by special order, by reason of being a minor, at the request of his father, the boy having enlisted without his cosent. No pay or allowance were given him, he was without money, was referred to the Commission for means to get home to North Scituate, R. I. Gave him a ticket to Providence, R. I.

2. Mrs. L * * * R * * * came from New York to Washington to look up her husband; has not heard from him since the battle of Gettysburg; no records can be found concerning him since then; the supposition is that he is dead. Mr. Forbes has ventured to make out her application for his pay, bounty and pension. She has been stopping at the Home for the Friendless for the last two months; desires to return to her friends in New York, but has not the means to get there. Gave her a ticket.

3. W * * * K * * *, a soldier's father. He came to Washington to look for his son, upon whom he is dependant, and from whom he has received no tidings for a long time. He was a member of the 51st N. Y. Vols. His father could find no record of him; has arranged with Mr. Bowne to ascertain, if possible, whether he is living or dead. He has no means to return home, resides at Fraimingham, Mass.; is very old and feeble, and much broken down with age, being 77 years old. Gave him a ticket to Boston. He was exceedingly grateful to the Commission for the kind considerations he had received.

Camp Parole Hospital, Jan. 20, 1865, *by* MISSES A. CARY AND S. L. PHILLIPS.

A pleasant and most welcome variety is at length presented in our daily rounds, by the very unusual number of *vacant beds;* the occupants having, in a majority of cases, left for the distant homes, that have so long mourned their absence, and many others

having become so far convalescent, as to anticipate a speedy reunion with the far-off loved ones, while yet another class, happily few in numbers, have been borne to the soldier's grave. Sabbath morning dawned on the lifeless forms of two new victims. One young man had died very suddenly in *camp*. Another had lingered many days, while the anxious mother having been summoned, watches sadly and wearily, the sure approach of the dread *messenger*, who has accomplished his mission, and in sorrow, she returns with the precious relics to that bereaved home to which she had fondly hoped to bring again *with joy*, the cherished son and brother.

On Monday morning comes again, from two other wards, the too familiar message, that another, and yet another has slept his last long sleep. One of these had been brought in a few days since in a state of wild delirium. During a brief lucid interval, the thoughts revert to the dear ones at home and the anxious desire is expressed that some one will *write* to apprize them of his critical state, for he fears he cannot recover. To the question, whether living or dying, all will not be *well*, with an averted face and difficult articulation, he murmurs something of the *six little ones* who will become orphaned. Soon, reason is again dethroned, and before another mail a postscript must be added to announce to another stricken household, that the husband and father can return to them no more. A few others still remain, on whom death seems to have set his mark, yet among the *convalescents* are those who have been raised from the very brink of *the dark river*. Such an one who struggled for days apparently, with the king of terrors, seems rapidly recovering, and recent letters from a devoted wife and loving daughter, show how valuable to them is the life thus graciously spared.

January 27, 1865.

Through the instrumentality of skillful physicians and faithful nurses, attended by the blessing of God, a large number of the returned *prisoners*, that recently crowded our wards, have so far recovered as to have left for their respective homes; some few still remain in a critical condition, while some of the *ward masters* and nurses, have been prostrated by violent attacks of fever. One of these has just expired, after a few days' illness. One only, of the other inmates has, during the week past, yielded up his life—a victim to disease contracted in prison, and he has left precious evidence that his afflictions resulting in the death of the body, have brought life and immortal glory to the *ransomed soul.* Many of the convalescents have recently received intelligence from home, the *first* in many months. To some, these welcome missives have brought tidings of health and prosperity from those anxiously awaiting their return; while others have learned that during the weary months of absence, their homes have been invaded by disease and death, and the father, mother, sisters or beloved children, have been removed; never more to greet them with *a welcome home.* One affectionate son is informed that his father, to whom a letter had been addressed since his release, had departed this life more than a year since. Letters received from the friends of deceased soldiers often give a sad interest and variety to our work. A few extracts from one just received, may serve as a specimen: "Your welcome and precious letter, my dear Miss P., was received a few days ago, and should have been answered immediately, but I was taken suddenly ill, and at this moment can scarcely guide my pen, but feel that I can wait no longer to express my unbounded gratitude to you for the interest you took in my darling H. I thank God, that after months of untold suffering, he should at last have fallen into kind hands, where kind words reached his dying ear. You took my place by his dying cot. May the Saviour ever be near to support and comfort you and others who have cared for our dear son. Could you know the comfort your dear letter affords me, as I read it over and over again, you would feel repaid. The assurance that he had, as you trust, given his heart to God has been the only consolation that has calmed my aching heart. I did not expect when my boys entered the army, that they would return to me unharmed, but I little dreamed that one of them would be *starved to death.* I saw him in his soldier's coffin before he was exchanged to another, and oh! what a change since he left me full of life and health, saying: 'If I die mother, it will be glory, glory to die for my country.'"

From Camp Parole, Jannary 28, 1865, *by* GEO. A. MILLER.

I herewith most respectfully present my report for the week ending this day.

The weather has been extremely cold,

and we are importuned many times every day for *woollen under-clothes* and blankets. It is hard to refuse the poor fellows, yet I have felt it my duty to do so, in a large majority of cases. They are men lately returned from furlough, right from home and friends, and ought not to come destitute. They went from here well clad, having a change of under-clothing, over-coat, blanket, &c. Many of them left these things at home, thinking to draw from the Commission all necessary articles. When convinced that such is the case, I find it difficult to hear the voice of *duty* say "give."

Thursday evening an effort was made to revive the "Military Temperance Society of Camp Parole." About thirty signed the pledge. I would that not only all *soldiers*, but all the *officers*, both in Camp Parole and in the army everywhere would both *sign* and KEEP a temperance pledge.

The "Soldier's Friend" is received, with many thanks, and is *valued highly*, as it well may be.

I have the honor to forward to you the report from the hospital, which, as usual, is full of interest.

Letter from Annapolis, January 28, 1865, *by* E. C. GUILD.

I have the honor to submit herewith my report for the week ending this day.

On Sunday, the 22d inst., I had the pleasure of preaching, by invitation of Chaplain J. P. Hammond, in the Chapel of St. John's College Hospital. Service is conducted here after the manner of the Episcopal Church, and the beautiful psalms and prayers of the Liturgy never seemed to me more full of strength and comfort.

During the early part of the week, I was chiefly occupied with letters of inquiry, but found the search almost fruitless. Many men have been sent away during the week from both hospitals, discharged, on furlough, sent to the front, or transferred to Northern hospitals. A large number of the sick going North were delayed by the ice between Annapolis and Baltimore, and the surgeon in charge of the transport, tells me he was greatly helped by the supplies of stimulants with which we had furnished him. The number of paroled prisoners in the hospitals being so small, I have refrained during the latter part of the week, from making any inquiries, in the hope that a few days would bring us the first instalment of a new exchange, from whom I might have a better chance of getting news. But our hopes in this respect have been again and again disappointed. A few more escaped men, not more than twelve or fifteen, have arrived, that is all. On Thursday, 26th inst., owing to the quantity of ice in the river, a hospital boat from City Point put in here, and the men, about 300 in number, were admitted into the Naval School Hospital. Some very sick ones were among the number, but most of them were chronic cases, on their way to Northern Hospitals, and will probably remain here but a short time. Another most welcome accession was received at the Naval School Hospital, 150 men of the Invalid Corps, as nurses and hospital attendants. Permanent assistants of this sort have been greatly needed, and it is hoped that the want is now well supplied.

On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, in consequence of the blocking up of the approaches to Washington and Baltimore by the ice, the boats from Norfolk and City Point, bringing passengers to these places were obliged to send them here. Large numbers of soldiers discharged, or going home on furlough, were therefore poured in upon us, and the means of transportation by rail from this place being limited, many were delayed for hours, and some compelled to pass the night here. Having no facilities for issuing food to such large numbers, and no sufficient supplies, we were obliged to content ourselves with doing what we could, we distributed several barrels of crackers which were gratefully received. A good many applications for clothing also, we were able to fill, but the draft upon our stores has nearly exhausted them. Where any were obliged to remain for the night we were permitted to refer them to Captain Davis, the commanding officer of College Green Barracks, a most faithful officer, and a generous and noble-hearted man. Though unable to draw rations for so large a number of stragglers and unexpected applicants, he gave them what he had. We furnished him with a barrel of crackers, and a barrel of dried apples, which he tells me proved acceptable to the men, and they found comfortable lodgings there. At the office we have been able to assist the men in many little ways hardly deserving mention, yet greatly contributing to their comfort; giving them information about their transportation, and opportunity to sign their papers, supplying them with writing materials, &c. In this way we have tried so far as our oppor-

tunities allowed, to meet their unexpected call, and diminish the discomforts of those who have been delayed here in so unusual a manner.

Report from MRS. HOPE SAYRES, *Matron of Home, Annapolis, Jan.* 28, 1865.

I herewith respectfully submit the following as my report for the week ending January 28, 1865.

Meals furnished, 283; lodgings, 70. The "Home" has been unusually free of company this past week, as most of the soldiers have had furloughs, and have gone home. I presume our "Home" will soon be filled to its utmost, as three hundred poor sick and wounded boys have just arrived from Fort Fisher. Many letters of invitation will soon reach their homes, and loved ones will come with anxious hearts to meet their dear ones wounded and sick, having left home and friends to go forth to do battle. One lady came this week and found her husband had died. She expressed much gratitude to the Sanitary for providing such a home where she could come and find sympathizing friends. Hoping I shall have more of interest for my next.

BACK PAY—BOUNTIES AND PENSIONS.

We call attention to the notice of the "Relief Department," which is found among the advertisements in each number of the BULLETIN. Many soldier's widows, and all friends of the soldier will be interested to know what this advertisement announces. In explanation of this subject, we present the following article from the Washington *Chronicle:*

There are various departments of charitable labor in the Sanitary Commission, growing out of the necessitous cases which are daily presented for its care and assistance, among which, probably, there is no branch that involves more judicious labor and persistent effort than that known as the back-pay department. Many are the cases which millitate against a soldier, and frequently prevent him for months, and in many cases for years, from obtaining his hard-earned pay. Among which may be enumerated the loss of his descriptive list without which he cannot obtain his pay. There were at one time in a certain hospital in Philadelphia, not less than 1,500 men in this condition. They had been wounded and were helpless, and, while in that condition, with their other effects had been taken from them their descriptive lists. While endeavoring to get certificates of loss, many of them were removed to other hospitals, where, when pay-day came around, they would be found among those not mustered for pay. Thus have some poor fellows been unable to muster for pay for nearly two years.

The duty of the officer in charge of this bureau of the Sanitary Commission is, to visit the hospitals and take the statements in full of all such cases; fill out blanks provided for the same; have the soldier's signature thereto attached, together with the certificate of the surgeon of the hospital where the soldier is, and the date when last paid, with the name of the paymaster by whom the payment was made; foward these documents, together with all the evidence which relates to the case, to the Second Auditor, thence to the Paymaster General, and thence back to the surgeon of the hospital where the soldier is, after all which he is mustered in and paid. This work was commenced in the special relief department, presided over by J. B. Abbott, Esq., a year ago last October, and was then confined to Washington; but in the spring of this year it was extended to Alexandria and Baltimore; in June still further to Philadelphia, and it is designed to have agencies of this kind in every city of ten thousand inhabitants. As an evidence of the labor done in this branch of special relief, it may be stated that over seven thousand cases have been disposed of since the creation of the bureau; eighty letters having been recently written in three days in connection with this business. This, it should be remembered, is the work of one desk in the office of the United States Sanitary Commission.

A DESERVED TESTIMONIAL.

THE LOYAL TEXAS WOMEN AND THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

The following beautiful letter needs no introduction:

NEW ORLEANS, LA., Jan. 1, 1865.

GEO. A. BLAKE, M. D.,
General Agent Sanitary Commission

SIR:—The loyal women of Texas who, by the exigencies of war, have been compelled to abandon their homes and property to take refuge in this (to them) strange city, though under the flag established by their fathers, cannot permit this day to pass with-

out tendering to you their heartfelt gratitude for the generous assistance rendered by the Sanitary Commission, at your instance, to them and their children. Allow us to assure you that such evidence of care and sympathy for us in our destitute condition touches the heart and rekindles our love and affection for the "Glorious Old Union," to sustain which the fathers, brothers and sons of numbers of us are now battling.

Accept for yourself, kind sir, and those in whom you feel the deepest interest the well wishes and prayers of

Yours, gratefully,

Eveline Savoi,	R. Watermann,
Cordelia Savoi,	M. Rennand,
Julien Hicks,	Louise Gemballa,
Eliza G. Hicks,	C. Blombeck,
E. Dekourison,	Corteina Moren,
Jane Rounds,	C. Gonzales,
Louisa James,	Mary Mandes,
Ann Lee,	H. Winters,
Mary Flinn,	Lina Fink,
Eliza J. Sterling,	Ann McCormac,
Nancy Sterry,	C. Petchke,
Jennie Duane,	Dina Gross,
Harriet Sterling,	A. Weinreich,
Rebecca Jambois,	Franziska Jegge,
Lizzie Duke,	Mary Pfefferle,
Martha Duke,	Mrs. Murray,
Lizzie Waterman,	Mrs. Steinburg,
Kate Holcehisen,	Mary Burns,
Jane Leonard,	A. Dreane.

WOMAN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF.

ORGANIZATION.—NO. VI.

With the present number of the Bulletin, there will be sent to each of our contributing societies, a copy of the "Soldier's Friend," a little book, published by the Sanitary Commission. It contains valuable, practical, condensed information about the Commission; also an excellent selection of familiar hymns and patriotic songs. You may have already seen a notice of this little manual in Bulletin, No. 30. Although prepared expressly for distribution among our soldiers and sailors, it contains so much valuable information for all, that we send you specimen copies, hoping that the book may thus be more widely circulated. Few will read it through without wishing to put a copy into the hands of every friend in the army and navy. We will furnish our contributing Aid Societies with as many copies without charge, as they think they may be able to dispose of. It is expected that they will be sold for fifteen cents a copy by the societies: the proceeds to be used in furnishing supplies for soldiers through the Sanitary Commission. Write to us for as many copies of the "Soldier's Friend" as you want. An account of the number sold will be required.

This week we propose saying something about organization,—about the organization of this Branch. It will be a dull chapter to many of you; but, if carefully studied, it will make the wheels of business run more smoothly in our future intercourse, and is therefore worth some attention. Perhaps too, our faith in your sympathy is strong enough to make us hope that you you may be as glad to know something about our daily work in these rooms, as we always are to hear about yours.

Among the many lessons which our work in this war has taught us, the value of organization and system has been one of the most prominent. Our eyes have been opened to its necessity as the work has gone on; and we firmly believe that the education of the women of this country, in the efficacy of systematic, concentrated effort, and in a willingness to do things according to rule and order, will not be among the least of the valuable experiences remaining to us at the close of the war. It has long been a settled fact that the spasmodic efforts of communities, made only after great battles, do not compare to the amount accomplished by a well-organized, steady-going Aid Society, either in the quantity, the quality, or the value of the supplies.

Nearly four years ago we began life as an association, in a little room in the second story of this building. The room contained two tables, one desk, half a dozen chairs, and a map on the wall. We had one man, who was, by turns, clerk, carpenter, porter and errand-boy. For many days we sent out circulars, wrote letters, looked out of the windows at passing regiments, talked about our work, at times hopefully, at times despairingly. At last, after what seemed a very long time, our first box came—from Orange, New Jersey. It was a great excitement. It was carefully carried up stairs, it was carefully opened, as carefully unpacked and examined. No box before, or since, ever underwent a closer scrutiny. We told everybody about that wonderful box, and were jubilant.

It would be too long a story to take you through the successive stages of our varied

experiences, from May, 1861 to January, 1865. We will only say that, before that first summer was half over, we were obliged to move down stairs, because the boxes wouldn't move up, and our little office, ever to be associated with the cherished memory of that first box, was passed over to the ladies of our Registration Committee, at that time engaged in training and sending off one hundred nurses for the Washington and Alexandria Hospitals.

That one little room has gradually expanded into an office, 97 feet long, running through the building from one street to the other; a large store-room next door to it; three lofts for storage across the street, and a cellar. The man-of-all work has multiplied himself into two clerks, three porters and an errand-boy. That one box stands on our books at the head of a list of over 17,000 boxes, and the one hundred letters, which seemed so many in those early days, are lost among the thousands that have succeeded them. And so we gradually found ourselves launched in an enormous business, of a character entirely without precedent; and of such a nature that but few of the ordinary, long-established business rules could be of any service to us. We had to feel our way very carefully. Without a certain amount of organization and system, we would have been completely overwhelmed, and lost in irresistible confusion. As it was, we were all very ignorant that first summer, and made blunders enough. But as the work gradually increased, and changed, we kept pace with it; learning from experience and daily requirement, until we have finally adopted our present plan of organization. This meets the demands made by the work upon us now, though how long it will do so, the future can alone determine.

The direct object of our association at present, is the collection and distribution of hospital supplies. To obtain these supplies, each branch is allowed to adopt its own policy and plan of work, but in their distribution the branches are all subject to the order, and are under the control of the Sanitary Commission. The policy of this branch has always been to give the people the fullest information about the work and the wants of the Commission; its plan is to help them in their work, so far as is possible, through organization, by practical suggestions, active sympathy and other means.

In this article we propose giving you an account of the *home* organization of our branch; the next number will contain an account of its *field* organization.

The Woman's Central Association is at present divided into four committees.

I. *Committee on Correspondence and diffusion of information, printed or otherwise.*—This long name is expressive of the entire work of the committee. It aims at obtaining supplies through the diffusion of information. The work is subdivided into five departments, viz.: Organization; Correspondence; Document; Lecturing; the Press. The first includes the organization of our field, the appointment of Associate Managers, making out working plans, &c., &c. The second comprises the Associate Manager correspondence, and all correspondence not appertaining to the other committees, or to the officers of the Association. Through the Document department, the BULLETIN and other publications of the Commission are distributed. The Lecturing department includes making out the tours, and sending into the field, those canvassing agents assigned to the branch by the Commission. These gentlemen are not engaged by us, but are appointed directly from the Commission. The Press department comprises publication, writing for newspapers, the BULLETIN, &c. The committee is much aided in its work by a corps of volunteer aids, young ladies, of this city, who do a great deal of clerk-work, such as directing wrappers, copying, &c.

II. *Purchasing Committee.*—It is the duty of this committee to make purchases of material at wholesale quantities and prices, and to furnish it, at the same price, but in small quantities, to the Aid Societies. It has lately been furnishing material to 250 societies, at the rate of $7,000 a month, according to the proposition contained in our Third Annual Report. Mrs. J. A. Swett is the chairman of the committee.

III. *Committee on Supplies.*—This committee receives, acknowledges, unpacks, stamps, sorts, repacks and distributes all the supplies sent through the Association. The distributions are made by order of the Commission, or upon requisitions of surgeons of the local hospitals, approved by the Commission. We have also one Hospital Visitor, a lady, who visits the hospitals in and near the city, and draws upon us for supplies for them. Every week an account of the stock in hand is sent to the Central office of the Commission. The supply com-

mittee is very much aided in its work by a large corps of volunteers aids. These ladies do all the unpacking, stamping and repacking of all but the cellar supplies. The handling of the boxes requires the hired labor of three porters. Miss Ellen Collins is the chairman of the supply committee.

IV. *Committee on Special Relief.*—This committee attends to the wants of individual soldiers, who apply at the rooms for aid. It relieves only such cases as are not already covered by existing associations in the city. Many of the applications are referred to the New England Rooms, or Howard Street Home, both of these institutions being entitled to call upon us for supplies. Those wanting aid in the collection of bounty, back-pay, pension, or in need of employment, are referred to the Protective War Claim, No. 35 Chambers Street, now an agency of the Commission. Other cases of destitution, not coming under any known form of relief established in the city, are investigated by the committee, and relieved. Mrs. W. P. Griffin is the chairman on stores.

It would greatly facilitate our work if our correspondents would be kind enough to address communications upon any of the above mentioned subjects, to the committee having them in charge.

The officers of the association are a President, Secretary and Treasurer, who perform the usual duties of their offices. A Board meeting is held on the first Wednesday of every month, at which the Treasurer and Chairmen of the several committees, present written reports, and other business of the Association is transacted. The Annual meeting is held on the first Wednesday in May.

And so we work along, pleasantly, smoothly and easily. We would like to hear that each one of your societies is working as smoothly and easily. Were your organization complete it would be so, and there is no reason why it should not be complete. But this whole subject of field organization, which more nearly affects you, must be left for the next number.

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER.
Chairman Committee on Correspondence, &c.
NEW YORK, *February* 4, 1865.

REPORT OF THE SOUTH NORWALK LADIES' PATRIOTIC SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR 1864.

At the close of the fourth year of the South Norwalk Ladies' Patriotic Society, we submit the following report of the operations of the Society, and of the work accomplished during the year—

No. of articles made and appropriated through the Sanitary Commission,	686
No. of articles given to soldiers at home,	24
Total,	710

The Society has also donated through the Commission, 5 gallons of blackberry wine, (the gift of Mr. Ira Seymour,) ½ bushel of dried apples, 5 lbs. of dried currants, 1 lb. of arrow root, 2 jars of blackberry jam, 1 bottle of vinegar, 4 books, and several packages of newspapers, lint and linen. The children of South Norwalk have contributed $20 to our fund, and have also pieced two quilts for hospital use.

The Treasurer's report from Jan 20th, 1864, to Jan. 25th, 1865, is as follows:

Cash receipts from donations, weekly collections, and entertainments,	$675 90

EXPENDITURES.

Donation to the Chr. Commission,	257 36
Paid to Sanitary Commission for flannel,	215 53
Current expenses of Society, which include donations to various special objects,	160 41
Cash on hand,	42 60
	675 90
Add to this the sum of allowed on the goods purchased of the Sanitary Commission and the total amount is	215 53
	$891 43

Our thanks are due to the Editors of the Gazette, for their kindness in publishing gratuitously, notices of concerts and entertainments given for the benefit of the Society. We are also especially indebted to those patriotic gentlemen of South Norwalk, who have aided us pecuniarily in the prosecution of our work.

The meetings of the Society are held weekly as heretofore, at the house of some member of the Society, and are sustained with undiminished interest. It is gratifying to be able to state that while the demand for practical sympathy on behalf of our suffering and imprisoned soldiers, is still great and pressing, there has never been a more earnest desire on the part of our patriotic citizens to meet that demand than at present. The Society has never

been more prosperous than during the past year; more work has been accomplished than in any previous year; the cash receipts show a considerable increase over former years; and we trust a spirit of patriotism is now aroused which will lead to renewed energy and effort in this "great good work," until the peace so long desired shall bless our land, and our efforts in behalf of the soldier shall be no longer needed.

By order of the President,

E. G. PLATT, *Sec. and Treas.*

Correspondence.

DR. BELLOWS AND * * * * *, SURGEONS AND THE PEOPLE'S STORES.

The name of the author of the letter to Dr. Bellows is prudently withheld from the public, but as it bears upon a subject of importance to the people, it is given, with the reply of Dr. B. in full.

REV. DR. BELLOWS,
President the United States Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR:—I write you as a friend of the United States Sanitary Commission; I have just been looking over the December 15th SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN, and have noticed the complaints there spoken of. I have been in the army as a Christian laborer, and have seen the working of the Commission, and am sorry to say there is ground for such complaint as "Clint" makes in his published letter, though he makes extravagant statements. Officers and surgeons do *eat* up and drink up and wear the good things of the Commission.

The soldiers know it, though they may not be able to give instances and facts. I saw considerable of it, know of one instance where the surgeon said his whole living did not cost him a cent, got it from the Sanitary Commission. I do not know but this is unavoidable, it surely is under the system of requisitions from officers and surgeons, it may be any way. Bad men fill these places, bad men get detailed as nurses to sick, and will put the delicacies and stimulants down their own neck, though the poor sick soldier die.

If some system could be adopted by which the stores of the Commission could be delivered directly by the agent to the soldier needing them, it would make the soldier feel that the Commission was not simply for the officers, as they now say

The Sanitary has done an untold amount of good, but I think the soldiers feel that some how the best part of the stores do not quite reach them.

I write to you as head of this noble institution, hoping some way may be devised to make the working of the Commission more perfect in this particular.

We have just closed a fair in our city from which the Commission will realize two or three thousand dollars.

DR. BELLOWS' REPLY.

823 BROADWAY, N. Y., *Jan.* 18, 1865.

DEAR SIR:—I thank you sincerely for your friendly letter. Candid and intelligent criticism of the work we are engaged in is always acceptable. I can assure you that whatever weakness or defects in our system there may be, we have always been and continue to be watchful to the utmost to prevent all avoidable waste or perversion. On the scale on which we work it is simply impossible to undertake as a rule, personal distribution of our stores. We *must* trust some class of persons, and the class we have to trust is that of surgeons, hospital stewards and ward masters. If *they* are scoundrels and liars, we cannot be responsible for their stealing and gluttony, but we do not believe this is at all true of surgeons or ward masters, or officers as a class, the same percentage of knaves and gluttons exist among them as in civil life, and the Sanitary Commission suffers a certain incurable loss through their crimes.

Our full conviction after collecting testimony in all quarters, is that certainly *nine-tenths* of all we send to the army goes to the comfort of the private soldiers, indeed we *know* this. It is only by generalizing from some unfortunate exceptional experience that these sweeping conclusions to the contrary are arrived at—the single facts are true often when the general deductions are very false.

You had had, you say, personal experience of the wicked misappropriation of our stores. Now, is it not your duty to inform us specifically of the name of the surgeon who infamously boasted that he lived wholly on Sanitary Commission stores, or any other specific cases of abuse of our property? It is only by following up such alleged cases that we are able to detect any inefficiency or carelessness in our own agents. Convinced of your genuine interest, you will greatly add to the favor already rendered, by troubling yourself to give us particular in-

stances of abuse or waste, with names and places. *We never omit examining into every specified case of abuse.* I know the pain and annoyance of making personal charges, but if honest men refuse to lend in this aid, if all decline as you may feel inclined to do, to appear as accusers, what relief have we from our dilemma? How can we correct abuses which we cannot get any exact evidence of the existence of?, How can we profit by general criticism without specifications of persons, time and place?

We have in the army of General Grant, thirty agents engaged in the personal delivery of our supplies, after the fashion you suggest, but we are really doubtful of its expediency, and it would be impossible to carry it out on a general scale in all the columns of the army. The expense would be greater than the cost of the goods, lost by the want of the itermediary agents.

With the fullest appreciation of your kindness, I remain yours truly,

HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President.

REPORT OF R. M. LEWIS, ESQ., STPERINTENDENT OF PHILADELPHIA BRANCH OF U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

We regret that our space will not admit of the insertion of this valuable report in full.

The following extracts, however, are full of interest, not only to those immediately concerned in the Philadelphia Branch, but all who are interested in the work will be profited by their perusal.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Executive Committee of the Women's Pennsylvania Branch, having charge of the supply department, has, during the past year, retained nearly its original organization. The resignation of their corresponding secretary having rendered some action necessary to fill so important a vacancy, it was deemed expedient to place the whole correspondence in the hands of a competent Committee, among whom the work is systematically divided. Associate managers have been appointed in nearly every county in this department, which includes forty-nine counties of Pennsylvania, the southern part of New Jersey, and the State of Delaware. Fifty-four associate managers in all. It is believed that the present plan of thoroughly cultivating the field by corresponding with the people, as well as sending canvassing agents among them, will yield a rich harvest of comfort for the sick and wounded soldiers of the Union. The Committee report that while the long continuance of the war has, of course, caused the faith and zeal of some to wax cold, yet on the whole there has been a steady growth of energetic liberality, as is evinced by the supplies contributed. This department numbers three hundred and fifty auxiliary societies, besides a considerable number of individual contributors, who send boxes with almost the frequency observed by active societies. During the year, twenty-one hundred and ninety-nine boxes and packages, valued at about one hundred and ten thousand dollars, have been received at the rooms. Eight hundred and seventy-five boxes have been dispatched to various points where they were needed, besides an enormous aggregate of issues for the relief of individual soldiers applying at the rooms of the Commission. Large supplies have also been sent to the various hospitals in this military department.

At the time the Great Central Fair was held, it was feared that the extraordinary efforts then being made by our societies would so exhaust their resources that but little could be expected from them for a long time. The result has not justified this apprehension; for while there was but a temporary falling off of the receipts, the wide-spread interest excited by the Fair in the work of the Sanitary Commission, has stimulated the efforts of many who before had done little or nothing for its support.

The list of issues, which will be found subjoined, includes those of the Women's Pennsylvania Branch for the year 1864.

RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

During the year just passed, relief of various kinds has been afforded to more than six hundred families of soldiers by the Committee.

Steady employment is given weekly to two hundred and eighty women. The remuneration for this work (though not in any case sufficient for the support of a family) is ample, and more than twice as much as is paid for the same amount of work by the Government.

The Committee have had made for the Sanitary Commission between eight and nine thousand garments; they have, besides, taken work from contractors, for which they receive one-half the amount paid to their

workmen. Sixteen thousand and ninety-one garments have been made in this way, and the work is largely sought by many a soldier's wife and widow. These women are visited and cared for in divers ways by the ladies who have them in charge.

The funds to carry on the work of the Committee are contributed by generous friends. These sums are acknowledged, from time to time, in the printed reports of the Committee. During the year 1864, eleven thousand nine hundred and fifty dollars have been received from various sources.

A large part of this amount is in monthly subscriptions, conveyed to the Committee through Mr. A. D. Jessup.

The only regret the Committee ever feel is, that they cannot relieve all the want which comes to their notice.

Last year, much comfort was given by the donation of half a ton of coal to each family. This year the amount of coal contributed for this purpose is ten tons, which the Committee have received through Mr. J. J. Borie, and which will be distributed to the most destitute.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

During the year just closed, the Hospital Directory has continued its work and greatly extended its sphere of usefulness. It is, indeed, difficult to estimate the amount of anxiety and distress relieved through its instrumentality. Most of those who apply for information of their friends and relatives in the Army and Navy seem to be entirely ignorant how to commence the search. Many, too, are constantly calling for advice, who, having exhausted every other source, apply to the Sanitary Commission. In giving an answer to an inquiry as to the whereabouts of a soldier, not only the inquirer's mind is relieved, but frequently a large circle of friends also. Numerous letters have been received at our office during the year expressing the utmost satisfaction at the answers we have been enabled to furnish. In some cases we have succeeded in ascertaining that men were alive, and in rebel hands, whose families had given them up for lost months before.*

When it is considered that this work is done at a cost of only one dollar and fifty-five cents for each successful answer, it will be readily admitted that nothing which the Commission has undertaken has been more satisfactory in its results. It will be observed that in seventy-seven out of every hundred inquiries we have been enabled to obtain information. As very many never apply at our rooms until they have failed in every effort of their own, it is thought that the proportion of answers given is fully as large as could be expected.

In addition to the regular inquiries of the Directory, we are constantly called upon for advice and assistance of a miscellaneous character, such as the best and cheapest mode of procuring the bodies of deceased soldiers from the army, the means of communicating with those in hospitals at distant points, the method of obtaining passes, the means to be used in securing the effects of men who die in the service, and of writing letters to prisoners, &c. On all these points we keep ourselves thoroughly advised, so as to be able to make the proper answers. It is estimated that not less than fifty weekly, or twenty-six hundred persons during the year, have sought and received information of this nature.

At the present time we have on our books 75,830 names, 47,987 of which have been added during the year.

PROTECTIVE WAR CLAIM AND PENSION AGENCY.

Five classes of claims are now prosecuted by this Agency, viz.: claims for pensions on behalf of disabled soldiers and the relatives of deceased soldiers; for bounty and back-pay due the estates of deceased soldiers; for pay of prisoners-of-war; for pay of soldiers discharged with defective final papers; and for prize money of seamen. Although the prosecution of two classes at least of these claims was not contemplated when the Agency was established, they came so entirely within the relief designed to be afforded that they could not be rejected without manifest inconsistency.

The table accompanying this report will show that since the Agency was organized, in May, 1863, 4,355 claims have been received for collection. Of these, there have been settled 731 claims for pension, 594 claims for bounty and back-pay, amounting in value to $72,067'50; 182 claims for pay

* A Captain in our Army had been missing for nearly a year, and his family had abandoned all hopes of his being alive. His mother, after searching in vain in every other quarter, appealed to the Sanitary Commission. The officer in charge of the Directory applied for information to a released prisoner just returned from "the Libby," and then at our rooms. That gentleman at once declared that the long-lost son had been confined with him for months in the Libby, and was removed to Andersonville on the day of his exchange.

applied for by the families of prisoners-of-war amounting to $21,363 64; and 52 claims for prize money, amounting to $1,992 26. The total amount thus collected in cash, and paid to claimants, or held subject to their order, is $95,423 40. To this must be added the sums paid to this date upon the certificates of pension, which, at the lowest estimate, cannot be less than $41,712 00, showing a total sum realized for applicants of at least $137,135 40, without the expense of one dollar to the claimants.

Objection has been taken to the work of this branch of the Commission that it is not strictly charitable, because it makes no distinction in the circumstances of claimants. Such a discrimination, however, even if it were practicable, could not fail to result in embarrassment. A careful observation of the cases presented during the year shows the practical uselessness of the policy by disclosing the fact that of the whole number of claimants the circumstances of at least three-fourths are but a step removed from actual poverty.

The delay in the settlement of claims, so familiar to all who have frequent dealings with Government, needs a word of explanation. The pay-rolls upon which the claims of deceased soldiers are settled by the Second Auditor of the Treasury Department are frequently not accessible to that officer until several months have elapsed after the death of the soldier. These rolls, as well as the proof submitted by the legal representatives of the deceased, must be carefully examined and submitted for approval to the Second Comptroller before any claim can be settled. The result is that an interval often exceeding a year intervenes between the filing and the final adjustment of a claim for arrears of pay. In applications for pension the delay, although not usually so great, is still very considerable. Owing to the numerous attempts at fraud in the presentation of unworthy or fictitious claims, the rules of proof insisted upon by the Department have been gradually rendered more stringent. The disability or death of the soldier is required in every case to be distinctly shown as having occurred in the line of military duty, and as incident to the service. In at least three-fourths of the whole number of cases the Company records fail to throw sufficient light upon these points, and the party, or his attorney, is called upon to furnish the requisite proof. Where the claimant is the widow of a soldier, her marriage must be shown, if possible, by a sworn copy of the church, or other public record of the marriage, and no other proof will be admitted unless the absence of such record is clearly established. Where the claimants are minors, a guardian must be appointed by Court, and the exact ages of the children and the marriage of their parents must be shown, if possible, by record evidence. Where the claimant is a mother, she must establish the fact of her dependence for support upon her deceased son by proof of the sums actually contributed by him, and for what, in general, they were appropriated. The witnesses called to testify in any claim must be disinterested, and, if possible, not near relatives of the claimant. This rule, of course, excludes at once a large number of persons from testifying, with whom the knowledge of these facts peculiarly lies, and increases in the same proportion the difficulty of establishing the claim.

It would be easy perhaps to add a feature of interest to this report by citing examples of the operation of this branch of the Commission in individual cases. These comprise frequently the most afflicting exhibitions of utter poverty and hopelessness. In repeated instances a home has been kept to the families of soldiers by the trifling loans which have been advanced upon claims in course of settlement. During the present month a certificate of pension in favor of a soldier discharged for consumption contracted in the service was reeeived upon the day of his death. His wife called to say that she had no means with which to defrey the expenses of his burial. Fortunately the arrears upon the pension proved to be considerable, and were promptly paid by the Government pension agent.

But it is believed that the character of the work, as one of benevolence, is sufficiently indicated in the tables accompanying this report. The large and rapid growth, which, with little aid from the public press, the work has attained, shows the estimation in which it is held, and the ease with which it may be still further enlarged. Probably in no branch of the Commission are the benefits resulting from its labors so direct and so encouraging.

SPECIAL RELIEF.

At the date of our last report, the Special Relief Department in Philadelphia had just been reorganized. Sufficient time had not

then elapsed to test its practical working. The results of more than a year's experience is now sufficient to convince us, not only of its immense benefit to our hospitals and men, but also of the economical results of the plan adopted. Colonel Soest, our Special Relief Agent, visits one or other of our hospitals daily, keeping himself thoroughly advised of their requirements. He is prepared at all times to render such assistance as falls within the scope of the Sanitary Commission. When requisitions are made upon us, Colonel Soest, by personal inspection, ascertains whether the articles demanded are really needed or not. Thus a constant check is maintained to secure the economical distribution of the supplies entrusted to our care.

Perhaps the most important portion of our Special Relief work is the looking after the comfort of individual soldiers, those in the service as well as those discharged. Any one familiar with the subject knows how many and various are the wants of the soldier which the Government cannot reasonably be expected to care for. There are at our rooms daily: men without descriptive lists, men with their clothing accounts overdrawn, those discharged, or waiting to be discharged who have claims unsettled, those needing transportation, and those suffering from countless other causes. The case of each man is thoroughly investigated, whenever necessary he is visited, and such aid afforded as the circumstances require.

The applications have recently become so numerous that it has been found necessary to appoint an assistant to Colonel Soest. By this arrangement the latter is enabled to pass most of his time invisiting our hospitals.

During the year, 5,356 cases have received attention, as follows:

Number of issues of supplies made to general and volunteer hospitals and tfansports	464
Number of issues of supplies made to individual soldiers in the service	2,091
Number of issues of supplies made to discharged soldiers	1,210
Visits paid to hospitals	317
Visits paid to individuals	303
Referred to local relief associations	330
Transportation given or procured	375
Temporary subsistence given	139
Supplied with trusses, &c	6
Miscellaneos	121
	5,356

Value of supplies issued to general hospitals	$24,244 40
Value of supplies issued to volunteer hospitals, refreshment saloons, "home," &c., including Harrisburg Lodge	7,623 37
Value of supplies issued to transports, &c	1,120 50
Value of supplies issued to individual soldiers	20,777 35
	$53,765 62

It will be observed, on reference to the above statament, that supplies, amounting in value to $7,623 37, have been issued to the various volunteer organizations for the relief of soldiers in this department. In addition to this, the Executive Committee has appropriated $2,000 to the Citizens' Volunteer Hospital, $2,000 to the Cooper Shop Volunteer Refreshment Saloon, $2,000 to the Union Volunteer Refreshment Saloon, and $500 to the Soldiers' Home.

FROM FORT FISHER.

BY F. W. FOSTER.

January 20, 1865.

I have the honor to report that acting under orders from head quarters, I proceeded to Fort Fisher, with Sanitary supplies aboard the Steamer *Demolay* to Fortress Monroe, from that point aboard the Steamer *Atlantic*, to Fort Fisher.

A portion of my goods were landed in safety through the surf on the 13th, immediately following the troops, and a depot was established near General Terry's headquarters, near the beach.

The troops were all obliged to wade through the surf from the boats, and some were completely immersed in reaching the shore, so that I found it necessary to distribute dry shirts and drawers in some cases, which were gratefully received, and I have reason to believe, prevented much suffering, and probably sickness among the soldiers of General Terry's command.

For three days and nights the troops were exposed on the beach with little or no shelter, and with a limited amount of commissary stores. By great exertion I succeeded in getting a portion of my stores landed on the second day, and upon the request of different surgeons, was able to relieve many necessities, cases where diet, clothing, stimulus, &c., were called for.

The great demand for boats in landing the troops embarrassed me somewhat, but I finally succeeded in getting all my goods ashore before the assault on Fort Fisher began.

I chose a situation to co-operate with the surgeons and the hospital department, in relieving the wants of the wounded as they were brought in, and in distributing comfort to the sick.

I have found it necessary to practice the same careful scrutiny with issue of stimulus, food and clothing, which has been found so

useful in other departments, in nearly every case requiring the surgeon's written approval, and delivering the article to the needy person himself, who, unless sick or disabled was expected to present himself at the agency for the articles required, that is when the armies are settled in camp.

All wholesale demands from surgeons, chaplains and others, for regiments represented to be in need, I have carefully declined to fill, but have uniformly requested that the needy party be sent directly to me, with a note from the surgeon stating the wants, I am satisfied by this course that the goods distributed have been to the most pressing cases both among officers and men.

The wounded all received attention from some of the Sanitary Commission Agents, each one having his duty to perform.

On the 15th, at about four o'clock, as the wounded were coming in, we made hot milk punch and beef tea; soft crackers were given for them to eat. At this time no commissary stores were landed, so that all the wounded had at first was what we gave them.

A chest of tea was sent to the cook-ground, or place chosen for cooking. Oftentimes surgeons would call on us for crackers for the wounded, as they were without any. Rags, bandages, sponges, liquors, blankets, &c., &c., were in great demand. *We made over two hundred gallons of milk punch.*

The timely aid of the Commission seems to be appreciated by all that know the good derived therefrom.

My course has been approved by General Terry and Dr. Burnes, Medical Director of the Department, Dr. Buzzell, Medical Inspector, and other prudent and conscientious officers of different grades. I have received prompt assistance from General Terry, in receiving from him six colored men whom I used in getting and heating water for tea and milk punches, in making farina, &c.

Teams were always furnished me for transporting my stores.

A DREAM.

A letter of one of our agents, written home while on distant duty in the enemy's country, has fallen into our hands, and though it was intended for no eye but one, we have obtained permission to insert this extract in the BULLETIN. The letter reads;

I dreamed the other night of crossing over from a fort to the bank beyond the moat, on a fallen tree. The top of the tree began to settle as I got almost to the bank, and I began to sink down into the deep muddy ditch, and was just wavering between sinking into the moat and springing to the bank, when, without my looking up, I felt a little hand in mine giving the gentlest little pull, but steady and real, which lifted me right up to my feet; and on looking, there was our little, darling boy. It was so real that it woke me, and these are the thoughts it left with me.

"A LITTLE CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM."

A little child is leading me,
I feel his hand in mine;
I'm lead as one that cannot see—
His is a right divine.

He has a gentle, timid voice;
A form that's very frail;
A foot that hardly leaves a print;
A tender face, and pale.

And yet he has a certain power
To lead me where he will;
I hasten with his hast'ning steps,
And when he rests, I'm still.

He leads me on to holy thought,
To earnest prayer and love,
To where the heart by God is taught,
To where descends the Dove.

He leads me where the waters flow
That wash out stains of sin;
He leads my heart to seek to know
How Christ may enter in.

He leads me to my own sweet home,
And shows me there at rest,
My children and my wife, so dear,
And all I love the best.

He leads me on where children play
On banks of living green,
Where sunshine lingers all day long,
And angels' wings are seen.

He leads me thence to seek the Source
Of spirit, life and power;
To search the problem, never solved—
The soul's own natal hour!

To ask, How out of God we came?
How unto God we go?
How, 'tis in Him we live and move—
The Holy Spirit's flow.

'Tis thus a child is leading me,
His little hand in mine;
'Tis thus I'm led, that could not see;
'Tis thus his power's divine!

DR. HOWARD'S AMBULANCE.

Dr. Howard, late surgeon of the United States Army, has, after much thought and labor, constructed plans of an improved

ambulance, of which we gave a series of wood cuts in the last number of the BULLETIN, and not having the Doctor's text at hand, we inadvertantly attributed a measure of the credit of this very creditable work to the members of the Sanitary Commission, whom we know to have taken a deep interest in Dr. Howard's plan, but we take pleasure now in correcting the error by giving the full credit of the work to Dr. Howard, and calling attention to his own description of the improved ambulance, commencing on page 994 of our present issue.

ONE WEEK'S WORK AS HOSPITAL VISITOR.

BY J. B. HOLT.

Monday morning rode my horse to Alexandria, and spent the day at Louviture Hospital, visited each man confined to his bed, offering words of cheer, finding out their wants, and engaging to supply those wants as far as practicable. Took a number of cases for back-pay. The men were being paid off, and I received many a "God bless you" from those whose cases I had taken, and for whom that very efficient branch of the Commission, the Special Relief, had obtained certificates from the Paymaster General, so that some were receiving pay for fourteen months, others six, eight, ten and twelve.

Tuesday visited Falls Church Hospital, where I met the most grateful and happy man I have seen for many a day. His lower limbs have been paralyzed for five months, the only way he could be moved was to be carried about in the arms of the attendants. Last week the Sanitary Commission furnished him with a "Locomotive Chair," in which he can move about wherever he pleases in the lower part of the Hospital, and when spring comes can move out of doors.

Wednesday visited King Street Commissary and Quartermaster's hospitals. Took quite a number of cases for back-pay. Wrote out statements of two soldiers charged with desertion, who are believed by the surgeons to be innocent.

Thursday, visited St. Paul's Church, Grace Church, and Fort Lyon's hospitals, the latter some three miles from Alexandria.

Friday, visited Grosvenor House, Prince Street and Baptist Church hospitals. Have written to friends of soldiers, their officers, &c., on business connected with the Special Relief Department.

Saturday, (to-day) have visited Fort Williams Hospital, and the headquarters of the Brigade, Fort Ward Hospital; called at Fairfax Siminary, on request of Miss Woolsey; visited Abbott Hospital, and Invalid Corps Hospital, Freedmen's Village, forts Woodbury and Strong hospitals, at each of which there has been much improvement in the sanitary condition within a few weeks, and a general improvement of the patients.

I hear from surgeons in charge of hospitals, every day, remarks like the following: "What a grand institution the Sanitary Commission is." "What should we do were it not for the Sanitary?" "We could not get along without the aid of the Sanitary." All of which is encouraging.

LETTER FROM SURGEON MOORE OF SHERMAN'S ARMY.

DEAR SIR:—Your obliging letter, containing an offer of sanitary stores, was received yesterday. The articles of food and underclothing will be of great use to us here.

If one of your agents could be stationed here it would be a more convenient arrangement than having them at Beaufort. But our surgeons will have to go to Hilton Head for medical supplies, and when there, can easily go to Beaufort and bring down sanitary stores. No orders for these articles will be sent except by division or regimental surgeons. I hope soon to see a branch of your establishment at this place. With kind regards to yourself and the benevolent institution you represent, I remain,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. MOORE,
Surg. U. S. A., in charge Sherman's Army.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION IN THE SHENANDOAH.

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF MR. BATCHELDER.

There have been one hundred thousand soldiers' letters committed to our care, on about one-third of which we have paid the postage.

We have forwarded, in money, for soldiers forty-three thousand and seventy-five dollars, and returned receipts for the same. Fifty packages have been delivered to the express company, through our agency. The remains of about twenty-five soldiers have been sent to their friends.

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3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

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The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regi-

ment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary sócieties and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, State House, New Haven, Conn.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

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U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 46 Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

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U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.

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Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

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U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

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U. S. Sanitary Commission, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

EAST.

"Special Relief" Office, 76 Kingston Street, Boston, Mass.

"Special Relief" Office, 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

"Soldiers' Rest," Buffalo, Exchange street, opposite R. R. Depot.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C., where assistance is rendered in procuring Pay, Pensions, Bounty, Prize Money, and arrears of Pay and Bounty, and in various other ways.

"The Home," No. 374 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

WEST.

Soldiers' Home, No. 81 Jefferson avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Soldiers' Home, Third Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky., James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, New Albany, corner of Main and State Streets.

Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill., C. N. Shipman, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn., Captain I. Brayton, Sup't. Rev. J. Hoblit, Relief Agent

Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio, Col. Isaac Dalton, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio, Joseph Jerome, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn., C. W. Christy, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Camp Nelson, Ky., Thomas Butler, Superintendent.

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SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * *

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.
C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

No. 33. PHILADELPHIA, MARCH 1, 1865. No. 33.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 15,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No.* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

ACROSTIC.

BY MRS. DR. MACGOWAN.

T o pour in oil and wine—sustain the brave,
H elp the wan suff'rer, be he free or slave,
E rect we here an altar where we plead.

U nlock your purses for our armies need,
N oble the cause, Columbia's patriots cry,
I mplore our aid to save, nor let them die.
T hrough camp and field, mercy with angel wings,
E ach hand outstretched relief and succour brings,
D isease with languid eye not turned in vain,

S eizes the boon, and dreams of home again;
T read lightly, see a wounded one at rest,
A s breathing low he slumbers, and is blest.
T urn we again, the thickest of the fight,
E yes filming o'er in death, a ghastly sight;
S ee gentle hands wiping the pallid brow,

S ighing, and groans, exchanged for blessing now.
A nd you fair helpers in this work of love,
N ot seeking aught but recompense above;
I nspired by that which droppeth as from Heaven,
T he rich reward of doing good is given.
A h, when again sweet peace to us shall come,
R eturning, dove-like, to her exiled home,
Y our starry banner wave on every shore,

C ircling our Union in its folds once more.
O ur glorious country, freed from every ban,
M ajestic rise first in the nation's van;
M ay the oppressed in every land then see
I n our proud eagle symbol of the free;
S olace, and rest, and when we drop a tear,
S acred to those whose memories are dear;
I n grateful hearts and homes, remember well,
O ur liberties secured by those who fell,
N ow fold their banners o'er them—all is well.

DEFINITIONS.

Banquette, is the step or foot bank running along the inside of a parapet, sufficiently high to enable the musketeers to stand and fire over the crest of the parapet.

Barbette.—Guns are in barbette when they are elevated behind the parapet, so that instead of firing through embrasures they can be fired over the top. A much wider range is thus secured.

Barracks.—From the Spanish *barraca,* are lodging houses for troops. When complete they are sufficiently commodious for mess rooms, cooking houses, guard houses, magazines, &c.

Barricades, are temporary obstructions to the advance of a foe, they are sometimes hastily made of trees, earth, wagons, boxes, barrels, bales, bags, &c.

Bastion, is a huge mass of earth, usually faced with sods; sometimes with brick or stones, standing out from the angles of a fortified work, to protect the walls.

Batardeau, is a strong wall of masonry built across a ditch to sustain the pressure of the water, where one part is dry and the

other wet. To prevent its being used as a passage, it is built up to an angle at top, and armed with iron spikes.

Battalion.—An aggregation of two to ten companies of infantry.

Battery.—A battery consists of two or more pieces of artillery in the field. It also implies the emplacement of ordnance destined to act offensively or defensively. It also refers to the company charged with a certain number of pieces of ordnance. The ordnance constitutes the battery. Men serve the battery, horses drag it.

Battle.—Battles are either parallel or oblique, and they are strategic when, in consequence of a plan of campaign, they are fought upon a given and objective point, as the battles of Marengo or Austerlitz.

The following preparations for battle are usually made by great commanders: All disposable troops are held in hand; the readiness of the troops is ascertained by inspection of arms; proper nourishment is given to them before going into battle; the projects of the day are communicated from grade to grade; the points for the ambulanlances and caissons are indicated; the rendezvous for rallying or retreating are made known; measures are taken to secure the rear and communications, in order to retain the mastery of the base of operations; the army is ranged ordinarily in two lines, and the position of reserves given in the order of battle; the three arms are disposed according to the nature of the ground; decisive points are occupied; open or flanking batteries are established on proper elevations; the front and flanks of the army are furnished with artillery, in number, kind, and calibre according to circumstances. These are preparations for battle; the action commences ordinarily as follows: marksmen are thrown forward, sometimes acting in conjunction with artillery. Either the enemy shows an equal disposition to attack, or else one party insults the other to bring on a combat. When the advanced guards have felt each other, the army disposed to make battle begins or increases its cannonade, to constrain the adversary to deploy his masses, show his different arms, and thus make known the composition, number, importance, and the direction to be given to the adverse forces. The reserves remain stationary, while the cavalry, properly sheltered from fire, watch their opponents, and throw themselves upon weakened or staggered lines of infantry. When the affair has begun, and the positions and dispositions of the enemy are known, and the proper effect has been produced by firing, the infantry may march to the charge, with the arms at a carry or on the right shoulder, leaving to the instinct of the soldier the determination of the proper moment of bringing the musket to the position of charge bayonet.

Bayau, is a small trench, or branch of a trench, leading to a magazine or to any particular point. They are generally called bayaus of communication.

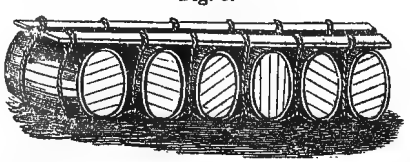
Breastwork, is a hastily constructed parapet not high enough to require a *banquette* or step behind it.

Bridge.—There are three kinds of military bridges. 1. Fixed bridges of timber. 2. Floating bridges. 3. Flying bridges.

Fixed bridge.—This may be built on piles or trestles, like any ordinary bridges.

Floating bridge.—Is generally adapted for the passage of troops over streams, and are supplied by pontoon trains, which accompany the army. Casks may be used to construct a bridge, and answer a very good purpose, as in fig. 3. Boats may be employed instead of casks.

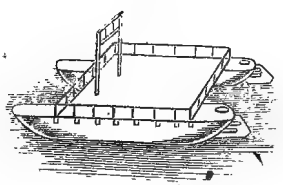
Fig. 3.



Flying bridge.—This consists of a large boat or raft firmly attached by a long cable

to a mooring in the center of the stream. It is made of two, three, or six boats, connected together and floored over, the beams being fastened to the gunwales of the boats with iron bolts, and the flooring planks nailed upon them. The most suitable boats are long, narrow, and deep, with nearly vertical sides, in order to offer greater resistance to the action of the current. A rope or cable is fastened to the upright standard on the floor, to the other end of which is on anchor, which is moored in the channel, if this is in the middle of the stream. If not, the anchor is placed a little on one side of it, toward the most distant shore. By means of a rudder the bridge is turned in such a direction, that it is struck obliquely by the current, and the force resulting from the decomposition of the action of the current makes it describe an arc of a circle around the anchor as a center; and this force acquires its maximum effect when the sides of the boats make an angle of about 55 degrees with the action of the current. See fig. 4.

Fig. 4.



A flying bridge may, in case of emergency, be made of any kind of boats, with the means of fixing rudders to them.

A most curious contrivance for crossing streams is found in what are known as *hide boats.* They are made of four buffalo hides, strongly sewed together with buffalo sinew, and stretched over a basket work of willow 8 feet long and 5 feet broad, with a rounded bow. To prevent leakage, the seams are covered with ashes and tallow, and exposed to the sun for some hours, when the skins contract and tighten the whole work. Such a boat, with four men in it, draws only four inches of water.

FROM CITY POINT.

BY J. H. DAVIS.

HEAD-QUARTERS FIELD RELIEF CORPS,
OF ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND,
PATRICK STATION, *Feb.* 6, 1865.

I sit down to write you a narrative of what has transpired during the last two days, which will be somewhat confused perhaps, and disconnected. Late Saturday evening the order came for two brigades of the 1st division and 2d and 3d division of the 2d Army Corps, to supply themselves with four days' rations, and to be in readiness to march at daylight. We accordingly prepared ourselves to go with them. At four in the morning of Sunday we roused ourselves and prepared our wagon for the march. Our battle stock came in very opportunely. We started the column about 7 o'clock, and soon made the picket line. The head of our advance had scarcely debouched from the vedette line, ere skirmishing began. The rebels contested every inch of the ground, and by noon we had only advanced to within five miles of "Hatcher's Run;" here the rebels had made a stand, but the cavalry flanked them out of their rifle-pits.

A BATTLE.

We laid in position the rest of the day, and until 3 o'clock our casualities were small——only about fifteen or twenty killed and wounded. About half-past four, Mahone's Corps of the Rebel Army, advanced on the troops of the 2d and 3d brigades of the 3d division, and 1st brigade of the 2d division, 2d corps, who were busily entrenching themselves about three-fourths of a mile north of "Hatcher's Run." The rebels came on in three lines of battle, with loud yells, and charged the line; but the vipers bit at a file, for most all the troops had perfected their breast-works. The rebels were repulsed with loss; nothing daunted by their first failure, they came on again and again, until they had made five distinct charges, but every time were signally repulsed. They finally retired with severe loss. Some estimate their loss at upwards of 500 killed and wounded. Our loss was slight. The 8th New Jersey and 120th New York, suffered the most; the 8th losing 42 killed and wounded—altogether, the division lost about 75. The 2d division lost about 60. The two corps remained in undisturbed possession of their works all night.

Being about five miles at the farthest

point of our line from the hospital, it was deemed expedient to send the wounded into the hospital, which was accordingly done. General Humphreys sent to us an order to go in, as in his opinion, we could do more good at the hospital; and as the night promised to be cold, he thought we would be more comfortable. Finding that we could be of little use at night we came into camp and unloaded..

I forgot to mention the fact, that Uncle John* and Mr. Riechenbach were with me, and performed much good service. To-day I went out again, but did not take the wagon. I filled my capacious saddle-bags with ginger, towels, stockings and matches, and mounting "Old Jeff," wended my way to the battle front.

HATCHER'S RUN.

On approaching "Hatcher's Run," I found the whole 5th corps laying around the old rebel line, which we had taken the day before. They had struck out from the ———, and having made a march of some 15 or 20 miles on the arc of a circle, found themselves on the left of the 2d corps, and in the rear of the cavalry division, who had struck out from the Jerusalem plank road, and made a raid on the Boynton road, running parallel with the South Side railroad, and had captured 27 wagons loaded with forage, besides a rebel colonel, major, and three first lieutenants, whom they brought in early this morning. The brigade of cavalry in the advance, about two miles above the "Run," were in great danger of being captured. While cooking their breakfast they were almost surrounded, and only got out of their position by hard fighting. I arrived on the ground about 9 o'clock, and found Agent Barton of the 5th corps with his wagon; he was with the corps all through their march, but up to that time, had not been able to do much for the wounded. All the morning our cavalry skirmished with the rebels, who proved to be Pegram's Division of Ewell's Corps, and Mahone's Division with part of Hokes. About 4 o'clock a brigade of cavalry were ordered to charge a rebel position to the left of our line, held by some dismounted rebel cavalry, among whom were the 13th Virginia; but the position being among pines, where horses could not go, and a brigade of infantry being found in support of them, we did not succeed in driving them. Here we captured the colors of the 57th North Carolina, and about 100 prisoners Soon after the 5th corps were ordered in, the 1st division leading, supported by the 2d and 3d, who forced the rebels back, and gained considerable ground. Your correspondent was on the battle-field, and made two narrow escapes from death by the rebel shells, while he stood up to the work, doing all he could in his power to relieve the wounded. The minnie balls came too provokingly close for comfort, but I entered into the excitement of the scene, and was almost unconscious of the fatal bullets, which struck men down all around me. Finally the storm of battle receded and we were left alone with the wounded and dying. I left the field about 5 o'clock, feeling that we had made a splendid advance towards the only railroad now in the possession of the rebels.

THE WOUNDED.

At the Run I found the 6th corps advancing to the support of the 5th. Since I turned my face homeward, I have learned that the 3d division of the 5th corps suffered a terrible loss. The rebels must have charged on that portion of the line, massing their troops for that purpose. We have just received news that the wounded are to be shipped at this station for the Point and are busy making arrangements to receive them; we have several pails of punch made, and shall keep up until they arrive, which will be about midnight. We are doing all that can be done under the circumstances. I shall go out again in the morning and will ascertain the situation.

I need more stock, as my men will be very busy and very tired from their labors; say 3 barrels crackers; 3 water pails, tin or wood; 3 cases milk; 100 shirts; 2 gross Jamaica Ginger; 100 pairs of drawers; 100 arm slings; 100 pairs of stockings; 2 dozen feeding cups; 2 cases soup, boulli; 1 case Sherry wine; 200 towels; 200 handkerchiefs; 100 lbs. chewing tobacco; 3 boxes of farina; 100 lbs. smoking tobacco; 50 lbs. sugar.

Send all the tobacco you can spare. This will do for both corps—Barton and myself.

I do not know of many officers killed or wounded.

Let me hear from you. Send out letters if there be any. I have been in the saddle for two days; that must be my excuse for

* Rev. John Vassar, one of our most efficient agents, universally known as "Uncle John."

not doing better in the story line. I am very tired and sleepy—12 o'clock.

HEAD-QUARTERS ACTING SUPT. FIELD RELIEF CORPS, OF ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND, *Feb.* 7, 1865.

I closed my letter of last night near midnight, with the pots filled, water on the fire and everything ready for the reception of the wounded. Finding that the ambulances did not arrive, I laid down and soon fell asleep. About 2 o'clock in the morning the first load arrived,—and such a load! The night was very cold, and towards morning it commenced snowing. The cars did not arrive in season to meet them; an ambulance train, it is said, was the cause of the delay. The men were unloaded upon the platform, and many died from sheer exposure. The scene upon and around the platform was one which appalled the stoutest heart. Men shot and suffering from every conceivable kind of wounds, groaned in their agony, or shouted in their frenzy,—bleeding, dying for their country. It was a night of horrors; men lay down and died without a struggle. One man is now lying dead on the end of the platform. Here the Commission came in and put in an unanswerable argument in its favor.

"UNCLE JOHN."

I must tell you how much we owe to Uncle John, (an agent,) who was here, there and everywhere, doing all he could to assist the suffering heroes. He was up all night, carrying out punch, which was dispensed freely to all. All our blankets came into requisition, for the men suffered intensely from the cold. Our stimulants and ginger relieved much suffering. It seems that the 3d division of the 5th corps advanced too far beyond the Run, and were flanked by the rebels; they trying to cut us off from retreating over the corduroy bridge over the Run. The rebels were in heavy force, and made a most desperate charge, closing in on the 3d brigade, and causing them to fall back. It is said that here the contest was fearful; the rebels attacking our men with the bayonet, and in many instances, clubbing them over the head with the stocks of their muskets; many of our men are wounded in this way. The 6th corps were then coming up to the support of the 5th, and a division was thrown across the Run to stop the triumphant career of the rebels. The rebels did not not succeed in gaining the bridge and cutting us off, or driving us into the Run, which is a nasty stream, not very wide nor deep, but impassable except by bridging. The rebels took some of our wounded prisoners. Notwithstanding all this our loss is not large. I have not visited the front to-day, owing to the storm and the duties of the hour.

I have been *punching* the wounded all morning, and have done much to relieve them. All the agents have done well, and the colored men have kept up all night without murmuring. The cavalry and the 5th corps have been at work skirmishing all day, and towards night the 3d division advanced, with what success I have not been able to learn. Picks and spades are coming up, which indicate a determination to hold the ground. I am looking for a big fight to morrow; if fair I shall pack my saddle-bags and go out early and find Barton; I have not heard from him to-day. The goods came up all right. If we have a fight to-morrow I will be on hand to see all that is going on. I am expecting on 150 more wounded to-night. I am prepared to receive them. Good night.

LETTER FROM A. M. SPERRY.

The statement annexed gives the amount of stores used by the members of the Auxiliary Corps during the past month, but does not represent the work done.

Our agents—about thirty in number—are constantly engaged in visiting the wards, making the rounds with the same regularity as the surgeons.

The clothing and miscellaneous articles mentioned on the return are *all* given to the men with our own hands, and so well is this work now systematized that we feel *sure* that it is wisely given. Every case in hospital is intimately known, and no clothing or other article likely to be misappropriated is given until the need of it is fully established. Experience has taught us the necessity of caution, because of a few unscrupulous men, who are always to be found ready to abuse even so pure a labor of love as ours. These men are few, but troublesome alike to surgeons and to us. Experience teaches also that hundreds of worthy men are always to be found deserving all and more than we can do for them. To these it is always a delight to minister.

Articles of diet go to the kitchens for preparation. The call for these will continue, since neither the medical supply list

always gives them nor will the hospital fund always justify their purchase. Our supplies of these, form a kind of *contingent fund*, on which a hospital can draw whenever necessary.

It will be observed that our issues of *liquors* are very small. They are smaller than the real good of the men demands. It is said the government supplies are ample. So they are for certain purposes and of certain articles, but it is a matter of commonest experience with us that more can be used with greater advantage. Any ward surgeon can at any time point out men who demand attentions and stimulants that he cannot give. Sometimes lives have been saved—often recovery has been hastened. Especially has this been true of *Blackberry Cordial.* Many men are well to-day who would have died without it In some hospitals it is regularly prescribed by the surgeons, and issued through the dispensary; and this systematic use of it is really the most successful.

So in the use of ale. Much good has been done by it, and cases are pointed out where its use revived powers of nutrition almost spent.

I need not go through the list. I would it were in our power to give more rather than less. The government does its duty well, but its duty is not ours. Kindly and skillfully it takes care of men in masses. *We* are to go beyond this and give time and care and love to each suffering man because of those at home who love them.

Tabular Statement of Issues from Auxiliary Relief Stations U. S. Sanitary Commission to the Armies before Richmond, for the month of January, 1865.

Shirts, woolen	2326	Dried Apples, bbls.	200
Shirts, cotton	72	Cloves, lbs	3¼
Drawers	1924	Nutmegs, lbs	2
Socks	2378	Mustard, lbs	32
Mittens	560	Soap, castile, lbs	51
Blankets	24	Thread, lbs	8
Towels	2033	Boiled Onions, cans	92
Handkerchiefs	1611	Apple Sance, cans	248
Pillow Ticks	24	Beef Soup, cans	42
Pillow Cases	36	Soup and Bouilli, cans	140
Sheets	30	Julienne Soup, cans	72
Flannel, yards	4	Blackberry Brandy, btls.	33
Wrappers	126	Blackberry Cordial, btls.	232
Milk, lbs	1754	Sherry Wine, btls.	93
Tomatoes, gallons	462	Ale, btls	590
Beef Stock, cans	240	Cherry Brandy, btls.	116
Roast Beef, lbs	240	Jamaica Ginger, btls.	563
Mutton, lbs	1802	Whiskey, btls.	12
Tobacco, lbs	3612	Lemon Syrup, btls.	80
Chocolate, lbs	243	Brandy, btls.	52
Dried Fruit, lbs	550	Flavoring Extract, btls.	429
Farina, lbs	324	Cider, btls	24
Gellatin, lbs	114	Cologne, btls	20
Sugar, lbs	340	Envelopes	24,016
Tea, lbs	30	Paper, reams	88½
Spices, lbs	33¾	Pencils, doz	76
Ground Ginger, lbs	5¼	Ink, btls	616
Maizena, lbs	428	Penholders	364
Crackers, bbls	44¼	Pens, gross	1
Spelling Books	370	Crutches, pairs	84
Matches, gross	174	Tin Cups	408
Pins, papers	188	Spoons	234
Needles, papers	160	Combs	3873
Darning Needles	24	Yeast Powders, boxes	100
Comfort Bags	50	Lemonade, cans	156
Pads	36	Pickles, gallons	146
Rags, bbls.	2½	Gerkins, box	1
Arm Slings	84	Chambers	13
Tin Pails	2		

Department of the South.

A TESTIMONIAL.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., *January* 21, 1865.

DR. GEO. A. BLAKE,
Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission.

SIR:—Before leaving the city, allow me to tender to you, and through you, to the Sanitary Commission, my sincere thanks for the many favors I have received at your hands, in the shape of diet and clothing, for the sick and disabled of the 1st Indiana Heavy Artillery.

I believe you to be true to the trust confided to you. Your activity and efficiency in responding to the many wants of our patriotic soldiers must command the respect and admiration of all who uphold the cause of our common country. I am sir,

Very respectfully,

W. L. SHEROD,
Surgeon 1st Indiana Heavy Artillery.

LETTER FROM WILLIAM R. MILLER.

EAST PASCAGOULA, *January* 28, 1865.

DR. GEO. A. BLAKE,
General Agent Sanitary Commission,
Department of the Gulf.

DEAR DR.:—I write you in the hurry of packing up, and of course, do not expect to present anything worthy of special notice. Confusion is at present the order of the day. Cavalry have all left;—several regiments of infantry have marching orders. I have been asked how long it will take to pack up; and on that hint, have everything packed, ready for a start. Fort Gaines is again to be my depot. I have received two consignments of goods—a large portion of which I have issued, and I am often cheered by the remarks from surgeons and men, "We did not know what the Sanitary Commission was until we met you." The kindest feelings exist between us. From commanding general to drummer-boy, I have all as my friends; and all are interested in the Sanitary Commission. I do not remember any period of my life in which I have realized as much pure pleasure as I have since my connection with the Commission. And now, on this day—which may be my last at Pascagoula,—I am just as happy and contented

as I desire to be; being convinced that this is not the proper base for operations against Mobile, and that the proper base has been found, and that Mobile will be ours just as soon as the troops could get there by this route.

Do not send me any more goods until you hear from me. My orders from the Medical Director are to have as much at Gaines as possible, but not to keep any here, more than sufficient for a few days. I have spent the week very profitably for myself and the men, but have no time to enter into particulars. Let it suffice that the command is in good health and spirits. Sick do not accumulate as I anticipated, and I am the more convinced that this is THE place for a General Hospital.

I enclose a letter sent to me a few days since—'tis not from a surgeon, but from one who has seen, perhaps, more of the advantages of the Sanitary Commission than any surgeon in the department. I receive and forward all such that come voluntarily without regard to the rank of the writer.

Dr. Udell, Iowa State Agent, is with me, and I shall send this by him.

Having no letter-paper with me, I am obliged to use note-paper, which you will please excuse.

LETTER FROM EDWARD HARMAR,

Acting Hospital Steward, Field Hospital, East Pascagoula, Miss.

FIELD HOSPITAL, EAST PASCAGOULA, MISS.
January, 22, 1865.

MR. W. R. MILLER,
Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR:—As I am about to leave the service, and return North to my home, I feel it my duty to express to you in a feeble way, my appreciation of the many and valuable services rendered to the sick and wounded soldiers of this department, by yourself individually, as well as by the Commission you represent. Having served as Actin Hospital Steward in the St. Louis General Hospital, at New Orleans, La., at the Post Hospital, at Fort Gaines, Ala., and at the Field Hospital, East Pascagoula, Miss., I have in each place witnessed your course of action, and am prepared to say that your smiling and cheerful face is always a welcome one to the soldiers, and that the personal services rendered by you are of incalculable value; at least equal in amount to the supplies which you have so liberally provided, and I am fully satisfied, many valuable lives have been saved thereby. It would give great pleasure to refer to some particular cases, but I find such a multitude, that it is utterly impossible to particularize. Suffice it to say that if all Sanitary Agents equal you in discrimination and zeal, thousands of families will have cause to say God bless the Sanitary Commission, and I assure you I shall make it a point, wherever I go, to urge upon all, liberal contributions to your funds.

FROM ANNAPOLIS.

BY E. C. GUILD.

ANNAPOLIS, *Feb.* 4, 1865

I have the honor to submit herewith my report for the week ending this day.

On Sunday, January 29, I had the pleasure, at the suggestion of Rev. J. M. Clark, agent of the U. S. Christian Commission, of preaching at the College Green barracks, under command of Captain Charles W. Davis. There were not many occupants of the barracks this day, but I had a most interesting and intelligent audience of about 30 men, mostly composed of those detailed for special duty, under the orders of Captain Davis. In the evening I attended service in the officer's hospital, of which Rev. D. O. Sloan is chaplain; a sort of family worship in one of the wards of the hospital, followed by an hour given to sacred music. I have also had the pleasure several times during the week, of joining in evening prayers, held every evening in the tent of Miss Hall, superintendent of lady nurses. These social religious observances have a most beautiful influence in uniting in the closest and truest fellowship all who are laboring here in the cause of Christ and of humanity.

On Sunday, and all through the week, we have been overrun with applications for every form of relief, by men delayed here by the ice, or passing through on their way to the front. It has been a pleasure to do all we could to supply their wants, but where the number of applicants is so large, it has been impossible to meet the demands of all. We have reason now to expect that in consequence of milder weather, and the opening of the rivers, this unusual drain upon our resources will come to an end; and we trust soon to be able to begin again our more accustomed work of ministering to the needs of our returned prisoners. Rumors are again afloat of a renewal of the exchange, and our hopes and prayers are earnest and

fervent that they may prove well founded, and be speedily followed by the actual arrival of the sufferers whose misery we long to alleviate.

LETTER FROM CAMP PAROLE HOSPITAL.

BY MISS S. L. PHILLIPS.

February 3, 1865.

One of the features now presented in our daily rounds—more prominent perhaps than any other—is the absence of familiar faces that we have been wont to meet daily for many weeks. While some have taken furloughs, some been discharged, a few transferred to hospitals nearer home, and three or four have received a final *transfer* to their *eternal homes*, the number of inmates remains nearly the same; as new cases of *fever* are brought in from the camp almost daily; and a majority of the attendants in the different wards now occupy the place of those whom their assiduity and vigilance have helped to restore to a degree of health; or their kindly offices had failed to snatch from the grasp of death, though they had spared no efforts to do so. *Epidemic fevers* continue to prevail; but only in one or two instances have they as yet terminated fatally.

Applications to your agency for supplies of clothing have been less frequent of late; while the demand for farina, crackers, baked apples, lemonade, etc., has increased. Lemons are furnished by the Commissary Department.

Of the *lingering* cases of chronic disease, two or three have slept in death during the week; and a few others, with two or three of the severely wounded, still linger on the brink of the grave.

Cases of special interest to *us* have not been wanting; but none of so marked a character as to be deemed worthy of record.

Special Relief Department.

REPORT OF J. B. ABBOTT.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

I have the honor to submit the following report of the work accomplished in this office and the several relief stations under my supervision for the week ending this date:

Number of pay accounts of discharged soldiers received for adjustment	43
Number of back pay cases,	34
Number of bounty cases,	2
Claims for the pay of prisoners of war (for their families),	2
Number of naval cases,	10
Number of pension claims,	42
Number of claims for the arrears of pay and bounty of deceased soldiers,	3
Whole number of cases received and registered,	136
Whole number of cases adjusted,	118
Whole amount secured and collected, (exclusive of pension claims),	$10,783 83
Number of drafts sent,	14
Amount of drafts sent,	$1,786 03
Number of letters written, and copy pressed,	176
Whole number of letters mailed,	447
Whole number received,	495

LODGE NO. IV.

Number of meals given to soldiers,	2,656
Number of meals given to employees of the Lodge and others,	434
Numbers of lodgings furnished,	589

SIXTH STREET LODGE.

The report of this Lodge shows very little accomplished this week.

Refreshments to 25 sick soldiers, and meals to 125 discharged and furloughed men have been furnished. Mr. McPherran, the Superintendent, will start home on his leave of absence on Tuesday next.

ALEXANDRIA LODGE.

Number of meals given to soldiers,	270
Number of meals given to soldiers' relatives,	90
Number of lodgings furnished to soldiers,	99
Number of lodgings furnished to soldiers' relatives,	30

You will notice that there has been an increase in the amount of work accomplished at this Lodge the past week. This is on account of a part of the 23d army corps being temporarily stationed in the vicinity. Several hundred articles of clothing, stationery, &c., have been distributed from this station during the week.

One additional servant has been employed temporarily.

HOME AT BALTIMORE.

Number admitted to the Home,	74
Clasified as follows:	
Soldiers and seamen,	48

Soldiers' relatives,	25
Refugees,	1
Number of meals,	304
Number of lodgings,	95
Government transportation secured for	5
Transportation paid by the Commission to	3
Wounds dressed,	15

H. H. Trego reports reports 76 disabled soldiers accompanied and cared for between Washington and New York.

During the week we have furnished transportation, at the expense of the Commission, to 5.

BY J. B. BROWN.

I have the honor to submit the following report of the labors of the past week in my department.

Number of hospital back-pay claims entered,	34
Number of hospital back-pay claims adjusted,	26
Amount secured on adjusted claims,	$2,228 44
Number of prisoner-of-war claims entered,	2
Number of prisoner-of-war claims adjusted,	1
Amount collected,	$45 50
Number of prize cases entered,	10
" " " adjusted,	4
Amount collected,	$336 36
Aggregate collections for the week,	$2,610 30
Number of letters written in full,	58
Number of forms sent,	71
Total number of letters sent,	129

The amount collected the past week is much less than usual, owing in part to Mr. Cutter's absence, and to the number of old claims which are being worked up.

The number of naval claims have fallen off considerably in the last two weeks, which affect the aggregate collections considerably. Trusting that the coming week will show a large increase both in the number of new cases and in the amount collected.

BY WM. K. NEALL.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *Jan.* 25, 1865.

The following shows the result of our labors during the past week in collecting back pay, bounty, &c., for discharged soldiers;

No. of cases received and recorded,	43
No. of cases settled by collection,	34
Amount collected in 34 cases,	$7,310 07
No. of letters written by me,	20
No. of blanks sent,	15

CASH.

Balance on hand, January 21st,	$2 00
Expended for car tickets,	2 00

BY W. P. BARRY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *Jan.* 28, 1865.

I respectfully submit the following report of the work of my office for the week ending to-day:

Number new claims for pension taken and filed in Pension Office,	42
Number claims for arrears of pay and bounty, filed in 2d Auditor's office,	3
Whole number claims filed,	45
Number of pension claims allowed by the Commissioner of Pensions,	48
Number claims for arrears of pay and bounty allowed,	4
Whole number claims allowed,	52
Amount arrears of pay and bounty collected,	$788 46
Number of letters written, in full,	82
Number of letters written, in part, (blanks,)	103
Whole number of letters sent,	185
Number of letters received,	234

List of sick and wounded soldiers waited upon in transit between Washington and New York, for the week ending January 21, 1865. *By A. H. Trego, Courier, U. S. Sanitary Commission.*

JANUARY 17.

G. F. G., B, 29th Mass., Billerica, fits, from Colonel Tufts, discharged.

J. W. H., D, 1st H. A. Maine, Bangor, wounded foot, from "Home," transferred.

Mrs. H., Bangor, Maine, after son, per Miss Bradford.

N. McK., E, 1st H. A. Maine, Bangor, lame back, "Home," furloughed.

11 soldiers, sundry, Maine, via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, from Home, &c., discharged and furloughed.

13 soldiers, sundry, Mass., via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, from "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

4 soldiers, sundry, Conn., via. N. E. R., sick and wounded, from "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

6 soldiers, sundry, N. H., via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, from "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

20 soldiers, sundry, N. Y. City, &c., sick and wounded, from "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

JANUARY 19.

J. K., E, 152d N. Y., Deerfield, left leg off, found at depot, discharged.

J. H. C., B, 2d Art. N. Y., Hagaman's Mills, wounded leg, depot, discharged.

J. F., B, 3d N. J., Bergen, sick, ("non compus,") "Home," discharged.

A. C., C, 19th Maine, Hallowell, arm off, found on train, furloughed.

D. D. F., C, 1st Cav. Maine, Abbottsville, sick, found on train, furloughed.

W. D., D, 56th Mass., Boston, wounded legs, found on train, discharged.

15 soldiers, sundry, Mass., Boston, &c., sick and wounded, from front, &c., discharged and furloughed.

25 soldiers, sundry, N. Y., via. City, &c., sick and wounded, from front, &c., discharged and furloughed.

7 soldiers, sundry, N. H., via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, from front, &c., discharged and furloughed.

3 soldiers, sundry, Conn., via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, from "Home," &c., discharged.

2 soldiers, R. I., via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick, from "Home," &c., discharged.

JANUARY 21.

5 soldiers, sundry, Mass., Boston, &c., sick and wounded, from "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

3 soldiers, sundry, Conn., New Haven, sick and wounded, "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

4 soldiers, sundry, N. H., via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

7 soldiers, sundry, N. Y. City, &c., sick and wounded, "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

Total for week, 135.

For week ending January 28.

JANUARY 24.

H. D., I, 15th N. Y., Albany, wounded, from "Home," furloughed.

E. L. B., D, 10th N. Y., Albany, wounded, from "Home," furloughed.

J. N. L., D, 10th N. Y., Albany, wounded, from "Home," furloughed.

W. E. W., E, 2d Michigan, Detroit, wounded, from "Home," discharged.

T. S., I, 61st N. Y. City, sick, from "Home," discharged.

H. H., C, 5th N. H., Concord, sick, from "Home," discharged.

E. C. R., (and brother,) K, 1st Vt. Cav., Underhill, sick, Baltimore, paroled prisoner.

8 soldiers, sundry, Mass., Boston, sick and wounded, "Home," &c., discharged.

7 soldiers, sundry, Mass., Boston, &c., sick and wounded, from front, &c, discharged and furloughed.

9 soldiers, sundry, Maine, via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, found on train, &c., discharged and furloughed.

17 soldiers, sundry, N. Y. City, &c., sick and wounded, found on train, &c., discharged and furloughed.

JANUARY 26.

3 soldiers, sundry, Mass., Boston, wounded, from "Home," discharged and furloughed.

3 soldiers, sundry, Mass., Boston, sick, from "Home," discharged.

5 soldiers, sundry, Mass., Boston, &c., sick and wounded, "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

4 soldiers, sundry, Maine, via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

2 soldiers, sundry, N. H., via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick, from "Home," discharged.

11 soldiers, sundry, N. Y. City, &c., sick and wounded, from "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

JANUARY 27 AND 28.

Courier quite sick. Total for week, 76.

WOMAN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF.

BRANCH ORGANIZATION, CONTINUED.

NO. VII.

An account of the Home Organization of this branch of the Commission was given in our last article. To-day we shall explain its Field Organization.

Each Branch of the Commission has its own *field*, from whence it draws supplies, and which is organized by it according to its best judgment. These fields are determined as nearly as possible by the natural divisions of the country, and the popular prejudices of the people. Their aggregate comprises the entire area of the loyal States, and constitutes the Home Department of the Sanitary Commission.

Our own field consists of the States of

Connecticut, Rhode Island and New York excepting some of the western counties. It is subdivided into Divisions and Sections. We have four Divisions. These have been made for the sole purpose of facilitating the home correspondence, and are arbitrary. A *Section* is usually one county, or part of a county. Each Section is in charge of one or more resident Associate Managers.

Soldiers' Aid Societies are classified into Centers of Collections and Contributing Societies. These may or may not be auxiliaries. *Centers of Collections* are established in cities, and in those places which are the natural commercial centres of the surrounding country, as Newport, Providence, Hartford, New Haven, Albany, Troy, &c. The Soldiers' Aid Societies of the towns and villages, sending their supplies either through these Centers of Collection, or directly to the Branches, are *Contributing Societies*. It is the desire of the Commission that all Auxiliary Soldiers' Aid Societies shall make the Branches in whose fields they are, their central depots. Our *Auxiliary* Soldiers' Aid Societies are those who, by vote, bind themselves to work exclusively through our agency. We never *ask* Societies to do this; it must come from themselves—a free will expression of their confidence in us. It is only natural, therefore, that the bond between our auxiliary societies and ourselves should be peculiarly strong. It is one of mutual confidence, dependence and affection, and marked by that freedom of intercourse which characterizes all true friendship.

We have wearied you with this dry detailed explanation, because we want you to understand thoroughly the general outline of the system, in which we are all taking part; and, because it will facilitate our future intercourse to be able to call things by their right names, and so speak of them understandingly.

We have said that our plan of work was to help you, so far as was possible, by practical suggestions and otherwise. We are aware how imperfectly this has been done, how—with our own work so entirely different—we have been trying to anticipate your wants, not from any personal experience of them, but through intuition and sympathy alone. You know better than we can, what our failures have been in this respect. We know, too, how far short of the will the deed has been, and must be.

Let us show you at least what the design has been—what we have aimed at.

The women of one of our little villages wish to work for the soldiers. They wish to form themselves into a society, and work systematically and steadily, in such a way too, that the work shall not be borne by two or three only, but shall be, to a certain degree, shared by the whole community. We attempted to meet this want by publishing a "Plan for the Formation of Country Societies," now to be found in BULLETIN No. 12. Its design is to take the burden off the few, and distribute it among the many. The society being organized, the great question is: How shall we get our funds? And this question will be answered in as many different ways as the character, the size, and wealth of the community differ. We have suggested the "Alert Club" system, also published in No. 12, as being especially applicable to little country villages, where, unless all can be made to take an active interest in the work, it is exceedingly difficult to support a society. The Alert Club is composed entirely of young people. Its object is to keep the treasury of the parent society full—by taking up a small monthly collection from each member of the community, and by other means. Elder people like to sit still and sew, but dislike going from house to house, asking for money, for any purpose; younger people and children dislike the sitting still and the sewing, but enjoy the going about, and have not the same false pride about asking for money.

The money being obtained there is material to be bought. As has been stated before, we have facilities for buying materials in the city at wholesale prices, and at lower rates than the same quality can usually be obtained in the country. We will gladly make any purchases of material for you, although we cannot undertake to pay the express charges upon them. To auxiliary societies, finding it impossible to support themselves, the following proposition was made in our Third Annual Report and is now repeated: "Any society sending us a sum of money not exceeding $30 per month, for the purchase of material, will receive double the amount in cotton, flannel or in such material as may be most desirable to have made up at the time. This offer is especially designed to revive and stimulate small societies whose chief difficulty has been the want of funds. Express charges must be paid by the societies ordering the goods."

We will suppose that our Society has now received its material. Forthwith a terrible discussion arises as to what patterns shall be used. Some go upon the principle that all soldiers are giants, and wish to cut all the garments twice the ordinary size; some cling to buttons; others insist upon strings. One authority is as good as another, and all authorities differ. And here we would ask you to trust the experience of those who have had most to do with sick and wounded soldiers in the hospitals. The patterns and measurements published in the BULLETIN have been based upon this experience, and have been prepared with great care. A pattern for a Hospital Flannel Shirt is to be found in BULLETIN No. 13—see correction in No. 17. Diagrams of Flannel and Cotton Drawers, same pattern, No. 13—see correction in No. 16. Cotton Shirt, BULLETIN No. 16. Slippers, Arm-Sling and Ration-bag, No. 22. Dressing-Gown or Wrapper, No. 25. Directions for making Bedding for Hospital use, Cushions, Bandages, Lint, &c., for knitting Socks, Mittens and Wristers, No. 31.

Imagine the garments cut out and made. Now comes the packing, directing and sending off. Directions for packing, invoices, &c., will be found in the Appendix of our Third Annual Report. Make what arrangement you can with steamboat, railroad and express companies, many of which are exceedingly liberal, to carry your box free; but should this be impossible, we would much rather pay the freight charges in New York, than have you prepay them. We can readily obtain money for this purpose, while it is much better for the work that all the money you can collect should be expended in materials. Our society has now sent off its first hospital box, and received a letter acknowledging its receipt at our rooms. This alone is scarcely satisfactory. You want to know what is being done with your supplies; what the Sanitary Commission is doing everywhere; you want to know, and ought to know, as much as you can, about the work. It is to meet these wants that the BULLETIN is published every fortnight. Its design is to give you the fullest and latest information about the Commission. The circulation of the BULLETIN through this Branch alone has increased from 2,400 to 2,600 copies during the past month. And yet we wish it was larger. We do not want subscribers, we want readers, and we will gladly furnish as many copies as may be asked for. A plan for facilitating the circulation of the BULLETIN in villages can be found in No. 29. And is this all that we can do to help our society? It seems so little. And yet you have written to say that what, with the information derived through the BULLETIN and from constant correspondence with us, you feel perfectly satisfied, entirely ready to keep on working. It is we, then, who are not satisfied for you. We want you to have the same advantages in the work that we have, we want you to have the opportunity of asking questions, and of talking face-to-face with agents of the Commission who have themselves put your shirts and drawers on to the soldiers. These agents are now going among you as lecturers. Although the specified time has elapsed, we are still ready to receive applications for lecturers, according to the proposition made in our Article No. 2, circulated among you as a fly-leaf with BULLETIN No. 28. We hope that, when these gentlemen come among you, you will allow them to fill in the missing links which we, at this distance can only feel are wanting, without seeing.

And so, dear friends, in this imperfect way we have tried to keep pace with you in your work; have tried, through sympathy, to put ourselves so far as we could in your position, hoping to clear away some of your difficulties. But the burden of the work still remains with you. How can it be otherwise? Our part in it is nothing—excepting as your trustees. No, it is your time and your money, your perseverance and endurance—above all, your steadfast will and loving hearts, which have been the means, through the grace of God, of alleviating the untold sufferings of this cruel, this righteous war.

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER.
Chairman Committee on Correspondence, &c.

NEW YORK, 7 COOPER UNION,
February 16, 1865.

THE SOLDIER'S REST, BUFFALO, N. Y.

Buffalo, N. Y., is one of the half-way houses for western travel. Day and night the current from east to west and west to east, pours along the arterial railway; and day and night western soldiers assigned to eastern armies, and eastern soldiers assigned to western armies, come to a halt in the depot. Many of them are sick, at least not well; some just out of hospitals are on furlough; some with legs off, or arms

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF "THE SOLDIERS' REST" AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

Showing by States the number of Men entertained and the number of Lodgings and Meals given.

| 1864. | | |

carpets and chairs and walls nudge each other and laugh at the shoes for their timidity; and how quickly the men laugh heartier than all of them as the cheer and glow charm each one into the belief that before he enlisted he built the Rest for his own especial use, but had forgotten all about it till that minute.

The original design of the ladies who compose the Buffalo Branch of the United States Sanitary Commission, was to provide a temporary home for sick soldiers passing through their city, or to the hospitals of their city; and a large number of those who have received the benefits of the Rest have been of this class; but the numerous applications, and evident claims of well men for attention, have caused them to lay the case before Government officials, and with that generosity and humanity which has so eminently characterized the United States authorities, Government has decided to erect buildings on the same ground, and as a part of the Rest, for the accommodation of all soldiers who are justly entitled to rations and care, such regulations being established as that Government rations shall only be issued to soldiers, while, at the same time, the Sanitary Commission can from its own resources feed discharged men or others who are not entitled to subsistence.

The Rest was opened in June, and the daily average of men cared for was three; during July, August and September, the daily average was seven; October, thirteen; and January thirty-one; so that the work done during the last month is ten times as great as that of the first. No better indication of the necessity for the Rest, or of the absolute necessity for its continuance could be asked than this fact. During the eight months of its operation **3,318** enlisted men, from twenty-nine different States, have been cared for; **2,497** lodgings in sweet white beds have been given; and **8,869** hot, toothsome meals have been furnished; and all has been done in such a quiet, unpretending way that thousands of passers-by who might have glanced at the modest house, have not even noticed its existence, much less known its work. A meal to an emaciated convalescent often prevents a relapse, and a few nights quiet rest have saved many a life. If ideas ever take upon themselves a solid form, the "Rest" is but an expression of the Good Master's command, "Love one another."

FROM FORT FISHER.

We call attention to the subjoined extract from the Fort Fisher correspondence of the N. Y. *Tribune*. It will be gratifying to the people to know, that the wounded after the battle at that place, had every attention possible under the circumstances, and that the agents of the Sanitary Commission worked side by side with the army surgeons in alleviating distress. It is always thus in the field, and that a man, in the language of this writer, "traduces" the Sanitary, is pretty strong evidence that he has not been at the front to make its acquaintance.

The wounded were all carefully attended to and removed to the base hospital, from which they will be sent by steamer to Fortress Monroe at once. Dr. Barnes, the Medical Director of the army, deserves great praise for his indefatigable labors for the care of the wounded. He is ably assisted by an excellent corps of surgeons.

Mr. F. W. Foster, the Sanitary Agent, assisted by Mr. Adams, has been of great service to the wounded, being personally present on the field and in the hospitals, with his supplies of clothing and other necessary comforts at the time they were most needed. The men who traduce this excellent charity know nothing of what they speak. Its praise is the theme of all good and conscientious officers, soldiers and surgeons of the army.

OUR HEROES.

[The poem given below has been recited by Mr. Murdoch before large audiences in Philadelphia, where it was received with shouts, and applauded verse by verse.]

Cheers! cheers for our heroes!
Not those who wear stars;
Not those who wear eagles,
And leaflets and bars;
We know they are gallant,
And honor them too,
For bravely maintaining
The Red, White, and Blue.

But cheers for our soldiers,
Rough, wrinkled, and brown;
The men who MAKE heroes
And ask no renown:
Unselfish, untiring,
Intrepid and true,
The bulwark surrounding
The Red, White, and Blue!

Our patriot soldiers!
When treason arose,
And Freedom's own children
Assailed her as foes;

When Anarchy threatened
And Order withdrew,
They rallied to rescue
The Red, White and Blue!

Upholding our banner
On many a field,
The doom of the traitor
They valiantly sealed;
And, worn with the conflict,
Found vigor anew,
Where victory greeted
The Red, White, and Blue!

Yet loved ones have fallen—
And still where they sleep,
A sorrowing Nation
Shall silently weep;
And Spring's fairest flowers,
In gratitude strew
O'er those who have cherished
The Red, White, and Blue!

But glory immortal
Is waiting them now;
And chaplets unfading
Shall bind every brow,
When called by the trumpet,
At Time's great review,
They stand, who defended
The Red, White, and Blue!

WHY DOES THE SANITARY COMMISSION BUY VEGETABLES?

The question is often asked, and with great seeming grace, "Why does the Sanitary Commission waste the people's money in sending supplies of vegetables and other anti-scorbutics to the army, when it is well known that Government issues these stores with the greatest liberality, and on the largest scale?"

The following extract from a work on Military Surgery, by a gentleman who has for several years held a high position on the medical staff, is a sufficient answer to this question:

In the Army of the Cumberland, the surgeons, however, had been long reporting from week to week, the pressing necessity for vegetables; but we could not learn that any one of these reports had ever been seen or read by the commanding officers, and when it became our duty to call the attention of corps commanders, and even of the Commander-in-Chief of this army to the facts, with few exceptions, they confessed their entire ignorance of the true state of affairs. More than this the commissaries of brigades, of divisions, and of corps, as well as the Commissary General of the Army, who themselves received and distributed the supplies, fully believed that the soldiers had plenty of vegetables; and that, when they had not received more than three full rations in twelve months. The explanation of this extraordinary fact is, that during nearly all this time fresh potatoes, and occasionally other vegetables, were received and issued; but of one hundred barrels issued by the chief commissary, at lest twenty-five went to the staff officers' families and servants at headquarters, and to the Post, including often citizens and hospitals; of the seventy-five remaining for distribution to the corps commissaries, twenty-five more barrels disappeared again with the officers and their families; a third distribution to the division commissaries blotted out another twenty-five barrels, and a fourth to the brigade commissaries disposed of the remainder in a like manner, so that the regimental commissary received none; and it is here that the inquiry must always be made, or with the soldier himself, if an inspector desires to know how the troops are fed.

When it is remembered that a large portion of these vegetables is usually spoiled *in transitu* to the army, and that many more decay before the final distribution, it will be easy to understand how one hundred barrels, shown as received and distributed daily on the chief commissary's books, are completely sifted out before they reach the men in the field. In confirmation of this statement, we will quote a portion of our report for the month of May, 1863, made to the Commanding General of the Department of the Cumberland. It will be noticed that up to the first of April, the soldiers had not on an average received from the Government over three rations in twelve months, and that from this date General Rosecrans and his commissary had determined that the troops should be abundantly supplied. To this end, extraordinary efforts and attention were now directed to the matter. We will see with what result: "In my previous report I informed you, Sir, that from the first of April the Commissary General has been receiving at the rate of one hundred barrels of fresh potatoes per day, but that on the 9th of April, almost none of these had reached the regiments. On the 20th of May, I ascertained that this Department had received from the Government at the rate, on the average of 150 barrels per day, from the first day of April up to that moment, which at a fair computation would give one full ration of potatoes

to every soldier in the command on every alternate day.

"The fact of the arrival of these vegetables at this rate was, I found generally understood by the commanding officers, and Major General McCook, commanding the 20th corps, informed me that his mind had been completely set at rest upon this subject, by the report of his own inspector (not a medical officer) that the supply was now sufficient. I was able to furnish him, however, with the written statement of four regimental commissaries in his corps, and these were all of whom I had made inquiry, that only one full ration of potatoes had been received by the men in April, and but three in May."

We ought to mention that, during the periods when the Army of the Cumberland was in need of fresh vegetables, the U. S. Sanitary Commission was constantly supplying the General Hospitals on the field, the Post Hospitals, the Convalescent Camps, and, to some extent, the Regimental Hospitals, with potatoes, onions, and other vegetables; and when, in the early part of April, 1863, we notified Dr. Read, the chief of the Sanitary Commission of that department, of the urgent need that fresh vegetables should be supplied to the troop themselves who were in the field, the Commission responded with a promptness and liberality which were most gratifying, and which demonstrated the value and importance of their organization. It was understood that the army was preparing to advance, and an important battle was anticipated; under these circumstances, there could be no delay, if the troops were to be put into a healthy condition before the action occurred. The Sanitary Commission was notified of our wants on the 11th of April. On the 13th we were informed by Dr. Newberry, the energetic Secretary of the Western Department, that there would be "immediately forwarded large shipments of vegatables for Gen. Rosecrans's army by railroad and by boat, the superintendent of the road having been requested by the Commander-in-Chief to forward promptly all that the Commission can send." On the 16th, 130 barrels arrived at Murfreesboro; and from this time, for several weeks, they continued to arrive at the rate of about 100 barrels per day, and were distributed directly to the troops by the agents employed by the Commission. It is worthy of notice, also, that while those sent by the Government were often damaged by decay in consequence of the barrels having not been properly opened for ventilation before being shipped, and from delay or lack of care in the shipment; those sent by the Commission were always ventilated by an opening of about two inches in diameter in the sides or ends of the barrels before being shipped, and they were almost uniformly in good condition. At one time the Medical Director, Surgeon Perin, found at Murfreesboro 1,500 barrels lying in the Commissary storerooms; not one barrel of which, we believe, had any ventilation, and the contents of most of which, when we came to open them, were more or less decayed. They were waiting an order from the Commanding General to issue them, but the Commissary had failed to notify the General that they were on hand. The Medical Director, Dr. Perin, promptly informed the General, and an order was at once obtained for their issue.

Such facts as these do not always indicate inefficiency, perhaps, on the part of the Government officers, but rather that the multiplicity of their duties renders it difficult, if not impossible sometimes, to give the necessary attention to all the minor details.

The result of the more free introduction of fresh vegetables into the Army of the Cumberland was, that very soon the cases of scurvy were found to diminish in frequency and in severity; and when, on the twenty-fourth of June, the troops were moved forwards and an engagement with the enemy occurred, the wounds received by the soldiers healed more kindly and were followed by fewer accidents than had been the case after previous battles.—*Hamilton's Military Surgery, pages* 82–84, 86–88.

HOSPITAL CLOTHING.

The annexed letter treats of a subject which, up to the present time, has been too much neglected. It is true, as stated, that in many instances, soldiers have suffered from the preposterous size of the garments furnished by kind-hearted friends, whose zeal exceeded their knowledge. There was, in fact, at one time on exhibition at a distributing depot of the Commission an article supposed to be for soldiers' wear, the use of which was a mystery to many eminent men

of various professions, to whom it was exhibited. It is but fair to say, however, that this was in the early days of the war.

Nevertheless, a little more attention to this subject now will not be without benefit, and we bespeak for the following letter a careful perusal.

DEAR SIR :—Please make corrections in the next number of the BULLETIN of the article in No. 31, entitled "Bedding for Hospital use."

1st, Linen pieces *may* be *too* small; we have received many parcels of little scraps not more than two inches square, which can rarely be available. They *must* be clean.

2d, While we have in hand two hundred (200) barrels of lint, it seems unnecessary to suggest that more may be made; indeed it is wasteful to ravel up a single towel or handkerchief, especially when we are suffering from a *famine* of old linen and cotton pieces for dressings, and I believe the other Branches of the Sanitary Commission are in a like position.

3d, A pound of yarn, of the suitable quality, will knit three and a half (3½) pairs of socks; the sizes as given to us by a dealer in army socks, should be, 9½, 10 and 10½ inches, and twice as many of the medium size are required as of either of the other sizes. The soldiers have really suffered from the preposterous dimensions of garments made for them. In some hospitals I have heard of piles of shirts laid aside as useless, because they were so huge, and there was no one to alter them.

Respectfully yours,
ELLEN COLLINS,
Chairman Committee, &c.

TEN MONTHS IN LIBBY PRISON.

BY LOUIS PALMA DI CESNOLA.

Colonel Cesnola is a Sardinian of noble family, and was educated in the best military schools of Europe, having been placed in that at Paris when only nine years of age. His father was at that time Secretary of War under the Sardinian government. The son came to this country just before the breaking out of the rebellion, and hostilities quickly elicited his enthusiastic interest in the cause of the Union. Having had experience in the Crimean war, as a member of the staff of the Sardinian General-in-chief, he was well qualified for the duties of the field. In September, 1862, he took command of the 4th N. Y. cavalry, whose superior discipline and many brave achievements have gained for it an enviable fame. At the battle of Aldie, June, 1863, he was commended for his gallant conduct by General Kilpatrick, early in the action, but afterwards, while far in the advance, he was surrounded by superior numbers, and taken prisoner. He spent ten months in Libby prison. After his exchange he returned to his regiment, and led the brigade to which it belonged in many severe engagements previous to its mustering out, in September last.

Soon after entering Libby, the rebel officer in charge, offered Colonel Cesnola, with some other *foreigners*, better quarters than their fellow officers had, which proposal was indignantly rejected. "We are U. S. officers," they said.

I entered the service of the United States in October, 1861, and was captured in Virginia the 17th of June, 1863, at the cavalry engagement of Aldie. I was marched, mostly on foot, more than one hundred miles to Staunton, and thence by railroad conveyed to the rebel capital and confined in the Libby prison. I arrived in Richmond the 25th of June, at about four o'clock in the afternoon, and remained immured in that tobacco factory until the 24th of March, 1864, when I was specially exchanged for Colonel Brown of the 59th Georgia, (——) regiment.

SEARCHING FOR VALUABLES.

At my arrival in Libby I was called into the office of the commanding officer of that military prison, Captain (now Major) Thos. P. Turner, and by him, my name, rank, regiment, etc., was registered in his book; the walls of Turner's office were covered with captured U. S. colors, regimental battle-flags, and cavalry guidons. From that office I was ordered into a spacious dark hall, in a corner of which, a rebel seargeant searched me through from head to foot, in the roughest manner possible. He took away from me every little trinket I had, my penknife, eyeglasses, meerschaum-pipe, matches, and

a bunch of small keys; and was angry because he could not find any greenbacks on my person. He ordered me to take off my boots for inspection; I answered him that I always had a servant to perform that service for me. He insisted, but I refused until he took them off himself, and searched them very minutely. He asked me what I had done with my money, and if I had any watch. I told him that a chivalric Southron had stolen my watch and money during the march from Middleburg to Staunton. He began to abuse me, using very profane language and denying my veracity. I told him that perhaps the gentleman intended only to borrow those articles from me. Captain Fisher, a signal officer of the Army of the Potomac, was punished and kept walking for several hours with the sentinel at the prison's door simply for not giving up immediately his india rubber coat, which he justly claimed as his own private property. I entered therefore the gates of a Confederate prison stripped of everything except my spurs, which being screwed into the boots could not be removed. I remained in this deplorable condition, without a book to read, or a sheet of paper to write, for over five months, nursing my grief during the whole day, using my boots for a pillow during the night, and sleeping on the bare and often damp plank floor, with neither blanket nor overcoat, nor any other covering. Dogs had certainly better sleeping accommodations in their kennels than I had there. In the same wretched condition, however, were many other officers. We were compelled for several months to wash and scrub the floor, the kitchen, the tables and the sinks ourselves, and I cannot recollect but with feelings of admiration the serenity of countenance with which I saw our present Adjutant General of the State, Brigadier General W. Irvine (at that time Lieutenant Colonel of the 10th New York Cavalry), in shirt sleeves, scrubbing the floor when it was his turn to do so. I must confess such service was revolting to me, and I always found some good-hearted fellow prisoner who, for sake of exercise, would perform it in my stead. It may have been a mere chance, but it was precisely when the officers were performing such menial services that the southern ladies would come to have a peep at the Yankees, who certainly were not looking at that moment to their best advantage. I had but one single shirt during four months, and when I washed it, I looked more like a Roman Gladiator of olden times than a Colonel in the United States service.

RATIONS.

From June up to September, we had for ration the half of an ordinary sized loaf of wheat bread, tolerably good, though often sour. It is very true that the beans were of the poorest kind, in each of which there was the nest of an insect; and the small ration of meat tough, and not of the best quality; but hunger had no law, and I would swallow my ration, bad as it was, longing afterwards for that of my neighbor also. In the rooms where we were, no chairs could be seen, nor benches; in fact, nothing but the bare walls and the bare floor, with the exception of some boards roughly joined together in form of tables, at which one-tenth only of the prisoners could eat at a time. After September, our ration was considerably reduced in quality and quantity, and we received half a loaf of negro made corn bread, so hard that it was called by our officers *iron clad, solid shot, railroad iron,* etc., and some few ounces of meat, four or five times per month.

INSPECTOR OF PRISONS.

Richard Turner (no relation of Major Turner), a Marylander by birth, and a porter (I am told) by occupation, at the outbreaking of this war at the Eutaw House in the City of Baltimore, is the inspector of the Libby and of other military prisons in Richmond. So much has been said of the ferocity of this man by the press and by the testimony of other officers, that I have nothing to add. I wish I could lighten the heavy burden of misdeeds with which his name goes to posterity. As to myself, personally, he has never done any harm, but rather tried to do good.

He used to come into our rooms at different hours during the day, and if he could catch any officer sitting or lying on his blankets he would confiscate them for the use of his own horses. I was present one day when he caught Captain King, of the 12th Pennsylvania cavalry, spitting on the floor (he simply missed a box which was used as a spitoon), and he brought him down into a dungeon and kept him there for forty-eight hours, on bread and water.

SANITARY COMMISSION.

Early in October intelligence was received at the Libby that the United States Sanitary Commission and our government had

sent us a large quantity of boxes, containing blankets and other articles of clothing, etc. I made at once an application to get two blankets for my personal use. It was not, however, until the beginning of the next month that I succeeded in getting them, one to sleep on, and the other to cover me with. These blankets were issued to me by my friend and fellow prisoner, Brigadier General Neal Dow, who had been appointed by the rebel Colonel Ould, commissioner of exchange of prisoners of war, as commissary of distribution.

COMMISSARY OF DISTRIBUTION.

The 10th of November, 1863, late in the afternoon, I was called down stairs in Major Turner's office, and informed by him that I was selected to supersede General Neal Dow as commissary of distribution, whose appointment was obnoxious to General J. H. Winder, Military Governor of Richmond. I was informed that the selection was made on account of my being the next senior officer to the General. He further intimated that I would not be allowed to hold conversation with our men on Belle Isle, nor carry any verbal or written communication from the officers to the men, or vice versa, without previously submitting such communication to the rebel officer in command of the island, and of other personal restrictions. After having promised to comply with such orders, I was allowed to select amongst the field officers, two assistants, subject to the approval of General Winder. I selected Lieutenant Colonel Boyd, and my friend, Lieutenant Colonel Von Schrader, Inspector General of the 14th Army corps; both of whom were approved. The next morning Richard Turner, under whose control were all boxes sent from the North, informed me that he would not send the boxes of clothing down to Belle Isle if I did not pay the transportation for them. I had not one cent of my own, but Colonel Boyd had some funds in the rebel hands and offered to pay with that money the transportation; and after a day's delay it was accepted. We were allowed to go to Belle Isle at 10 A.M. every morning, and remain there until 4 o'clock P.M. Two policemen would accompany, or rather escort us from the Libby to Belle Isle, and from thence back to the prison, every day.

BELLE ISLE.

On the 13th of November there were at Belle Isle six thousand four hundred and thirty-four union soldiers as prisoners of war. I do not describe here the place, as I see it is pretty correctly done by Colonel Farnsworth, of the 1st Connecticut cavalry, in his testimony.

Lieutenant Bossieux, the officer in charge of that prison camp, was well spoken of universally, and I must confess that I found him gentlemanly, humane and generous-hearted. His name, however, shows his foreign origin, though he may have been born in Richmond. Every facility in his power was cheerfully afforded me for the distribution of the United States Sanitary Commission's goods, as well as for those sent by our government. Our prisoners there, were divided into squads of one hundred men, each under the command of a sergeant, (fellow-prisoner,) who was responsible to the rebel commander for the behaviour of his men. This camp was therefore divided into sixty-four squads, augmenting the number of the squads in proportion to the arrival of prisoners there.

DISTRIBUTION OF BLANKETS, CLOTHING, ETC.

We were permitted by Major Turner to see and count the number of boxes piled up in a warehouse near the Libby, and make a rough calculation of the quantity of each article of clothing contained in those boxes. The most necessary thing for those poor men were blankets; so we decided to distribute them without delay, but the number was too small to provide every man with one, so we gave a blanket to every two men. In the progress of distribution, the arrival of many more boxes from Fortress Monroe, enabled us to issue one to each man. The modus operandi was the following: Colonel Von Schrader, with a union soldier as a clerk, would take one squad outside of the enclosure on what was, by the rebels, called "the parade ground," and put down the name of each man and all the articles of clothing he needed into blank rolls sent us by the U. S. government for that purpose; Colonel Boyd and myself would likewise have each one a squad and a prisoner as clerk, to write down names and articles needed, in the same manner.

This method was only continued for the first two days, while we were awaiting the arrival of the boxes from Richmond. But as soon as we received a sufficient number of them, Colonel Boyd being a quarter-master, consented to distribute the articles,

while Colonel Von Schrader and myself continued taking down the names and articles wanted by the men. We used to inspect about eight squads a day; the distributing officer, however, could not proceed so fast, as he had to open the boxes, etc.; the average of squads furnished per day was three, that is three hundred men. The greatest part of the day was lost in going from Richmond to Belle Isle, and returning. Sometimes the boatman was not there to convey us to the other side of the James river, and much precious time was thus lost. I endeavored to obtain permission to sleep at Belle Isle, in order to be at work early in the morning in distributing, as the cold weather was terribly felt by our poor men. But Major Turner had no power to grant this, and having asked General Winder if an application to him in writing, signed by the Committee of Distribution, would be taken into consideration, his brutish answer was, "*No, certainly not.*"

Besides the time lost in going and coming back and waiting for the boat, we lost much time there also, as the squads when called out by us, were sometimes receiving their rations; at another they were at roll-call, etc. So we could not transact business really more than three hours every day, which retarded the distribution considerably, while we would have very willingly distributed day and night in order to shelter with good warm clothes the thousands of half naked bodies, shivering from head to foot from cold and hunger. I am a soldier by profession since my boyhood; I have been in several wars in Europe; I am familiar with death, and have seen it in all its different aspects, but my heart has never been moved as it was by the condition of those men at Belle Isle. Their frozen feet wrapped in a piece of blanket or an old flannel shirt, in place of the boots which were taken away from them by their captors, those long, pale, hungry faces, with hair and beard uncut for months; a kind of perpetual motion given to their bodies by the millions of vermin that devoured their very flesh; their emaciated forms, telling at first sight how many long and weary, weary months they had been there fighting against death in the form of scurvy, low fevers, diarrhœa, congestion of the lungs, etc.; their feeble voices saying, "Oh! Colonel, do give us something to eat, for God's sake," etc. These scenes, I confess, were to me heartrending in the extreme. These men received at meal time, one bucket of broken pieces of corn bread, and one bucket of over-boiled sweet potatoes for every one hundred men! I saw it myself many times. Indeed, it was so revolting that I think even pigs would have sickened at it. How the chiefs of squads could divide so small a quantity of food in one hundred parts has always been for me a problem, which I am still unable to solve; though often, while distributing the clothing, some men would come to me and complain that for whole days they could not get anything to eat, because before their turn came the bucket was empty!

It was no wonder if these poor, starved human beings would eat rats and dogs. I recollect the fact of a rebel officer having gone inside the inclosure to visit the prisoners, accompanied by a dog. He did not miss it until he was coming out; but, alas! it was too late, and by that time he could only see one man gnawing with voracity his dog's last bone! The next day the Richmond Enquirer, edited by that Irish patriot, John Mitchell, had a leading article entitled, "Dogs eat dogs," and gave the particulars of the affair, summing up by saying that the Yankee prisoners at Belle Isle, though furnished with plenty of wholesome food, preferred to eat dogs.

Of these six thousand four hundred and thirty-four prisoners, over seven hundred were at the time I first visited Belle Isle, without tents or any shelter whatever at night, lying in ditches, or digging holes in the sandy ground in which they slept in a bundle, one over the other, and I heard that often in the morning those who were on the top were found frozen to death, and I actually saw men wrapped up in blankets brought out of the enclosure who were found dead and frozen in ditches outside of the tents!

Upon this subject I had frequent conversations with Lieutenant Bossieux, who told me himself he had several times made proper requisitions for the necessary tents; that he went to see the quartermaster of the prison himself (an Ohio renegade, was a greater scoundrel than any of the Southren race); that they were promised but never delivered. He also told me he had made a plan for barracks which would have cost very little and would have accommodated our men all comfortably, but that he never heard anything more about it, nor of boards given for that or any other purpose. After

having distributed the contents of several boxes, I perceived that the empty boxes were, by order of Lieutenant Bossieux piled up as if to be used for some purpose. I went to see him, and told him I intended to give to the men those empty boxes, so that they could floor their tents with them. He said he had instructions from the quartermaster to save all those boxes, that he wanted them to pack army clothing in, but he would give me in return the boards necessary to floor all the tents. I said nothing further for three or four days, but seeing that the boards were coming only in the same manner as the tents so many times asked, I took upon myself, at the cost of being susperseded for it, not to wait any longer, and I distributed them to the men, gladdening many hearts. A portion of these boxes were used to make coffins for those who had ceased to suffer in this wicked place.

PLUNDERING.

There has been so much said about the rebel government stealing half the boxes sent to us by the government, and the United States Sanitary Commission, that I have recalled to my memory all the minutest particulars which have reference to them, and I have come to the conclusion that the largest number of the boxes of clothing were turned over to us for distribution, and that they had no official connection with the heavy robberies which we have unfortunately sustained, and were unable to prevent.

RICHMOND CITY BATTALIONS.

It is true that the Richmond City battalions, who guarded the federal prisoners, had a large number of their men clothed in U. S. uniforms, but my opinion (I may be wrong) is, that the warehouse adjacent to the Libby, in which all our boxes were stored and guarded by them, was visited at night by these undisciplined and unprincipled soldiery, who would appropriate to themselves and sell to others, all the clothing they wanted. I came to this conclusion, after I had visited that warehouse several times, as I found ragged rebel uniforms left here and there in the corners of the warehouse; showing plainly that some of the rebels had made their hasty toilet there. When one hundred and nine union officers escaped from the Libby, through the tunnel, I had the scurvy and could not join the party. The next morning I conversed with some of the sentinels, and laughed at their great vigilance during the previous night. They said that they had seen men coming out from the yard of the warehouse, and running as fast as they could, but they supposed *it was some of their own guard making a raid on our boxes*. Several times in the stillness of the night, I heard plainly in the warehouse the hammering and breaking of boxes, but this was the robbers' midnight work, and scarcely chargeable to the rebel authorities. The rebel government was, however, guilty of the grossest indifference as to the safe keeping of our boxes; of that there is no doubt, but I cannot bring myself to believe that their authorities were officially connected with it.

The boxes sent from Richmond to Belle Isle for immediate distribution, were also plundered during the night, even after I obtained permission to put some of our own men to guard them. Our hungry men, tempted by the sentinels with bread and pies, would give a portion of the clothing issued to them, for both or either of them; and, as in all large communities, there were amongst our prisoners some rascals who would steal the clothing of their sleeping comrades and sell them likewise to the guard. Colonel Von Schrader and myself remonstrated several times to Lieutenant Bossieux, and he put several of his men in irons for having bought clothing from our prisoners, but the evil could not be stopped by us.

I have often been present at guard mounting in Belle Isle, and remarked the relieved party (sometimes half of them) would have either U. S. blankets, overcoats or pantaloons, and the relieving party of that day would come off duty the next morning similarly supplied with new U. S. clothes. These facts, of course, not being generally known to our fellow prisoners, and from the barred windows of the Libby seeing a very large number of the guard dressed in U. S. uniforms, they came to the very natural conclusion that the rebel government was robbing us to clothe their own men.

The rebel authorities have never given to Colonel Boyd or Colonel Von Schrader or myself (that I am aware of,) the invoices which, I suppose both the government and the U. S. Sanitary Commission must have sent with the goods. I asked Major Turner if he had those invoices; he replied he had not seen them. I inquired also of Richard Turner in regard to them, but he rudely told me that it was not my business. From

this reason I was unable to find out how many boxes were sent to us.

MAKING SHOES.

My narrative now soon comes to a close. Towards the latter part of November I was superseded as Commissary of Distribution by order of General J. H. Winder. Two causes originated it. The first was this: The rebels came one day to Belle Isle, and paroled four hundred men to make shoes for their army, and intimated that they would come again in a few days to parole several hundred more for the same object. I decided at once to do what I considered the duty of a U. S. officer, and interfere in this matter. I sent for several of the chiefs of squads, and told them to inform the men that by going to work for the rebels they were breaking their oath towards the U. S. government, and were helping instead of fighting the enemy of their country; that they would be all liable to be court-martialed for it as soon as they reached our lines, and that I considered it my duty to inform them of it. These sergeants went at once to see their men, and the result was that when the rebels came the second time, they could not get a single one, and soon they discovered the reason of it.

The second cause for which I was superseded is the following. One morning, rather earlier than usual, we were ordered out of our room for the purpose of having it scrubbed by the negroes. The overseer who had charge of the negroes (always with a stick in his hands), came to the corner where I had my quarters, and two buckets of water were thrown on the floor by his negroes before I was aware of their presence. In the haste of leaving the room my friend and messmate, Lieutenant Morley, of the 12th Pennsylvania cavalry, had left a piece of ham on the shelf, within reach of any unscrupulous hand which chose to take it. I called him back and told him to put it out of reach, as I was as much afraid of negro thieves as of white ones. The overseer, whom I had not perceived was behind me, heard the remark and applied the meaning to himself. To my surprise he put one hand on my shoulder and made use of the following language: God d—m you, do you mean that I am a thief? If a hot iron had touched my skin it would not have maddened me more than his insolent touch did. I turned myself towards him, and in a second I had him by the throat with both my hands, down he went on the floor, and I struck him many times as hard as I could on his face, until my rage was satisfied. The negroes were jubilant, and of course nobody interfered to help the overseer. I was called down stairs in Major Turner's office, where I explained the whole affair, and though I was not punished bodily, my supercedure took place on that very morning.

From November to March, 1864, I was not allowed to leave for a single moment the Libby prison, and when they began to parole and send North some officers, all all the other colonels but two were sent North before me; though I had been a prisoner longer than any of them. Colonel Robert Ould, the rebel Commissioner, to whom I was obnoxious, said that he did not want to send me North at all, but he would keep me in prison as long as he liked; but he was nevertheless soon afterwards compelled to send me, as Colonel Jack Brown, of the 59th Georgia regiment was sent South conditionally, that if he could not get me exchanged for him, he was to return North and be kept as long as I was held by the rebel authorities.

LOUIS PALMA DI CESNOLA,
Late Colonel 4th N. Y. Cav.

New York, 13th Feb., 1865.

City and County of New York, ss.

Sworn to before me,

JOHN ROGERS,
Commissioner of Deeds.

Dated at NEW YORK, Feb. 15, 1865.

TO SURGEONS.

A Treatise on Military Surgery and Hygiene.

By FRANK HASTINGS HAMILTON, M.D., late Lieutenant-Colonel, Medical Inspector, U.S.A.; Professor of Military Surgery and Hygiene, and of Fractures and Dislocations, in Bellevue Medical College; Surgeon to Bellevue Hospital; Professor of Military Surgery, &c., in Long Island College Hospital; author of "Treatise on Fractures and Dislocations," and of a "Practical Treatise on Military Surgery." Balliere Brothers, New York.

Of this admirable book, we cannot here say all that it demands of us. Military surgery, though distinct in its applications from civil surgery, and requiring a modified and more extended terminology, is becoming

so essential to the practitioner in civil life, that he who would faithfully serve the profession at home, dare not remain ignorant of the new developments of science which have grown upon us with the progress of the war. Tens of thousands of disabled soldiers are being sent from the field and post hospitals to Northern cities. Tens of thousands discharged from disability are falling back upon the professional care of village physicians, and for many years to come the necessity will continue for the application of military surgery in civil life.

When the Medical Bureau of the Government shall have presented the reports of its herculean labors to the people, it will be seen what vast contributions have been made to this branch of science, but as that may not be done for years to come, the profession will be glad to avail themselves of this practical manual.

The several chapters include the subjects of Examination and Qualifications of Recruits; General Hygiene; Bivouac; Accommodation of Troops in Tents, Barracks, Billets, Huts, Cabins, Hospitals, with plans of various U. S. Army Hospitals recently constructed; Preparations for the Field; U. S. Army Ambulance Corps as at present organized; Field Medical Service; our means of Transportation of Sick and Wounded Soldiers, including the new Railroad Cars, accompanied with working drawings for their construction—an entirely new feature in transportation—first introduced by Dr. E. Harris, of the Sanitary Commission; Hygienic Management of Troops on the March; General Consideration of Gunshot Wounds; Gunshot Wounds of the Head, Neck, Chest, Abdomen, Extremities; Punctured and Incised Wounds; a complete chapter on Arrow Wounds, illustrated with cases and woodcuts (a new feature in a work on Military Surgery).

Gunshot Fractures, with illustrations of the various forms of apparatus now in use and found most serviceable by our Army Surgeons; Anæsthetics, their value and danger; Hospital Gangrene; Dry Grangrene; Scurvy; Diarrhœa and Dysentery.

General remarks on Amputations; Special Amputations, illustrated by woodcuts; Exsections, illustrated also fully; etc., etc.

It is the result of the author's own experience during three years' active service on the field; and to this has been added, as far as possible, the experience of other U. S. Army Surgeons and foreign surgeons.

The typographical character of the book is in the usual complete style of the enterprising publishers.

THREE MONTHS IN THE SERVICE OF THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

NO. VI.—STILL AT WHITE HOUSE, VA.

At midnight of the 9th, two hospital steamers, the *Wenonah* and *George Weems*, made fast to the *Elizabeth*, and we put on each of the boats full supplies for all sick and wounded on board, and laid down on our blankets, by 2 A. M. of the 10th of June. On that day the *James Guy* arrived from Washington, and the sad intelligence of the death of Dr. Winslow was confirmed. He was in the act of drawing water from the Potomac, for a favorite horse he had on board the *Guy*, (and the care of which he would entrust to no other person,) and the steamer being under full headway, directly the bucket touched the water it jerked him headlong overboard. Every effort was made to save him, but of no avail—he sank to rise no more, long before assistance could reach the spot where he was last seen. In the loss of Dr. Winslow the U. S. Sanitary Commission lost an unwearying worker, of immense influence for good, and suffering humanity an ever true friend. In passing I would remark, that his son, the wounded colonel, died in a few weeks afterward of the wounds he had received at the Wilderness fights. On the above day we were favored with a new sensation—a *colored* guard brought down 700 prisoners of war from the front. These and all prisoners in our hands at that point were sent to Fort Delaware. The day was furthermore remarkable because the news of the nomination of Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson reached us, causing great rejoicing. All our wounded were by that time well cared for; not more than 100 per day were arriving, and all around signs

were multiplying of an early evacuation of the place. Every day now brought numerous acquisitions to our auxiliary force, and it was well, for not less than 1600 bad cases needed the unremitting care of qualified nurses.

On Sunday, June 12th, Dr. Marks held Divine service. The sad scenes we had passed through seemed to have ripened the religious feelings of all, or nearly all, in the Commission; for all heard the word gladly, and several things were determined upon and carried into execution; among which were the establishment of morning and evening meetings for prayer and conference. These were not only countenanced by the Directors, but frequently one or more assisted in the exercises. These meetings were to continue so long as other duties did not divide us nor press so heavily upon us as to prevent our gathering. Another gratifying feature was introduced into our domestic arrangements namely, that of asking God's blessing upon our meat and drink in the dining-room at the public table. I am pleased to say our hurry was never so great as to cause us to omit that tribute of grateful hearts. Its influence we may never be able to bound, but that it was a great good to many souls I have no doubt. At that table sat men who had come from all quarters of the world. They asked of the Sanitary Commission food and lodging; it was freely accorded them after due proof had been given of their need. The tables were loaded with God's bounties, given through the people of the United States to the weary, sick, wounded and unexpectedly destitute soldier; also to those who had left homes far away, and had come to the front in search of loved sons, husbands, or brother, many of whom had money to pay for what they needed but could not purchase, and but for the U. S. Sanitary Commission, they must have starved, even while their pockets were filled with money. These joined us in our meals —the gentle, the rough, the illiterate, and the learned, the officer and the private—all at the same table. The plain fare was placed in good shape and condition on the table—the bell was rung—the guests took their seats at the tables, and as the Purveyor saw some guest at the table who be believed to be a christian, he would ask him to invoke God's blessing on the food. During the invocation the waiters would stand in silence —every voice being hushed, while, perhaps some soldier supplicated Divine favor on the food, its recipients, and their dear, but far distant, friends. I have dwelt on this point more at length than the subject seemed to warrant. But it really deserves what I have said, and much more, from the moral effects and sweet religious awakenings which flowed from it. Among the employees of the U. S. Sanitary Commission were rough laborers, especially engaged for their capacity for heavy, manual toil. Many of these were, perhaps, brought under wholesome moral influence, and the effect on them was of the best character, if we are permitted to accept their professions given subsequently, and under circumstances which would favor sincere utterances. Another large class of persons who had good reasons for thanking God for the establishment of this sweet exercise, were those whose early religious convictions had been choked by the excitements incident to their mode of life,—such frequently informed me that the impressive character of the scenes alluded to, had awakened them to the performance of long neglected duties. And to-day, in thousands of families throughout the loyal States, does the incense of prayer and praise burn, whose flames were relighted at the altars set up in the boats and tents of the Sanitary Commission.

LETTER FROM NASHVILLE.

BY EDWARD J. ENO.

NASHVILLE, *January* 25, 1865.

JUDGE E. ROOT,

DEAR SIR:—With this I hand you a statement of the disposition made of the car-load sanitary stores taken to Huntsville last week.

I found nearly all the 4th army corps in camp at or near this place, resting after a very hard campaign, and fitting up preparatory to the next, with new ambulances, huts and clothing.

The men were generally in good condition, well satisfied with the results of the season's work, and confident of future success.

There was one general hospital under the charge of Dr. Baldwin, with about 195 patients, generally doing very well. Their sanitary supplies were nearly exhausted, and ours came very opportunely. The general field hospital of the Cumberland, was also there in charge of Dr. Bissell. There were but few patients and the doctor asked for only a small quantity of sanitary stores.

It was then three weeks to the close of school, and if we could get it done by that

After consulting with the Medical Directors of the corps and post, it was thought advisable to open Sanitary Rooms, and on application to the Post Commander, Col. Lyon, he gave orders to the Quartermaster "to furnish us the best he could find." Since my return a telegram from Dr. Evans says they are secured.

Stevenson is a point requiring considerable aid from Sanitary. Dr. Humphrey, in charge of Post Hospital, appears to be doing all he can for the comfort of the men in his charge, and really requires a much larger amount of sanitary goods than the number of his patients would indicate, for the reason that so many are thrown upon him temporarily, on the way to or from their commands or hospitals.

The Home at this place (Stevenson,) is in charge of the Government, but needs the aid of Commission to help make convalescents comfortable, who are obliged to stop there waiting transportation. Government does not furnish *beds* or *blankets;* and the superintendent asks the Commission to furnish about thirty for sick and convalescents.

I have applied to the Medical Purveyor, and he assures me there is no authority to issue, there being no medical officer connected with the institution to receipt to him for them. In other respects I should think the Home well managed, and a very important station for soldiers going to and from their commands. Here they have to change cars, and remain from 6 to 24 hours. The books show that they feed an average of nearly 500 per day.

Dr. Humphrey had rooms vacated, and promised to reserve them for the Sanitary Commission. I would advise stores being sent there, with an agent to distribute them. It would not be necessary for a man to remain there all the time. A few days once in two weeks would be sufficient.

FOR THE CHILDREN.

The following little story is for the encouragement of Alert Clubs and Sunday-school societies and little sewing circles, that are at work for the Sanitary Commission. We will have severe struggles yet before this wicked rebellion shall come to an end, and every little boy and girl in the land should do something more in behalf of the country, that when peace shall come again, and the Union be established, every little heart will feel glad that its pulses were fresh and warm on the side of humanity and liberty.

BUSY BEES.

Their hive is an old stone school-house, with a low roof, and the most uncomfortable of seats. But we mustn't say much against it, for it was built as many as twenty years ago, when the prairie was first settled, and it is the mother of one of the two churches which stand close by it, and the grandmother of the other, and I've heard some of the old pioneers say that every stone in it was laid up with a prayer. Dear, venerable old school-house! its days are numbered, and soon its stones will be used for the foundation of another. So much for the hive.

The queen-bee last summer was Miss Bell—anybody could tell that a great way off, for as soon as she came in sight there was such buzzing, and flying to meet her, and crowding around her.

One day in August, Mrs. Smith, the minister's wife, came into the hive. She lives in the parsonage across the street; and because she hasn't any little children of her own, she claims tithes of all the boys and girls in the village.

She heard us read and spell, and say the multiplication table, up and down, forward and backward, and criss-cross.

Then we sang, and just before we were dismissed, Miss Bell asked her "to make some remarks." She laughed, and said, "Children, how many of you have friends in the army?"

Ever so many hands went up. Almost every child had either brother, cousin, or uncle there. Miss Bell didn't raise her hand, but we all knew she was thinking of a soldier's grave away down at Vicksburg, whose turf wasn't green yet, where lay her only brother. The next question was, "How many would like to do something for the soldiers?"

Forty right hands went up, and forty pairs of eyes shone like stars. What we were to do was this: Each one to make a block of patchwork for a quilt, and to *earn* all the pennies we could to buy the cotton and the lining for it.

The blocks were to be made like one she showed us, with a white center, on which the name and age of the one who gave it was to be written. Miss Bell agreed to help us, and write the names with her indelible pencil.

time, we were to invite our mothers to quilt it for us at the parsonage on the last day, while we had a pic-nic in the yard. You may be sure we all voted for it, especially the pic-nic.

For the next three weeks there was a humming and buzzing indeed, and such a flying back and forth between the parsonage and school-house with blocks and pennies!

Some of us were so excited we forgot to shut the gate, and the cows got in and came near eating up Mr. Smith's cabbages! The boys were as busy as the girls, though they had to get the girls to do their sewing for them, except Ellis, who sewed his own block with the nicest little stitches you ever saw.

It was funny to hear how they earned their pennies: one drove a cow to pasture, some drove horses on reapers, some picked up chips or brought in wood, and the girls rocked the babies, washed dishes, picked plums, and little Elsie washed her still smaller brother's face every morning, and bravely earned her penny in spite of his protests.

The last day came, it was as pleasant as if it had been made on purpose for us. The blocks were all finished, marked and set together—about three dollars in money had been collected and the cotton and lining bought. There were thirty-five blocks in the quilt; thirty-four of them had names and ages on them—none over twelve years—and on the centre one was written "Bradford County. For any soldier who loves little children."

We have gone on ever since working in this way—calling ourselves Busy Bees; but sometimes we are more buzzy than busy. We have made a good many comfort-bags and handkerchiefs, and almost blocks enough for another quilt. Our motto is, "Gather up the fragments, that nothing be lost;" and we learn a verse to repeat in concert every time.

But the best thing of all was what became of our quilt. It was sent in a box from the Ladies' Aid Society to the Sanitary Commission, with a note, saying if the one who got it would write to any of us, he would not need to advertise for correspondence.

It was almost three months before we heard from it, and we began to think some of those dreadful officers, that are said to get everything that goes to the Sanitary Commission, had got our quilt surely.

Our winter school had begun under a new teacher, when Mrs. Smith came in again one afternoon, with a letter in her hand, which she read to us, as follows:

MEMPHIS, TENN, *Nov.* 27, 1864.

To Thirty-four Little Friends of Mine, Bradford County,

DEAR FRIENDS:—Cold weather is coming on, you know, even down here in the "sunny South;" and, being away from my regiment, and not able to get any clothing or blankets from Uncle Sam, I went to the Sanitary Commission, and was given that splendid quilt that your pennies and busy little fingers made.

I am a Minnesota soldier, though I lived a number of years in your State, and know where you little folks live.

And now, I want to thank you all for your gift to the soldier, and tell you how highly I value it, how carefully I shall preserve it, and how I shall take it home with me (if I don't wear it out, and live to go home,) and keep it as a relic of my army life and in memory of my loyal and true little friends in Bradford County Keep on, little friends; don't be afraid the soldiers don't get your kindly gifts. Little hands never, never worked in so good and noble a cause. We soldiers honor and are proud of you all. I have not got any little children of my own; but I have father and mother, and brothers and sisters, who think I am very dear to them.

Brighter days are dawning, little friends, and I hope the day is not far off when your fathers and brothers can come home to you again. Once more I thank you as only a soldier can for your gift, and that God will help you all to grow up to be true men and women, and ever let His benediction of love rest upon you, is the earnest, hearty wish of

Your soldier friend, J. S. T——, Jr.,
Private, Co. E, —th Reg. Minn. Inf'ry.

P. S.—Will Mrs. Smith appropriate her share of this letter, and of my thanks. You are all very, very kind to us, and we are not insensible to it, even if it does seem sometimes as if all the good in us would be warped and destroyed. You will have to reform and polish us up when we come home. J. S. T., Jr.

So, you see, *one private* did get something from the Sanitary Commission, and, by his prompt and graceful acknowledgment of it, more than forty little folks were made happy and taught that even their little hands can do something for the needy and suffering; a lesson worth more to them than their gift to a shivering soldier. "He that watereth shall be watered also himself."—*N. Y. Independent.*

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PROTECTIVE
War-Claim Association
OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK.

OFFICE, 35 CHAMBERS STREET,
NEW YORK.

PRESIDENT.

LIEUT.-GEN. WINFIELD SCOTT.

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OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.

2d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.

3d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.

4th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., Cambridge, Mass.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clark, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, jr., Philadelphia, Penna.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
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Ezra B. McCagg, Chicago, Ill.

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Wm. H. Van Buren, M.D.	Wolcott Gibbs, M.D.
C. R. Agnew, M.D.	Charles J. Stillé.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regi-

ment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Nos. 10 & 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, State House, New Haven, Conn.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 244 F Street, Washington, D. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Distribution, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 46 Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Harper's Ferry, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Parole, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, City Point, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Newberne, N. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Beaufort, S. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, New Orleans, La

Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, N. Y.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 59 Fourth Street, Pittsburgh, Penna.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Columbus, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

EAST.

"Special Relief" Office, 76 Kingston Street, Boston, Mass.

"Special Relief" Office, 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

"Soldiers' Rest," Buffalo, Exchange street, opposite R. R. Depot.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C., where assistance is rendered in procuring Pay, Pensions, Bounty, Prize Money, and arrears of Pay and Bounty, and in various other ways.

"The Home," No. 374 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

WEST.

Soldiers' Home, No. 81 Jefferson avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Soldiers' Home, Third Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky., James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, New Albany, corner of Main and State Streets.

Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill., C. N. Shipman, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn., Captain I. Brayton, Sup't. Rev. J. Hoblit, Relief Agent

Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio, Col. Isaac Dalton, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio, Joseph Jerome, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Lodge, near landing, Memphis, Tenn., C. W. Christy, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Camp Nelson, Ky., Thomas Butler, Superintendent.

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Important Information for Soldiers and Sailors who have lost Limbs.

The "PALMER" ARM and LEG are now furnished for the mutilated heroes of the Army and Navy, and I have the pleasure of presenting extracts from official letters from the Surgeon-General, which will gratify numerous applicants, who, in the past, have been led to believe that they must accept an inferior limb, or have no aid from Government.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * *

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.
C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

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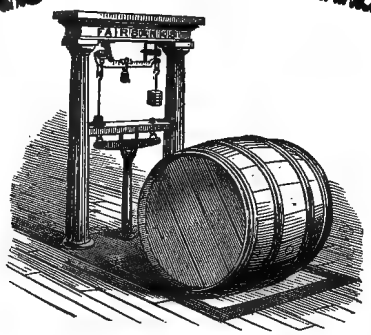
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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

No. 34. PHILADELPHIA, MARCH 15, 1865. No. 34.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 15,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No.* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

NEW ORLEANS

EXTRACT OF REPORT TO J. FOSTER JENKINS, M.D., GEN. SEC. U. S. SAN. COM., BY DR. GEORGE A. BLAKE.

All the work of the Commission may properly be called Relief Work, still, I can better present to your mind our entire work by classification into departments, viz.:—Supply, Relief, Special Relief, and Pension, Back-Pay, and Bounty. This classification is not perfect, because no Department is entirely independent of the others. The Supply Department furnishes material that affords relief, while Special Relief and Pension Departments work together in ascertaining and obtaining back-pay, bounty and pension for the worn out soldier and his relatives.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

Supplies have been furnished this Department from New York and Louisville. Fresh vegetables, sauerkraut, and pickles, constitute the bulk of our receipts from Louisville, while from New York we have received bedding, wearing apparel, stationery, hospital food, delicacies, &c., &c.

The Department of the Gulf being so far removed, and completely isolated from the central office, it has been impossible always to signify our wants and have them filled at once by requisition, consequently considerable latitude has been allowed in the purchase of supplies for special particular emergencies.

The distribution of our supplies to the troops, and those sick in hospital at the principal posts, has been made by our own agents; Mr. Boltwood, representing the Commission at Baton Rogue, Port Hudson, and Morgansia; Mr. Miller at Forts Gaines and Morgan; and Mr. Stevens at Barrancas, Fla. The demand on us for supplies has been increased by the fact that the troops have not been paid for several months. The regulations provide that every soldier shall be furnished with clothing, but his descriptive roll must be accessible, that entry can be made and relieve the officer delivering the property from all responsibility. But suppose a case, and many such have been presented to our notice.

Descriptive List—where the Commission is particularly useful in supplying clothing, and how the men would of necessity suffer but for its interposition.

A private in a regiment from New York is captured west of the Mississippi River, and confined in Texas several months, during which he is stripped, robbed of everything, and finally is received by our authorities,

an exchanged prisoner of war. He is sick and sent to hospital to be kindly cared for. His tattered and worn and filthy garments have been burned or otherwise disposed of, he recovers and wishes to draw clothing, but his descriptive roll is with his regiment, and that is in Virginia. The regulations provide that all soldiers in hospital shall be provided with clothing, through the surgeon in charge, even if they have no descriptive roll, but my experience proves that surgeons in charge of hospitals will not do it when regiments are out of the Department; they will not take the responsibility, and there is nothing to compel them to do it. Now then the right of the soldier exists whether he gets money or not, but the comforts he desires and needs are not obtained; if he was paid his dues he would willingly buy all he requires, but he has no money or credit, is poor indeed, and thousands of miles away from home. The recollection that his mother, wife or sister had worked for the Sanitary Commission, and for the benefit of the soldier, stimulates him to call at our store-room and ask a favor. How many have said, "I wouldn't trouble you if I had any money!" and say they are ashamed to beg, but call on the Commission for assistance, having always considered it the special friend of the soldier. He seems to regard the Commission as a mutual insurance company against want and discomfort in the army, and considers the benefactions bestowed by their immediate friends as so much premium paid to insure their comfort.

Officers.

Officers too, having received no money for five, six, eight and ten months, have solicited assistance. As agent of the Commission all soldiers I must regard alike, whether officer or private, white or black, and when in a state of destitution that cannot be otherwise provided for, all are treated as worthy objects of charity, and their wants supplied according to our ability.

Prisoners—what Government does not furnish to Prisoners, and what the Commission does furnish.

Returned prisoners of war are sent to Camp of Distribution. They have nothing with which to make themselves comfortable. Government furnishes them clothing, but does not furnish tin-cups, knives and forks, tin-plates, or spoons; neither does it furnish a towel, or a comb, and yet every American soldier could provide himself with these articles if he had the money,—if he was "paid off," but he isn't, and to whom can he appeal with any hope, save to the Commission?

How the Commission Sustains the Government.

By supplying these wants, Commission has been able to support and sustain the Government, as it were, pouring oil on the troubled waters by making comfortable what had been scarcely sufferable.

Yellow Fever.

During the latter part of summer and early fall, yellow fever made its appearance among the naval fleet; several vessels were ordered to quarantine, and we were able to contribute largely to their relief by a generous distribution of musquito bars, not only to the sick but also among the crew. Before the supply of musquito bars, it was doubtful in the minds of many, whether the men suffered more from the fever than from the bite and annoyance of that insect.

Fort Gaines.

Mr. Miller, in charge of a large amount of stores, accompanied the land forces in their attack on Fort Gaines, and was enabled to render efficient aid not only to the soldiers but also to the sailors wounded in the great naval conflict in Mobile Bay. Afterwards the wounded were removed to hospital at Pensacola Navy Yard, and were ministered unto by our agent, Mr. Stevens. The sick were brought to this city and placed in Naval Hospital, where there were during the season about fifty cases of yellow fever; several requisitions were filled for the surgeon in charge of the hospital, who gratefully acknowledged receipt of the stores.

Scurvy.

During last summer and early part of the fall, all our troops at every post in this Department suffered severely with scurvy. No vegetables were issued by the Commissary Department of the army, and strong appeals were made to us for anti-scorbutics. The enormous prices that prevailed in the market for fresh vegetables, ten and twelve dollars per barrel, and the immense quantity necessary to supply the demand, deterred me from purchasing. I did, however, buy all the sauerkraut that was in the city, at moderate rates, and distributed it to those

posts most afflicted, viz.: Brasos Santiago, Dauphin Island, Mobile Point, and Barrancas, Fla.

In September, we received one hundred barrels of onions from New York, which seemed only as a drop in the bucket, and it was not until we received a cargo from Louisville in October, and subsequently two other large lots in November, that were freely distributed to hospitals and men in the ranks, that the disease was entirely checked, and notes of thanksgiving came to us from every quarter. There was not a soldier in the Deparament that did not share this bounty, and I only wish every potato and onion could have been stamped U. S. Sanitary Commission, that the source of the bounty should be continually patent to all. I have received many letters from different surgeons, testimonials of the appreciation of our gifts that I have previously forwarded. To-day I received another through Mr. Boltwood, from Surgeon Gray, Medical Director on Brig. Gen. Ulman's Staff, which I append.

Gardens.

That so much disability may not occur another season, by reason of scurvy, I was recently informed by Lieutenant Colonel Vollum, Medical Inspector Department West Mississippi, that an order would be issued from headquarters, General Canby, requiring that gardens be cultivated at every post in the Department, by the troops stationed there; and he consulted me in regard to the seeds requisite to carry out the order, and solicited the assistance of the Commission. He stated that the only legitimate way in which seeds could be "regularly" procured was from the Post Fund, unless the several commandants purchase them with their own funds, and such instances of benevolence were rare in the army, especially in the present destitute condition of the paymasters. The garrisons of the different posts being changed frequently, a Post Fund had been rarely created, and he asked if the Commission would furnish seeds. It was impossible for me to consult you before deciding, and recollecting that in some departments the Commission cultivates gardens for the troops, I thought it would be willing to furnish seed and allow the troops to do their own work, that it would accord with the spirit of our work to say "yes," and I said it! The order has not yet been issued; when it is, if it ever is, I shall issue a circular to be distributed with the order, from the office of Medical Inspector, engaging in behalf of the Commission to furnish every post in the Department seeds for a garden.*

During the later part of November, I engaged R. C. Chace, temporarily as Relief Agent, and sent him to Key-West, in charge of one hundred barrels of vegetables and sauerkraut, instructing him to report to the Medical Director at that post, and consult him in regard to the distribution best to be made. Surgeon McCulley, Acting Purveyor at that post, advised that half of the stores be sent to Cedar Keys, on the west coast of Florida, about three hundred miles from Key-West, and requested Mr. Chace to go himself in charge; he did go, and as I forwarded his report so recently, I must refer you to that for particulars. After the return of Mr. Chace, I received a letter from Surgeon McCulley, inclosing a requisition for stores, which I append, with a copy of my reply, marked No. 2.

Refugees.

Refugees and their relation to the Commission? This question has perplexed me wonderfully. Their utter destitution has excited my sympathy, and their claim to relief is undoubtedly just and well founded, especially the women and children, the old and decrepit, the sick, maimed, halt and blind. The able-bodied can take care of themselves; avenues to work and usefulness are too abundant under our Government to afford any pretext for them to become suppliants for alms. What can I do for them legitimately and not trespass on the claims of the soldier for our bounty, or prostitute the confidence reposed in me as agent of the Commission, by officially sanctioning a diversion of this charity? I have thus far acted on the principle that the existence of this great want is an anomaly in our country, and at present no definite rules of action can be established; and relying on the elasticity of the benevolent hearts that support our organization, I have ventured occasionally to extend the mantle of its charity to protect the poor refugee.

Families of Soldiers.

Another class of applicants for assistance has besieged the door of our store-room, directly and indirectly, through the city authorities, viz.: families of those soldiers

* The seed has been forwarded to New Orleans.

in the United States Army that enlisted in this city. Here the suffering that occurs from non-payment of the troops is double what the soldier and his family experience who enlisted in the Northern States, because here the family receives no relief from State or city authorities, (and one almost includes the other,) and are entirely dependent on the money earned by the husband, father, brother, or son in the army, and the destitution that most necessarily exist when this source fails can be better imagined than described. In cases of sickness in these families, I have occasionally delivered stores to them on requisition from the City Physician.

I will conclude my report in regard to the Supply Department, by giving the aggregate amount of vegetables issued since October 1, 1864, and of milk, wine, farinaceous diet, &c., issued during the past six months, viz.: Vegetables, (potatoes, onions, &c.,) 12,234 bushels; pickles and sauer-kraut, 26,360 gallons; tomatoes, (in cans,) 4,643 pounds; condensed milk, 6,312 pounds; farinaceous diet, (farina, corn-starch, &c.,) 3,291 pounds; wine, (foreign and domestic,) 6,327 bottles; crackers, 148 barrels; beef stock, 1,077 pounds.

RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

Soldiers' Home.

Under this head I shall include what I have to say about the "Soldiers' Home." We have no "Lodges," and no "Rests" in this Department, as no necessity for them at present exists. The statistics of the "Home" up to December, 1864, were carefully compiled and forwarded to Rev. J. A. Anderson, Philadelphia, by Mr. Bullard, and afterwards appeared in the BULLETIN of January 15, 1865. I now add the statistical report, consolidated for December, 1864, and January, 1865, as furnished by O. S. Bullard, Superintendent, in his report to me 1st inst., and which I append, marked No. 3.

Total number admitted, . .	1,611
Number meals furnished, .	27,487
" lodgings " . .	9,280
Amt. money deposited in safe, .	$8,727 29

The name "Soldier's Home" is very broad and comprehensive, and really suggests more than is intended, especially to the shirk, who is disposed to make the "Home" a hiding place from duty, and thus bring discredit upon the institution in the minds of military men, by making it a harbor for malingers, consequently we admit no one without an exhibition of discharge or furlough papers, or orders from proper authority. The rule of our action is comprehended under the following circular designating proper persons for admission to the "Home:"

1. All discharged soldiers.

2. All soldiers furloughed from hospitals or regiments *outside* the city; those furloughed in the city being detained in hospital or at their quarters, till transportation is procured, in order that they may receive full benefit of their furlough, to be dated when they leave the city.

3. Orderlies detailed at various headquarters, and all "duty men" temporarily detained in the city, with orders from headquarters, defences, or higher authority.

4. All soldiers who arrive at night are provided with lodging and breakfast, after which they will not be received unless an order is presented from headquarters, defences or higher military authority.

By acting in accordance with these rules we are able to do good service to the soldier, and satisfy the military authorities that we are honest, and their real assistants in caring for the soldier.

To convey to your mind more fully the benefits derived from the "Home" by the private soldier, and also the spirit that animates us in the work, I will copy from report made to me by Mr. O. C. Bullard, our worthy Agent of Special Relief.

Relation of the Home to the Soldier—His Rights, and the checks necessary to prevent Imposition and Fraud—necessity for exact records and satisfactory evidence of claim to Protection and Assistance.

"During the month of December, 1864, the attention of those most interested in the welfare and success of the Soldier's Home, was called to the necessity of a better system in the registry of names, classification, use of tickets and other methods to prevent imposition, while we endeavor to perform the double duty of always rendering proper aid to those coming within our province, and at the same time have an honest record, in all our reports to military authorities, on which are based the requisitions for rations, fuel, &c., from Government.

"On the first of January, 1865, a new system of meal-tickets and registry cards was adopted, which, after a month's trial, is considered highly satisfactory. This matter

is of more importance at *this*, than perhaps at any other Home of the Commission. Our peculiar relations with the military authorities require exact records. It is especially important to protect ourselves from the suspicion of harboring soldiers who may seek to hide away from their just obligations; while equal care devolves on us to see that parties for whom rations are drawn, are properly reported, so that Government may not be defrauded. It is intended that it shall be conducted on principles strictly honest towards the Government, and with all proper liberality towards every soldier who has a just claim upon us."

Relation of Home to the Military Authorities—Its Foundation and History.

The relation of the Home to the military authorities and the Commission, is shown by Mr. Bullard, in a letter to Capt. Brown, who was sent to inspect the "Home" by General Sherman. He expressed himself as well pleased, and requested a letter stating the origin of the "Home," and what the Commission contributed to its support, &c., and I copy from it.

"'The Soldiers' Home was established under Special Order, No. 272, Headquarters Department of the Gulf, in October, 1863.' The history of it up to the time of transfer of its patronage or care from the *Western* to the *U. S.* Sanitary Commission need not be here repeated, save to say that in February, 1864, by order of Major General Reynolds, then commanding defences of New Orleans, an agent of the U. S. Sanitary Commission was appointed Superintendent. Since then the Home has been conducted by the Commission on the following general principles:

"The Government furnishes for the use of the Home the building known as the 'Planter's Hotel,' corner of Magazine and Julia Streets. It also furnishes rations and fuel, based upon the morning reports, daily returned to Headquarters, Defences. The U. S. Sanitary Commission hires three adjoining buildings and lots, No. 94 Julia Street, is used for a baggage room and lodgings for detailed men. No. 96 Julia Street, contains the office of the Special Relief Agent and Pension Agent; the rear of the building being used for lodgings for colored soldiers and colored help, with laundry arrangements on lower floor. Buildings and lot on Magazine Street, adjoining the Planter's Hotel, are used for storage, wood yard, &c.

"The Sanitary Commission has provided iron bedsteads comfortably furnished with bedding; all the neceessary kitchen, table, and laundry utensils, and the fixtures for heating, not belonging to the building.

"It pays the gas bills, a surgeon for daily attendance on the sick, the services of Superintendent, Matron, two female nurses, a night watchman, and from twelve to fifteen male and female employees. The working force is necessarily large. The cooking, washing, scrubbing, chamberwork, preparation of wood and coal, incident to such an establishment, (if neatly conducted) will explain the point. The common table is furnished to a considerable extent with vegetables, dried fruit, milk, pickles, &c., by the Commission, in addition to Government rations. There is a comfortable hospital ward for all needing medical attendance, or who are too feeble to go to the common table, or to sit up through the day. Seven men are daily detailed from the 1st N. O. Regiment, who act as guard at the Home, and at the Government buildings on the opposite corner."

The Importance of the Home.

I quote again from Mr. Bullard's report: "In estimating the importance of this institution, it must be remembered that New Orleans in the point from which every soldier discharged or furloughed in this Department starts for the North and North-East, via Cairo and New York. Some are delayed in the city for the settlement of their claims,—all are delayed more or less for transportation.

"Provision has been made in the 'Camp of Distribution' for all returning from furlough, and for those returned to duty from hospitals.

"The numbers reported at the Home are, of course, less than would be the case if we fed regiments passing through the city, or if we were unrestricted in the classes admitted. The work as now conducted is wholly in unison with the military authorities.

"We do not aim to do what is already provided for in the proper channels, but to meet emergencies incident to locality and other circumstances. Thus the Home is not only a charitable institution for the needy and suffering, but affords also direct and efficient help to the Government.

"The hospital ward has become an important department. Miss Jones is a capi-

tal nurse, and has her hands full. She is kind, efficient, and untiring in her attention to the sick. Feeble, broken-down men, who have started for their distant homes, and often march straightforward for the long journeys before them by a few day's rest, kind nursing, generous diet and proper stimulants. It is in such cases that the gifts of the people, through the Sanitary Commission come right home to the hearts of the recipients. Occasionally discharged or furloughed men from posts outside the city, get thus far towards their homes, and are too feeble to resume their journey. It is better that they die here, surrounded with such comforts as are gladly furnished, than to pass away on a crowded ocean transport, or on the open decks of a river boat. In connection with the operations of the Home, comes in considerable help for the boys, in getting them started right and comfortably for Cairo or New York. All needed assistance is rendered in procuring transportation. Government transports for New York start from Bulls' Head, some two miles from the "Home;" boats going up the river, leave the levee nearer to us; ambulances and army wagons are obtained from the Quartermaster, to carry men and baggage to the boats, when necessary.

"Furloughed men going home on Government transportation are furnished by Government requisition on the Commissary for five or ten days rations. These requisitions are brought to the Home, and the soldier receives what he wants to make his journey comfortable."

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

The Necessity for it—Its Advantages to the Men, and its Help to the Government.

This work is especially under the charge of Mr. O. C. Bullard, a patient, untiring worker in behalf of the soldier. The labor in this Department is very valuable, aye, inestimable, and is not appreciated—it is not tangible, and cannot be easily represented. Mr. Bullard acts as attorney for the soldier, and sometimes for the Paymaster, protecting him from loss, he is really a mediator between the two. Paymasters are the servants of the people, intrusted with money, and are under bonds to account for it, and those are rare who do not think more of their bond than of the claim of the soldier to his consideration. If the soldier's papers are all correct, he is paid immediately, but if they are not, he is simply told "your papers are not correct, I cannot pay you." Disappointed, he falls back, and another takes his place; he looks at his papers, thinks of his officers, and wonders "what the matter is." Of course, he does not know, and having recovered the shock occasioned by the first announcement, he elbows himself among the crowd up to the Paymaster's desk again, and presents his paper asking what correction is needed, he is informed that his papers are altogether wrong, and must be corrected. The soldier is no wiser than before, and falls back again to give place to another. Perhaps he came from a post between five and six hundred miles away, and means of transportation irregular, still his papers must go back to the officer in command of the company for correction; what correction is required he don't know, and can gain no information from the paymaster, and if he sends his papers to his commanding officer, the chances are they will be again returned incorrect. Disappointed and dejected he falls back and accidentally hears of Mr. B., (and here Special Relief work begins,) who happens to have been present all the time giving instructions to other men. Mr. Bullard is a stranger to him, but he sees that he is willing to talk to a common soldier. Mr. Bullard, too, has not been an unconscious observer of the scene, and says, "Well, my boy, what is the matter?" "Oh! I don't know, Paymaster says they are not right," holding up his papers, "and must be corrected by the captain who made them out, and he is down to Brasos, sir." The papers are examined by Mr. Bullard, and the error noticed; he tells him to call at his office, and he will provide him with a new set of papers, made out correctly, and send them with a letter of instruction to his captain, and in the meantime he can stop at the "Home." The papers are sent forward, and returned corrected, money is collected, and the man goes home. This is no fancy picture; it has been an actual occurrence, and attention to such cases as these is the daily experience of our Special Relief Agent. This is the work that makes no show, but is of real, genuine benefit to the soldier.

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

This has been conducted by Mr. Seaton, who makes the claim as alleged by the applicant and myself, regularly appointed Examining Surgeon for Pensions. In order that Mr. Seaton could legally prosecute

claims, it was necessary that he be not only Notary Public, but also have access to the seal of a court of record, and it was a source of pleasure to be able on the strength of the good reputation of the Commission to have him appointed Deputy Clerk of a District Court.

The work of the Pension Department up to January, 1865, is represented by statistical report from Mr. Seaton, which I append, marked No. 5, and respectfully call attention to it. The note at the botton will account for so few allowances for pension claims.

Total arrears of pay, bounty and prize money collected, .	$5,318 97
Total amount of annual pensions allowed, ...	3,500 00

Sick in Hospital in New Orleans.

The number sick in general hospitals in this city, January 31, 1865, was very small.

Number in Marine Hospital, . .	263
" " Barracks, . . .	136
" " St. Louis, . . .	272
Total, ...	671

Besides these there are 953 in Hospital Corps d'Afrique, of whom over five hundred are sick with variola or varioloid.

No. 1.

Testimony of Dr. E. P. Gray, *to the value of the contributions of the Commission, not only in relieving suffering, but in saving life and promoting efficiency of army.*

Morganzia, La., *Jan.* 30, 1865.

Henry L. Boltwood,
Relief Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission.

Dear Sir:—Permit me to make grateful acknowledgments to the U. S. Sanitary Commission for its bountiful issues of hospital supplies and vegetables to the troops of this command, for the past six months. Our sick have been numerous, and our facilities for making them comfortable quite limited. Owing to an insufficient issue of vegetables by the Commissary Department, scurvy was developed to an alarming extent, aggravating greatly all other diseases, and rendering some of the regiments of colored troops totally ineffective for all active service, while their ranks were being daily decimated by death.

This was particularly the case during the months of August, September and October, when it was impracticable to obtain the necessary supplies from the Government.

By the liberality of the people of the North, God bless them! our sick have been made comfortable, scurvy has been banished, the frequency and severity of other diseases greatly diminished, and the mortality reduced to a ratio simply incidental to a healthy condition of troops.

If was observed by all the surgeons at at the Post, that within two weeks of the time you made large issues of fresh vegetables in October last, that a marked diminution of sickness was the result, and it is from that date that our deliverance from scurvy and kindred diseases began.

This would not have been accomplished so readily had your supplies not been sufficiently bountiful to reach the indisposed in quarters, as well as the sick in hospital, thus in a measure striking at the root of the evil, (defective nutrition).

Since the 20th of November, the Government ration has greatly improved, we have had regular issues of fresh vegetables, which has stayed all further progress of the disease, and enabled us to cure the cases already on our hands.

The present excellent health of the command is largely owing to the donations of the Commission, and I am sure no contributor to its stores could see the good done here, and not feel both amply repaid and encouraged to continue in the good work.

I am very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. P. Gray,
Surgeon 70th N. Y. Vol., in charge U. S. Forces.

No. 2.

Prisoners of Tortugas, and Refugees of Florida.

Act. Medical Purveyor's Office,
Dist. of Key-West and Tortugas,
Key-West, Fla., *January* 10, 1865.

Sir:—I have the honor to request that the enclosed requisition be filled and forwarded to this Post for distribution in this District. If you confide it to me I shall see that the prisoners at Tortugas are supplied; but it is most needed for the refugees of Florida.

Very respectfully your obt. serv't.,

Wm. A. McCulley,
Surgeon and Act. Medical Purveyor.

G. A. Blake, M.D.,
Genl. Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission,
New Orleans, La.

NEW ORLEANS, *January* 18, 1865.

WM. A. MCCULLEY,
Surg and Act Medical Purveyor,
Dist. Key-West and Tortugas.

DEAR SIR:—Yours of the 10th instant, inclosing requisition came to hand to to-day. I will send you by the first transport the following stores:

96 cans condensed milk; 200 cans beef stock; 3 barrels crackers; half barrel dried fruit; 10 barrels sauerkraut; 100 cotton shirts; 25 wool shirts; 100 towels; 50 lbs. chocolate; 48 lbs. farina; 40 corn starch; 5 barrels of pickles; 12 bottles of lime juice; 25 pairs wool drawers; 25 pairs cotton drawers; 50 pairs wool socks.

These are all I can send you at present. I have no fresh vegetables, and send you pickles and sauerkraut instead. I am daily expecting a shipment of vegetables from Louisville, and will send you a lot another time.

The closing sentence of your letter signifying that the requisition you forwarded was "most needed for the refugees of Florida," causes me to remark that the first and foremost object of the Sanitary Commission is to provide for our national soldiers when sick and wounded, and also when needy and destitute from circumstances beyond their control, and then only when the resources of the Government are inaccessible. And it is a question in my mind how far our supplies may be distributed to refugees without being considered a diversion of this charity.

The poor refugees, especially the women and children, are sadly to be pitied, and deserve better treatment at the hands of our Government than they now receive, and are worthy the charitable consideration of all loyal citizens; still, that fact does not determine what claim they have on the Sanitary Commission.

As I have no specific instruction in regard to this subject, I willingly consign to you this invoice of stores, trusting to your honor and fidelity that they will only be distributed to those actually in want

Your letter, per our Agent, Mr. Chace, acknowledging receipt of vegetables, came duly to hand.

By signing the inclosed receipt, and returning the same to this office, your will oblige,

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

GEO. A. BLAKE,
U. S. Sanitary Commission.

No. 3.

Report of Home for the months of December and January.

NEW ORLEANS, *February* 1, 1865.

DR. GEO. A. BLAKE,
General Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission.

SIR:—I have the honor to submit the following as a statistical report of the working of the "Soldiers' Home," for the month of December, 1864, and January, 1865.

There were admitted into the "Home" during the month of December, 1864, as follows:

Duty men,	607
Furloughed men,	48
Discharged men,	126
Making a total of,	781
Number of meals furnished during the month,	14,935
Number of lodgings,	5,042
Amount of money deposited in the safe during the month was,	$4,208 64

During January, 1865, there were admitted:

Duty men,	601
Furloughed men,	57
Discharged men,	178
Making a total of,	830
Showing an excess over the preceding month of,	49
Number of meals furnished during the month,	12,552
Number of lodgings,	4,238
Amount of money deposited in the safe was,	$4,518 65

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

O. S. BULLARD,
Superintendent

No. 4.

Form of Regulations to secure justice to the Government, and relief to the worthy applicant.

NEW ORLEANS, 186

OFFICER COMMANDING
Regiment

SIR:—Under existing rules, the Paymasters in this Department object to pay on final statements of discharged soldiers, when not perfectly clear and definite on certain important points:

1st. (*a*). If the discharge is "by reason

of Surgeon's certificate of disability," the last word should be followed by the sentence, "incurred *since* (or *prior to*) enlistment," (or re-enlistment). Papers are rejected that are not explicit in this respect.

(*b*). If a soldier is discharged "for wounds," it should be stated, "by reason of wound received in battle at," etc., (giving place and date).

2d. (*a*). *Place* (town and State) and *date* of enlistment should be given, as well as *place* and *date* of muster into service.

(*b*). If drafted, place and date of draft should be given.

Travel allowances are reckoned from *place* of discharge to *place* of enlistment.

Clothing accounts are settled from *date* of enlistment, unless there has been a subsequent settlement of clothing.

(*c*). A volunteer, discharged to re-enlist as a veteran, having so re-enlisted, when finally discharged, is entitled to travel allowances to place of *original enlistment*. Therefore, the *place* of original enlistment and place of re-enlistment should be given.

3d. Date of last settlement of clothing account should follow amount of clothing *since drawn*.

If there has been no settlement, the words "*since enlistment*" (or re-enlistment) should follow amount given.

4th. If the soldier has received advanced bounty, one or more instalments, the actual amount should be given, *not including premium*.

If one or more instlments are due, *but unpaid*, the fact should be so stated.

5th. The date of final statements must be the same as that of the certificate of discharge.

The *place* of discharge must be plainly indicated on final statements, to meet the question of travel allowances.

The great inconvenience to which discharged soldiers have been subjected from *apparently* slight errors in their papers, and the saving to Government in all cases fully settled on discharged papers, are deemed sufficient excuse for this circular.

Your attention to the above suggestions is respectfully solicited.

O. C. BULLARD,
Special Relief Agt. U. S. Sanitary Commission.

Marginal notes must be signed officially.
O. C. B.

No. 5.

Statistical Report of the Work of Pension Department at New Orleans, to January 1, 1865.

Claims of	For	Executed in												Decided.	
		February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	1854.	Allowed.	Rejected and discontinued.	Total.
Discharged soldiers or sailors,	Pensions, Pay, Bounty and Prize Money,	10	62	83	69	47	32	15	4	14	12	9	367	42	34	76
Friends of deceased soldiers and sailors,	Pensions, Back Pay and Bounty,	15	6	16	7	13	15	7	5	9	3	3	99		2	44
Old Pensioners,	Arrears,	23	7	16	10	14	15	10	9	12	13	13	141	42		
			1	3									4		6	7
Total claims,		51	99	123	89	79	68	32	22	38	28	32	662	85	42	127

Total amount of arrears of pay, bounty, and prize money collected, $5,318 97.

Total amount of annual pensions allowed, $3,500.

About 160 of the pension claims are those of claimants residing at New Orleans. In these the Commissioner of Pensions refuses to give certificates "until Louisiana is once more unmintakeably in the Union."

"OLD FATHER SANITARY."

NEW ORLEANS, *Feb.* 4, 1865.

DEAR DR.:—My last report left me packing up at Pascagoula. On Sunday morning I was notified to be prepared at any moment, but after waiting patiently all night, I with great difficulty procured a wagon on Monday morning, but could not get my stores on board of steamer until near night, when after paying off and sending away my laborers, I received permission to put my stores on board the Warrior, the Mate *kindly* consented to put them in the hold, if delivered to him on the deck. So

to work I went, to roll barrels of kraut on board with my own hands, but before I had got the first barrel on board, I heard a voice which said, "Come boys, here is old Father Sanitary in a scrape, let us help him out," and so they did, for in less than fifteen minutes they had placed on board 25 barrels, 23 boxes, and 5 chests. This I assure you was very gratifying to me, I felt that my labors were appreciated by the private soldiers, the very men whom I came to benefit, and I received it as a personal compliment, as these very men, if detailed for the purpose, would not have worked with the same care or spirit as they did voluntarily, not even waiting for me to ask assistance.

Well, at last, on Tuesday, we left for Fort Gaines, arriving there the same night. I had my light goods taken to my rooms that same night, or rather near daylight. I succeeded in getting my stores all stored, distributed two barrels of kraut to each regiment on the Island, and made arrangements to supply those on the main land with the same quantity; took a memorandum of articles required, and here I am. Having lost two night's sleep this week, and feeling otherwise the want of *rest*, I shall remain for a few days, feeling assured that there can be no forward movements which will require my attention, during the time I expect to remain here. From all indications I anticipate active forward movements, and when a move is made, it will be an extensive and active one, hence for the next few months there will be no such thing as *rest*.

Respectfully,

W. R. MILLER,
Relief Agt. U. S. Sanitary Commission.

FROM BATON ROUGE.

BY HENRY L. BOLTWOOD.

BATON ROUGE, LA., *Jan.* 12, 1865.

DEAR SIR:—Since my rast report I have received your shipment per "Starlight," 64 packages all in good order. The additional supply was very acceptable. A large proportion of the potatoes was sent to the general haspital, where four-fifths of all the sick are at present treated. The regimental hospitals are generally given up; wisely, I think, for the general hospital is large enough to accommodate all who need accommodation; and it is impossible to make the sick very comfortable in tents during the cold and stormy weather now common. Besides, the cavalry which makes up the large portion of the force here, is liable to frequent and sudden moves, when the sick are very likely to suffer.

In issuing the vegetables I made liberal issues, so far as my supply went, thinking that a supply large enough to be felt would be better appreciated when received, even if all did not receive at the present issue. The kraut was particularly acceptable to the cavalry regiments, which are very largely made up of Germans. Most of the hospital supplies were sent to the general hospital. The pest house, were there are twelve soldiers and fifty citizens sick with the small-pox, also received a supply of shirts and drawers enough for all the soldier patients, besides milk and other articles of diet.

PAROLED PRISONERS.

Twenty-one paroled prisoners, who came in from Cahawba, Alabama, were supplied with shirts, drawers, combs, and towels, all of which they greatly needed. They were generally in good health, and though they had been thoroughly pillaged at their first capture, they had been tolerably well treated. Their supply of food was much better than their facilities for cooking it.

IN HOSPITAL.

I spend a considerable portion of each day in the Hospital, endeavoring to see each of the 300 patients three times a week. I have supplied every man with tobacco, needles, thread, combs, buttons, paper, and envelopes; besides distributing 100 pipes, 60 handkerchiefs, and 40 housewives. I have supplied the hospitals with tobacco for the last month, issuing nearly 100 pounds in all. None of the men have been paid since May last, and they are entirely destitute of money.

HOUSEWIVES FROM NEW YORK.

The housewives which came in the barrel sent to my address from New York, were very neatly gotten up and well supplied with sewing materials, combs, handkerchiefs, and last but not least, letters, which are very highly prized. I have distributed considerable milk in the wards, particularly in the ward appropriated to the wounded. I have given them enough for their tea and coffee every day, and have also carried them several bottles of catsup which they all pronounce "bully." I have spent several hours in reading aloud to the men in this ward, who were very much pleased and request me to come often. I have also

been called upon several times to officiate as chaplain at the funeral of deceased soldiers. I find no difficulty in occupying my time fully, and so far as I can judge profitably.

SUIPLIES GO TO THE MEN.

I am sure that the supplies distributed here have relieved men who were really needy and suffering, and I am also sure that they went to those for whom they were designed. Knowing the prevalence of the notion that the soldiers do not receive the articles sent them, I have taken great pains to distribute personally all that I consistently could, and also to make the recipients understand where the articles came from. The Commission seldom gets any credit for articles distributed through the regimental commissary, or added to the regular hospital diet. Men may be fed and clothed for weeks by the contributions of the Commission without knowing it.

Considering the exposure and heavy duty to which the cavalry has been subjected of late, the health is good. The men complain that the government rations are not enough to satisfy their hunger, and I am inclined to think that as they are generally cooked, they are not quite large enough.

FROM MORGANZIA, LA.

January 25, 1865.

DR. G. A. BLAKE.

DEAR SIR:—I arrived at Morganzia on Friday last, having been nearly three days on the way. I find the troops at this post in a very healthy condition. Only five per cent. are reported unfit for duty, and there are very few serious cases. One regiment doing garrison duty in the fort, and living in log barracks is by far the sickliest of any in the command. As it has previously been healthy, I think the cause must be sought in the close barracks, too small to give sufficient air, and also situated in low, damp ground. The post bakery, recently put in operation, supplies the command with good fresh bread daily. The supplies really needed are not large in quantity or of great variety. Milk, corn starch, hospital shirts and drawers, bedding, rags and bandages, are the principal articles called for. The pickles and kraut are always acceptable. The weather is very cool, and I find tent life by no means luxurious. I am having a small cabin built, to serve as store house and lodging-room. The lumber and the workmen are furnished me without any expense to the Commission. Every one here seems to recognize the U. S. Sanitary as an indispensable institution.

FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

BY M. M. MARSH, M.D.

BEAUFORT, S. C., *Feb.* 14.

To render intelligible the issues appended, a very brief epitome of the work for the last two months is essential. For the last year we have extended very little aid to established hospitals, leaving them to depend almost entirely upon their own resources; which, if properly managed, are abundantly sufficient for the maintenance and comfort of patients.

During the month of November our issues were principally to escaped prisoners. With the necessities of this unfortunate class you are, in a general way, acquainted; but to appreciate the extent, the eye must behold them, and a picture will be impressed that memory will ever retain. Had the Commission never done more than what it has accomplished for prisoners, confined and escaped, this alone would justify all its expenditures, from its inception to the present.

POCOTALIGO.

During the last days of November an expedition was organized to operate against the enemy in the neighborhood of Pocotaligo. With its general results you are familiar, but why so exhaustive of Commission supplies, requires explanation. First it was supposed that the object of the expedition would be accomplished almost immediately, and preparation for five days only was made by the military authorities. As usual, a steamer was assigned the Commission by General Foster, and more from habit than expectation of a prolonged campaign (which continues until the present), preparations were made for any possible contingency. And another cause for our disproportional issues, was the fact that during the succeeding months, December and January, the thermometer has presented a lower average temperature than has been for years, if ever, known in this section of country.

Unfurnished for many days with any additional supplies, the troops must have suffered terribly had not the Commission had clothing, blankets, &c., in abundance on the field. In the article of food, as well as clothing, the supplies of the Commission

were available; for from the 30th November, on which the battle of Honey Hill occurred, to the 6th December, in the P.M., not a ration was draw for a sick or wounded man. This is not said to censure, but to show the propriety, when practicable, of extensive preparation.

I would also call attention to the folly of a remark lately noticed in one of your city journals, viz., that the aid of the Sanitary Commission is no longer necessary to the army, in consequence of better preparation for troops than in the early part of the war. And further, that expeditions are conducted so secretly that the Commission cannot be on the ground in time to render any essential aid.

Did such futile objections demand a reply it can be found in the importance which the General commanding attaches to the aid of the Commission, by always giving timely notice for preparation, and allowing a steamer for the use of the Commission from the very limited transportation of the department.

About the 20th December an additional and heavy draft was made upon the resources of the Commission. The army of General Sherman had arrived at Savannah, but found inadequate preparation for its reception. Hundreds of valuable horses and mules were slaughtered for the want of forage. At one time 1,000 men were put upon one-half rations. Nor were they more fortunate in medical than commissary supplies. About this time Dr. Moore, Medical Director for the whole army, writing from Savannah, requested supplies, and urged that a branch of the Commission be established among them. His request was complied with, and the store has been supplied from the central depot at Beaufort.

SAVANNAH.

Savannah has now between three and four thousand sick and wounded, left behind by this onward conquering army. Between one and two thousand are in hospital in Beaufort, and a very large number have been sent North. Two entire steamers' cargo of vegetables have been issued to the 15th and 17th corps of this army; thus contributing to the 17th corps alone (one of its major generals affirmed), an efficiency greater than the addition of 5,000 recruits, and, of course, a corresponding saving of the industry, the equipment, and the maintenance of a like number of men. When this army resumed its onward movement, the Commission furnished its hospital wagons with such supplies, in clothing, blankets and subsistence, as its division surgeons, with their limited transportation, required. These particulars are mentioned to show the necessity for the large issues appended. And permit me to state, that when this army again approaches the coast, similar issues must be repeated. Rushing as it does from point to point, there is an immense waste of material, and whenever it emerges to the coast, government is but half prepared to supply its most pressing necessities. Its stay is too brief to accumulate stores, and hence the necessity that the Commission meet them with an open hand. They look to it as to a brother; it must not disappoint their expectations. Permit me to add, that in my intercourse with the army I have not met a larger percentage of resolute, gentlemanly men, determined to do their whole duty to the country and its enemies.

Approximate list of issues for December and January.

Woolen socks, pairs	4382	Sherry, btls.	106
Woolen shirts	5065	Med. Stimulants, btls.	8
Woolen drawers, pairs.	5111	Broma, lbs.	633
Overcoats	995	Whiskey, btls.	468
Cushions	673	Calisaya bark, btls.	12
Cotton drawers, pairs.	8	Extract Ginger, btls.	742
Cotton shirts	518	Cheese, lbs.	220
Hats and Caps	498	Tea, lbs.	160
Slippers	125	Brandy, btls.	75
Handkerchiefs	1817	Beef, corned, bbl.	1
Pillows	693	Hams, bbl.	1
Quilts	163	Jelly, lbs.	112
Pillow Cases	1852	Pickles, kegs	60
Sheets, pairs	279	Pickles, bbls.	50
Undershirts	200	Kraut, bbls.	42
Blankets	4093	Farina, lbs.	804
Pants, pairs	931	Corn Starch, lbs.	1000
Shoes, pairs	1020	Blackberry Brandy, btls	27
Blouses	1019	Quinine, oz.	8
Bed Sacks	323	Alcohol, gals.	3
Pillow Ticks	965	Maizena, lbs.	1563
Flannel bandages	209	Canned Mutton, lbs.	2112
Chocolate, lbs	392	Canned Soup, lbs.	1560
Towels	1865	Peach butter, lbs.	840
Combs	3156	Dried Apples, bbls.	16½
Sponge, lbs.	3½	Ale, bbls.	8
Lint 2 bbls., boxes.	8	Spoons	100
Bandages, bbls.	8	Knives and Forks	122
Wrappers	12	Urinals	3
Coats	153	Bay Rum, btls.	48
Milk, lbs.	4670	Blackberry syrup, gals.	20
Coffee, lbs.	1356	Crutches, pairs.	37
Extract Beef, lbs.	9133	Dried Fruit, bbl.	1
Old pieces, bbls.	32½	Gelatine, cases	2
Mittens, pairs	880	Tomatoes, lbs.	15926
Dried Apples, bbls.	30¼	Smoking Tobacco	443 doz. 4 oz. papers.
Potatoes, bbls.	989½	Chewing Tobacco,	879 doz. 2 oz. papers
Onions, bbls.	721	Writing Paper, reams.	110
Crackers, bbls.	201	Envelopes	52800
Sugar, bbls.	3½	Ink, Pens, and Pencils,	qty.
Wash Basins	60		
Tin Cups	181		
Domestic Wine, btls.	60		

SANITARY COMMISSION AT SAVANNAH.

BY REV. A. D. MORTON, CHAPLAIN.

As an independent observer and friend of humanity I take pleasure in saying a few

words about the operations of the Commission in this place. It has scarcely, in the history of the world, fallen to the lot of an army or city to be placed in the peculiar condition in which Sherman's army and this city were placed by Federal occupation. It is not my object to speak of the city, only to say, it is greatly crest-fallen, and looks in all respects sad and seedy enough to be sure. Of our noble army, I may say a word. It had just performed a wonderful march of over three hundred miles through an enemy's country. It was necessarily destitute of the ordinary army supplies, many were sick, without clothing, and being at a point so far from the base of supplies, was in great want. It was just at this point and nick of time the Sanitary Commission was on hand, and ready with its bountiful stores of material comfort and aid to dispense to those who so greatly needed and richly deserved it.

When the hospitals were fairly established they contained about 3,000 patients, and were in want of everything that is peculiarly sanitary. The Commission opened its store in one of the finest rooms in the city. It has dispensed so far about 200 barrels of vegetables, including 50 barrels of dried apples, 50 barrels of crackers, 25 barrels of pickles and kraut, 100 barrels of potatoes and onions. Also a large amount of dried berries. In clothing about 1,500 shirts, 1,500 pairs drawers, with pants, blouses, overcoats, blankets, and all kinds of sanitary and hospital stores. A great quantity, I don't know how much, so much, however, that one of the surgeons emphatically said, the Sanitary Commission is feeding and clothing the hospitals in Savannah.

It is doing also a dear work in clothing, in many instances even from top to toe, escaped prisoners coming in daily, singly and in squads, from two to a dozen.

These dear fellows, hungry and naked, so long held in barbarous confinement, are clothed and sent on their way rejoicing. Whose heart does not leap light at the very thought of such a work as this?

Of the business of the concern under the management of Rev. J. C. Hoblit, agent, mingled emotions of justice and pleasure require me to say it is admirable indeed. I have seen the operations of the Commission from Nashville to Atlanta, and while they have done well, he has done better. Nowhere did the stores present so magnificent an array, and nowhere did the business seem to be managed with such liberality and accuracy. A receipt is taken for all articles dispensed, and regular accounts kept; so the people at home can see the disposition made of their contributions. In conclusion the Sanitary Commission is one of the greatest benevolences of the age, and when the war is closed the extent of its operations will astonish the world. Give,—people,—give. The soldiers will bless you, and if you desire it, you can see the figures.

FROM ANNAPOLIS.

BY C. F. HOWES.

ANNAPOLIS, *February* 11, 1865.

I have the honor to submit the following as my report:

OFFICE.

The amount of work done in the office the past two weeks has been unusually large. The greater portion of our care and attentions having been given to those men who were on their way to join their regiments. Transportation to and from the army has been through this city, and our office being just opposite the depot, its flag is always sure to remind some poor destitute soldier of the very articles he is in "so much need of." Regiments, detachments and squads of men have been constantly passing through, and I am not mistaken when I say that more than two-thirds of the number have looked in upon us, obtained a few necessary articles of comfort, asking many questions, wishing directions, some hurriedly exclaiming, "Will you be kind enough to write a letter for me to my mother, and tell her I am well and on my way to join General Grant's army." We have been considerably embarrassed at times to make proper provisions to feed these hungry men. As Government transportation through this city to the army will probably cease with the opening of the Potomac river, and breaking up of the ice in the harbor of Baltimore. I did not deem it advisable to tax the Commission with the expense of fitting up a building suitable for a "Lodge." Captain Davis, commanding at College Green Barracks, has very kindly provided for these men, and no person, to my knowledge, has suffered from cold or hunger.

City Point boats usually arrive at 8 A.M., and leave the wharf to return about the same time P.M. With a portable stove we could make coffee in our own yard, and give

to the men, which would add to their comfort, and cheer them up while waiting at the depot or wharf to move on their journey.

One thousand prisoners from Richmond arrived last Tuesday. Although very poorly clothed, the health of these men were much better than the previous arrivals. Only about one hundred were sent to hospitals. The towels, combs, needles, thread, &c., sent from your office, reached us in season to supply each man. In hospitals I have placed many of these articles in the hands of nurses for distribution, as the men require them. I do not think it necessary for men in hospitals to be supplied with each of these articles, for instance, one towel will serve the purpose of several men, the ward should be well supplied, but when the soldier leaves his bed to join his regiment, each of these articles should be found in his knapsack. At College Green Barracks we supply each man as he marches up to the cook-house to obtain his dinner. This method of issuing prevents confusion, and no one is neglected. As soon as the men are comfortably provided for, many of them set immediately at work to do something for the comfort of their suffering comrades left behind. A box of provisions is made up to send them. I have furnished some articles of clothing, such as shirts, drawers, socks, towels, handkerchiefs, &c., and I have had the assurance that these goods have reached the destitute soldier in Southern prisons.

Another boat with prisoners is soon expected. From good authority I can say that three to four thousand men will arrive each week, up to the closing of the exchange. I shall then find it necessary to call largely upon you for towels, handkerchiefs, combs, needles, thread, pencils and other articles for immediate distribution.

E. C. GUILD.

ANNAPOLIS, *Feb.* 11, 1865.

I have the honor herewith to submit my report for the week ending this day.

On Sunday, Feb. 5th, I had the pleasure of holding service at College Green Barracks, in connection with Rev. J. M. Clark, Agent U. S. Christian Commission. We had an audience of about seventy-five or eighty men, mostly from western regiments on their way to the front. It was an occasion of great interest to me. The immediate prospect of danger which was before the men,—the manliness and earnestness of their bearing,—the silence and interest with which they listened to us, gave us a deep sense of sympathy with them, and we felt blessed by the privilege of speaking to them the glad tidings of the Gospel of Christ. It was also a great pleasure to me as the representative of your Commission, to stand side by side with the delegate of the Christian Commission, and unite with him in the noble work in which he is engaged. And I cannot refrain from bearing my testimony to the energy and single-heartedness of the Agent of the Christian Commission, with whom I have been thrown in this place, and to the great and manifest good which results from their efforts among the soldiers.

AN INFANT CHRISTENED.

After service we had the pleasure of attending the christening of an infant at the "Home," a somewhat unusual incident in the proceedings of the Sanitary Commission. 'Twas not born under the red and white flag of the Commission, yet the infant having been brought when but a few days' old to the "Home," seemed to be under our peculiar charge. The mother, the wife of a soldier, now at the front, grateful for many favors received, desired the child to be called by the name of our kind-hearted and gentlemanlike Surgeon, in charge of U. S. A. General Hospital, Division No. 1. In accordance with her wishes the service was performed by Rev. J. P. Hammond, Chaplain of U. S. A. General Hospital, No. 2, a clergyman of the Episcopal Church, and our good friend and faithful co-worker, Mrs. Gridley, of the Michigan State Agency, stood as godmother, and our energetic and popular superintendent, Major C. F. Howe, stood as godfather.

The little man so introduced into the scenes of life, will be surely bound to be loyal to his country, loyal to his church, and loyal to the Sanitary Commission.

On Monday my time was mostly spent in attending, so far as we were able, to the wants of those who came in by boat from City Point,—especially of ladies on their sad journey home with the bodies of dear friends whom they have lost. Several instances of this sort have occurred during the week, and it gives us pleasure to be able to be of service by advice and assistance to the friends of those who have given their lives in their country's cause. We feel that we can in no way better carry out the designs of those who contribute to the

support of the Sanitary Commission than by offering all the assistance in our power to the noble-hearted women of the land, who have made such costly sacrifices, in giving a husband, a brother, or a son, to redeem a nation's honor, and preserve the nation's life. While we endeavor to dissuade those whose friends have died here, from removing their bodies, yet when their own means are sufficient and their feeling strong in the nation, we are glad to give them our help. Although as a matter of personal opinion, we may believe that it is more fitting that the body of the soldier should lie in the place where death found him in the discharge of his duty—among those with whom he has fought and suffered, yet in deference to the wishes of those most deeply interested, we are ready to afford them every facility in what they feel to be their duty.

ARRIVAL OF PRISONERS.

On Tuesday our hearts were made glad by the arrival of the paroled prisoners from Richmond, whom we have been anxiously expecting for some two weeks. They reached the wharf early in the morning in the midst of a severe snow-storm. Of the whole number—1170—only about 150 or 200 were hospital cases, and these were received at St. John's College Hospital. A large portion of these were placed in a new ward, now occupied for the first time, large, well ventilated, with a wide space between the rows of beds, and ample room between the beds; a most cheerful, comfortable place, the very look of which is health-giving. The larger portion of the men, however, though weak and much reduced, were able to find their way to College Green Barracks. Here in consequence of the severity of the storm, the issue of clothing was postponed, as these men were not so utterly destitute as those who have hitherto arrived here from Andersonville. They were warmed and fed, and made as comfortable as possible, however, by Captain Davis, the faithful friend of the prisoner. On Wednesday, the weather being more favorable, the Government issue of clothing was carried on as heretofore, and I had the pleasure, with the assistance of Mr. Miller, our Agent at Camp Parole, of issuing from the stores of the Commission, needles and thread, and a towel to every man. They were most thankfully received, and the general spirit of gratitude, friendliness and good will manifested by the men was delightful to witness. At the invitation of Captain Davis, we took our dinner at the cook-house, receiving the same amount and quality issued to the men, and no one could ask for better fare or an ampler supply. Fine, rich, well-flavored soup, full of meat and vegetables and rice, fresh white bread in generous quality.

During the latter part of the week my time has been occupied in going about among the newly arrived men—taking lists of the men of certain States, also lists of the deaths which have occurred in prison for publication, and seeking information in regard to persons about whom we have received letters of inquiry within the last few weeks. Until now it has been impossible to do much in the way of obtaining the necessary information to enable us to reply to these letters, as the men paroled from Andersonville have almost all been scattered by this time to their homes or to their regiments. And even now my success is not very great, as the men about whom we have received inquiries of late are mostly known to have been confined at Andersonville, so that those who have now arrived, coming from a different part of the Confederacy, are not able to tell us much about them. The promise of a general exchange, however, gives us the welcome prospect of speedily being able to satisfy all inquiring friends.

BY MISSES CAREY AND PHILLIPS.

CAMP PAROLE HOSPITAL, *Feb.* 10, 1865.

As our little community has been in a kind of transition state for several days past, it is difficult to furnish a report which will be clearly understood by those not acquainted with the circumstances. Early in the week much excitement was created in the different wards by an order for a general transfer to Philadelphia of all the exchanged men able to bear the journey. Many of them were just recovering from fevers, others had suffered much from long confinement with severe wounds, and needed warm clothing; and as there was not time for those who had not previously provided for the emergency to *draw* from Government, in the regular way, the Sanitary Commission came to the *rescue*, and furnished many articles of comfort for the journey. Those few who were unable to walk, were taken on beds or stretchers to the station, accompanied by ward masters or nurses; and all under the escort of kind assistant surgeons, left in the early train on Wednesday morn-

ing. They seemed happy, many of them in the prospect of being speedily sent to the hospitals of their respective states; some appeared gratified with the idea of *any change* after weary months of confinement, while others remarked that they had been well cared for here, and had no cause to desire a change. But to those of us to whom they had been objects of interest and sympathy, for weeks or months past, it seemed like parting with old friends, and for a short time *some* of the *wards* seemed almost deserted.

Meanwhile fevers and other acute diseases continue to prevail; new cases occurring or being brought in from the camp almost daily; and several of the ward masters and other attendants are or have been seriously ill. A few others have been brought near the grave, but none of the *fever* cases have as yet proved fatal. The only death during the week, was that of an interesting New England boy, who died of diptheria, after a brief illness.

The new arrangements, to some of which reference has been made, it is understood are preparatory to making provision for some of the newly arrived prisoners from Georgia.

HOSPITAL CASES.

Affairs at this section are still in a fluctuating state. Convalescents are being returned to camp, confirmed invalids discharged or transferred to the hospitals of their respective States, others are returning daily from visits home; and several new cases of severe illness have been brought in. Among these are a few of the late arrivals from Libby prison. Although very roughly treated, they seem to have fared much better than those from Georgia, and represent the rebels as being themselves reduced to such straits, that they could scarcely have been expected to have done more for them. Yet many were frozen to death, for want of clothing and fuel.

New cases of fever and pneumonia are found almost daily in all the wards. Of the last named, an interesting young man died after a brief illness. The parents were promptly notified, but arrived only in time to take home the precious remains. Two others, who lingered long with chronic diseases, have slept their last sleep. One died of a wound received in May last, after weary months of untold suffering. We trust he has at last found rest in Him who will not break the bruised reed, and has gone where the wicked cease from troubling. The other case was one of the Georgia prisoners. He was much prostrated at first, but had so far recovered that he had made his arrangements to visit home, when the disease returned with renewed violence, and again he took his bed. His wife and only brother were summoned from their New England home; and after their coming he once more seemed to rally, but for a few days only. Death came suddenly but found him prepared. Through his languishing sickness, and repeated disappointments he was sustained by the precious hopes of the gospel. His oft expressed desire to visit his home once again, yielded to the divine will without a murmur. Speaking on this subject a few days before his death, he adds, "But I am satisfied to live or die just as God pleases. It is only a few months since I began to know and trust him. My sufferings in prison brought me to reflection. We had such good prayer meetings then, until the rebels broke them up." In a letter to his wife, after his release from prison, he says, "Tell my mother that her prayers are answered. The prodigal has returned, and finds bread enough and to spare in his Father's house. (We give the ideas, the precise words are not remembered.) As the end drew nigh, he exhorted all about him to commence at once to live for God, and meet him in heaven.

TEMPERANCE IN THE ARMY.

BY G. A. MILLER.

There is quite an interest in the temperance movement in camp, and the developments have convinced me that the statement is not correct that among officers drinking is universal. There are officers who have the moral courage to resist the mighty pressure that is brought to bear on them in that direction, and have maintained their manhood unsullied.

How inconsistent men are in their effort to be consistent! A captain in a New England regiment told me that he came into the army a rigid temperance man; but in the fatigue of long marches he learned to take a little stimulant. Presently, shorter marches required it, until at length no march at all demanded it. Says he, "I do not expect to become a drunkard, I know I shall not; and yet I should not be willing that a sister of mine should marry a man who drinks as much as I do."

SANATARIA.

The establishment of permanent institutions for the care and employment of disabled soldiers when the war shall have ended, is already beginning to agitate the public mind; for that there will be thousands of maimed and crippled veterans thrown upon the country, whose capacity for usefulness will be impaired in proportion to the nature and extent of the injuries received in battle, is already a settled fact that no one will attempt to gainsay.

What is our duty towards them? They cannot go into the marts of trade as they have been wont to do and compete with ordinary labor. Thousands of strong right arms are now mingled with the soil of rebellious states, and will never again add a single mite to the productive industry of the country; and yet strong hearts of true men beat beneath the disabled bodies, and are just as fresh with domestic affection, and just as warm with social attachments, as before the sacrifice was made; and the loyal people, seeing this, are more earnest than ever to provide permanent homes, and honest employment, and heartfelt, invigorating associations for those who have defended us against treason.

The *impulses* of the nation are all right in this direction. The people and the representatives of the people in legislatures,—local and general,—are moving to do what seemeth best for the soldier, when he shall return among us to enjoy a peace that he shall have aided to secure, by conquering and subduing the causes of war.

The U. S. Sanitary Commission having represented the people in the care of the soldier in the field, having watched and defended him in transitu from the field to his home, and from his home to the field again; having acted as his agent to collect his bounty, prize money, and other claims, without cost or hindrance; having regarded the interests of his family, in procuring information that they could not procure, and in adjusting claims with the government for pensions, &c., have been for more than a year employing themselves with preparations for establishing *Sanitaria* for his future protection and comfort, and they ask the people to regard this interest with peculiar favor.

Let us learn wisdom for the future by the experiences of the past. The multiplication of diverse interests is always a calamity in any great effort for the common good; and the multiplication of instrumentalities, all tending in one direction and concentrating in one channel, for the greatest good to the greatest number, is alike the cheapest and most efficient method of doing good. Had the local societies and rival institutions which have grown up in the country since the war began, concentrated their energies and united their gifts, upon the broad catholic principle of a universal brotherhood, such a record would have been made before the world, as has never been conceived. That record however cannot be made. It will never be known how much has been done during the past four years for our army and navy by the hearty, and yet discursive and unsystematized benevolence of the people.

It will never be known how much of labor, treasure, and time have been wasted by these rival methods, but that money has been thrown away, supplies squandered, time misemployed, and lives lost there cannot be a doubt.

That we should profit by the instructive experience of the past four years is plainly a duty now. Let the earnest benevolence of the people seek the wisest and cheapest means for the employment of their funds in the establishment of Sanataria; and it is not without the confidence inspired by the assurance of truth, that we declare the U. S. Sanitary Commission to be the most reliable instrumentality for this purpose within reach of the people.

From the commencement of the war the subject of sanitary science has been a part of the great idea of the Commission, and

certain members of it who have made it their special study for years, could not avoid using the opportunities furnished by the war, for increasing their knowledge and promoting the cause. So that the Sanitary Commission stands to-day before the people of this country as the chief centre of intelligence and the chief bureau of information, on the subject of locating, furnishing, and conducting Sanataria.

The experience of the Commission in its temporary homes, lodges, and rests, of which there are about thirty already in existence, and at which some four thousand soldiers are fed and lodged every day, as they pass to and from the field, is an experience rich in incidents of unusual interest, rich in the teachings of detail, as in the classification and tabulation of facts, by which the Commission is more thoroughly conversant with the wants and habits of disabled men, and with the means of supplying them, than any other organization in the land.

We ask the people therefore, who desire to labor in this behalf to do so through the Sanitary Commission, and to do so earnestly and systematically. Let the funds that are collected for this purpose, be contributed to the treasury of the Commission, that the plans that have been developed, and are now being matured, as a result of years of thought and careful investigation, may be vitalized by the hearty sympathy and concurrence of a generous public, whose record hitherto, in the matter of benevolent deeds, is more illustrious than was ever known in any other nation or age of the world.

A "COMFORT BAG" IN THE ARMY.

The writer very well remembers packing with a great variety of articles, last summer, a certain "Comfort Bag," containing needles, thread, blackberries, and a *letter* from the giver—one of our patriotic little girls—requesting a reply from the soldier who might receive it. Sure enough, *here it is!* and we have it published, as it so plainly proves that our offerings to the soldiers, through the Sanitary Commission, reach their intended destination.

CAMP 61ST REG. MASS. VOLUNTEERS,
DEFENCES CITY POINT, Va., *Feb.* 2, 1865.

DEAR M. :—I was so fortunate as to receive from the Sanitary Commission, yesterday, one of those little bags you made last May. The little letter dates June 1, 1864. I will now reply, as you wish to hear from the one who might receive it.

It was so long ago, perhaps you may have forgotten its contents.

Those dried blackberries were excellent; we stewed them last evening and they were nice, and you know that soldiers do not often get luxuries.

The needles we often have occasion to use, and as often will think of the patriotic little girl at Glen's Falls.

Now you would, perhaps, like to know something of the soldiar who received your little gift: I have been a soldier almost even since the war began. I went out with the 1st Mass. Regiment, three years ago last May. I have been in many battles and skirmishes, and was slightly wounded at Chancelorsville the 3d of May, 1863, and again at Spotsylvania, on the 10th of May, 1864. I was a prisoner in Richmond during July and August, 1862. I remained at home six months after our regiment was discharged, and then enlisted again in the 61st Mass. Regiment, and I am now with the regiment at City Point, Va. So you can see I have some experience of a soldier's life; it is not all sunshine, to be sure, but for one who loves the noble cause we are engaged in, the hardships can sometimes be borne with pleasure. Our friends at home can never know how much their kind regard for the soldiers has done to sustain us on the long, weary marches, through the storms and heat and dust. How often, when nearly sinking to the ground from fatigue, the thought of those at home has rallied us to make another effort. That yours may be a long and happy life, is the wish of

Your soldier friend,

JAMES T. HIGGINS,
Co. G, 61st Mass. Vol's.,
City Point, Va.

SOLDIER'S SCRAP BOOKS.

Loyal love ever seeks its expression in action, and to those whose every effort has been given to one object for the past four years, it may be acceptable to find some new vent for their energy, some new mode of satisfying their constant desire to be at work for those who are so bravely and faith-

fully at work for them. To such we would recommend the making of "Soldier's Scrap Books."

Many of you will say, "This is nothing new, we have been doing so for a long time." Very probably, and I am most happy to know that you have done so; but I find in conversing with persons generally, that it is a new idea to them, and therefore I have taken this method of circulating it.

Most persons in looking over old papers, or arranging closets or drawers, will find many newspaper scraps, both of prose and verse, of much interest, which will be exactly adapted to the purpose. Take either a blank book or any old copy book, and paste these pieces into them, covering the page entirely; it is surprising, by this means, what an amount of reading matter one copy book may be made to contain. The pictures taken from our illustrated papers and magazines are valuable also to enliven the book, and it is well to vary the pages in this manner.

Keep this idea in your mind as you read the daily papers, and extract constantly whatever you think will be useful or entertaining. In this way you will be steadily accumulating a stock, which you can arrange in your book at your leisure. This work has been found particularly suited to invalids, and we would recommend it to those desirous to aid the soldiers, and yet with strength for very little exertion. Many aged persons also have found much pleasure in selecting pieces and forming books in this manner. We know of one old gentleman, who, having lately lost a tenderly loved daughter, has been induced to occupy his mind in this way, and has found (as those ever will, who turn from their own griefs to lighten those of others) comfort and solace in the work. But my young friends of the "Alert Clubs," to you most especially would I direct these remarks, and beg you to turn your attention to this branch of aid to the soldiers. Could you have seen, as I have, the many weary hours of hospital life, when suffering or debility prevents any continuous reading, and watched the pleasure expressed in the face of some poor fellow at the sight of one of these same "Scrap Books," full of short articles complete in themselves and requiring no sustained attention, you would at once resolve to add this to your other duties for the Sanitary Commission, and keep one always on hand, so that as rapidly as one package was sent off, in those nice boxes which we are always so glad to receive from you, another should be under way, and thus the supply steadily kept up.

I trust that those who have been in the habit of making these books will continue to do so, and also that those to whom the idea comes for the first time, will make the experiment, and we can safely promise them in advance, the warm thanks of all who shall receive any such contributions.

D.,

PHILADELPHIA, 1307 CHESTNUT ST.,
March, 1865.

WOMAN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF.

ASSOCIATE MANAGERS.—NO. VIII.

We report our receipts and distributions for the month of February, as follows:—number of packages received, 164. Distributed to City Point, 57 packages; Fortress Monroe, 1 package; Newberne, N. C., 29 packages; Beaufort, S. C., 164 packages; New Orleans, 22 packages; Danville, Va., 1 package; Louisville, Ky., 50 packages; Navy, 4 packages; Hospitals in and near New York City, 15 packages. Total, 343 packages distributed.

We are aware how very inaccurate this method is, of reporting by "packages." The term *package* is used for boxes, barrels and bales indiscriminately of all sizes. We cannot give the space required for the publication of our detailed monthly reports, in which every article received and given out is specified, and yet we want to give you a general idea of what has been accomplished during the month. We have therefore adopted this imperfect method as the shortest way of gaining that object.

In addition to the ordinary demand for flannel drawers, sheets, socks, handkerchiefs, towels, old linen, and almost everything else, we have this week a special call to make. Mrs. M. M. Marsh, wife of our Inspector at Beaufort, S. C., writes us, February 8, "Another want, which could I have foreseen in half its extent, would I am sure have been partially met, viz., READING MATTER. Sherman's men, cut off for so long a time from book or paper, were voracious, and I may use the present tense of all left here, and they are many. Our little stock of books is a centre of attraction, and you cannot think how promptly they are returned. They do much toward whiling away the weary hours in hospital. Would that every home would contribute

just one readable book or magazine. It would be like the 'penny contribution' that built a cathedral. Will you help us? These men, left behind in hospital, or doing solitary duty in detachments far away from both home and regiment, feel alone, and very naturally seek something for diversion."

We hope that our friends will enable us to meet this and similar calls, in a way which will be more satisfactory to them and to ourselves. At present we are much in want of good reading matter.

In this, our third and last article upon the organization of our Branch, we shall define the position and duties of Associate Managers.

The Associate Manager organization was adopted by us from the New England Branch of the Commission, after a most satisfactory trial of the plan for several weeks, by a member of our own Board.

The plan is to divide the whole field into sections, and appoint one or more Associate Managers in charge of each section. Up to this time about forty-five Associate Managers have been appointed. These ladies act as our representatives and are in constant correspondence with us. Their object —irrespective of what we all have in view preeminently—is two fold; to help you and to help us in our work. These ladies, like ourselves, are volunteers. Their traveling expenses even are not repaid them; postage charges alone being refunded by the Association. The position is one of responsibility and hard work, involving a great deal of time and thought. The value of this service to our cause is indisputable. It is proved that it has been the means of greatly extending the interest in our work.

The duties of an Associate Manager, as defined two years ago in one of our reports, are as follows:—

1st. To ascertain whether Soldiers' Aid Societies exist in every town and village of her section, and if so, for what they are working.

2d. When they are not working for the Commission, to use all her influence to induce them to do so, meeting all objections by bringing forward in a kindly spirit the convincing proofs furnished by the published documents of the Commission, and the testimony of the officers of the army of the United States.

3d. When such societies, tributary to the Commission, do not exist, we wish to have them organized by our associate, or, if preferred, she may send us the name of the right person, in the particular town or village, to whom we should address ourselves.

4th. To visit all the auxiliary societies in her section, from time to time, for the purpose of giving information, answering questions, dispelling doubts, and encouraging workers;—this personal intercourse being thought very desirable. This, however, would be at the option of our associate, who can judge better than we can how best to produce the desired result in her own section.

5th. To keep the broad Federal principle, upon which the Commission is based, ever before the people. Our whole experience shows that our people are truly liberal in spirit, and only ask for information as to the best way of working for the sick and wounded. Where, during the past year, whole communities have worked for special regiments, it was only necessary to explain the national principle upon which the Sanitary Commission rests, and it was immediately adopted.

6th. To bring every influence to bear which may stimulate this work, the responsibility of which we feel so deeply, and which may tend to make it more thorough and efficient. It should always be presented on the high grounds of duty, patriotism, and Christianity.

7th. To keep herself thoroughly informed of the working of the Commission, by frequent correspondence with this office. When questions are asked us which we cannot answer, we write to the General Secretary at Washington for information, or refer our associate directly to him.

8th. To send us a friendly letter once a month, with a report of the condtion of things in her section, pointing out any errors on our part, and making any suggestions which may help us to make our work more effective, and which will be gladly received.

To these have been added the entire charge of the distribution of printed matter throughout her section; and more recently, the arragement of lecturing tours.

It is through the associate managers, too, that we obtain that information which enables us to work harmoniously with you. How can we work together with any sort of concerted action, unless we know what your interest in the soldier is? And so we keep a book, in which is entered the name of every post-office village in our field, and op-

posite each name is recorded what the Aid Society of that place has done for the soldiers through our agency, or any other agency, if that can be ascertained. Excepting through our associate managers it is not possible for us to obtain this information.

We wish we could speak as we feel of the great help and comfort these ladies have been to us in our work; not only in their official position, but as personal friends. The interest with which they have adopted our plans, and aided us in carrying them out, their readiness to accept additional labor, without thought of sparing themselves, their well weighed suggestions and frank criticisms, their loving trust and patience, their words of sympathy and encouragment, which cross our paths like so many sunbeams; all this, and much more, for which we cannot be sufficiently grateful, rushes through heart and head as we write. Of how these ladies have aided you it is unnecessary for us to speak. Let us, on our part, resolve to do all that we can to make the work of our associate managers as easy for them as possible, by meeting their efforts in our behalf in the same spirit with which they are made.

And thus we conclude these three articles upon the organization of our Branch. We have wished to show in them that the system which characterizes the whole work of the Sanitary Commission, extends no less through its Home Department; that there is method in the collection of supplies, as well as in their distribution; that we have each an assigned part in this vast plan—a niche in this great temple erected to humanity. When the war is over, and we shall have returned to our ordinary duties, there will be few things we shall prize more than the consciousness of having been members of the U. S. Sanitary Commission;—a work which has been so essentially the exponent of the patriotism of the women of our country, and which, because so noble in itself, has bound us together with no ordinary bonds of sympathy and respect.

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER,
Chr. Committee on Correspondence, &c.
NEW YORK, 7 COOPER UNION,
March 4, 1865.

GOOD NEWS FROM HARTFORD, CONN.

RECEIPTS.

The Hartford Sanitary Association has, during the months of January and February, 1865, received the following very acceptable donations of money:—From five friends, $52 40; Mrs. H. B. Treat, $10; Mrs. S. N. Hart, $5; Miss Arthur's class in Bethel Sunday-school, $1; Miss E. M. Watkinson, $25; Mrs. Robert Watkinson, $10; Hartford Alert Club, $300; Mrs. Edward Kellogg, $5; Mrs. N. Shipman, $25; Alfred Smith, Esq., $25; Samuel Spaulding, $1; Mr. T. Wadsworth, $5; Box at R. R. Station, $1 75; Simsbury Alert Club, $43; Marlboro', $19; Southington Alert Club, $53; Collinsville Alert Club, $54; Wethersfield, avails of a festival, $712; Plainville Alert Club, $16 50; Gilead, $17 20; East Glastenbury, $11; West Hartland, $12 60; Hartland, $20; Canton Centre, $15 90; South Manchester, $20; Glastenbury, $15; Unionville Alert Club, $20.

Contributed by the following friends for the purchase of a knitting machine:—Mr. E. W. Wells, $2; Miss M. W. Wells, $3; Mrs. R. Watkinson, $1; Mrs. G. M. Bartholomew, $1 25; Mrs. E. N. Kellogg, $2; Mrs. J. Warburton, $5; Mrs. E. Roberts, $1; Mrs. T. Steele, $1; Miss M. H. Parsons, $2; Mrs. G. Wells Root, $3; Mrs. S. S. Ward, $2; Mrs. O. G. Terry, $2; Mrs. H. A. Perkins, $5; Mrs. Thomas Smith, $10; Mrs. E. H. Owen, $10; A friend in Collinsville, $2. Total receipts, $1,562 76.

Also supplies in kind, as follows: Avon, 4 feather pillows; Mrs. Wheeler, pickles; Bloomfield, from four little girls, a bed quilt; East Berlin, Mrs. C. A. Royce, 4 bottles of catsup; Canton Centre, Mr. S. Taylor, quantity dried fruit; Collinsville Alert Club, 2 bed quilts; Farmington, Mrs. E. L. Hart, dried fruit; Glastenbury, 31 ring pads; Mrs. F. Schouler, 1 pair of socks; West Granby, cotton and linen; East Granby, Mrs. A. Pratt, linen; East Hartford, Mrs. Aaron Olmsted, blackberry syrup, wine, linen, dried fruit; West Hartford, Mrs. Allen Burr, dried fruit, honey, vinegar, linen; Miss Butler, newspapers; Hartland, 11 handkerchiefs, 1 pair socks, linen, hops, beeswax, mutton tallow, 1 barrel dried fruit, 1 barrel pickled tomatoes, sheets, pillows, pillow cases and 23 comfort bags from children; North Manchester, lint; South Manchester, 6 handkerchiefs; Simsbury, dried currants, 4 handkerchiefs, 2 towels; Southington, 8 handkerchiefs, 2 pillow cases, linen; Mrs. and Miss Merriam, 8 pounds dried currants, 2 pairs socks; Plainville, bandages, linen and cotton; Unionville, cotton; Windsor, Mrs Mather and Mrs. E. N. Phelps, cotton and linen; East Windsor, 3.

comfort bags, 4 pairs slippers, 4 ring pads, 1 pair socks; Mrs. G. P. Booth, 2 bed quilts; Windsor Locks, 103 "Wounded Soldier's Friend," lint, cotton; Wethersfield, Mrs Savage, 2 barrels onions; Miss Fanny Knight, dried apples; South Windsor, Miss Sarah Moore, Miss Gray, Mrs. Susan Elmer, cotton and linen; Jewett City, 8 comfort bags, 9 pairs hose; Hartford, South Church Sunday-school 400 comfort bags filled with valuable articles; Mrs. H. Fitch, under shirts; Mrs. Packard, 7 bottles smelling salts; Mrs. H. B. Treat, 3 pairs of socks, 1 pair mittens; Mrs. C. Richards, 4 napkins, 5 pairs socks, old linen; Mrs. J. Stillman, 2 quilts; Mrs. G. W. Newton, vinegar; Miss Mary Gage and schoolmates, very nice bed quilts; Mrs. Harwood, 2 pairs socks by Mrs. Holaday; Mrs. Smith, 8 pairs cloth mittens; Mrs. C. Nott, 2 pairs socks; Mrs. E. H. Owen, 4 arm rests, bandages, old linen; Mrs. T. W. Russell's Sunday-school class, one album quilt; Mrs. S. Hamilton, bandages; Mrs. William Savage, compresses, lint, linen; Mrs. E. Goodwin, shirts; Mrs. William Kellogg, shirts; Mrs. George Robinson, linen, pickles; valuable gifts of boxes and barrels for packing from Messrs. A. Larned, W. M. Judd, E. S. Sykes, Munyan and Chalker, Starr and Burkett, Weatherby and Co., C. Haynes, Griswold and Miss A. M. Hills.

Forwarded to No. 10 Cooper Union since January 1, 1865, (or during the months of January and February,) 11 boxes and barrels, containing 420 comfort bags, 253 pairs of socks, 504 flannel shirts, 38 surgical shirts, 33 pairs mittens, 9 bed quilts, 2 pairs cotton drawers, 2 dressing gowns, 4 arm rests, and a quantity of reading matter. Total, 1,295.

In response to our recent call for old cotton and linen, numerous friends both in city and country have given liberally, and many books and newspapers have been sent in.

VEGETABLES AND PICKLES NEEEED.

But we beg leave to request all the friends of the soldier to bear constantly in mind, that vegetables, pickles, old linen and cotton are *standing wants* of the army, which are never fully met, and that they can do much toward supplying the lack of the two former articles, by sending from time to time a barrel, bushel or keg of either, as they can be spared; and particularly as the season for planting arrives, by devoting a plot to the cultivation of them especially for the soldier, and by sending to the Commission, through its auxiliaries, any overplus they may have on hand at the close of the winter, instead of selling them at a reduced price, as many did to their great regret, last spring.

DISBURSEMENTS.

The Hartford Sanitary Association, since its organization in April, 1864, to January 1, 1865, has forwarded to No. 10 Cooper Union, 166 boxes and barrels, the contents of which (including 16 previously forwarded by the Associate Managers) were as follows:—shirts, 1,530; drawers, 1,506; hose, 848 pairs; mittens, 136 pairs; sheets, 401; pillow slips, 136; pillow ticks, 186; towels, 2,003; pillows, 523; quilts, 139; blankets, 9; slippers, 16 pairs; arm slings, 191; dressing gowns, 9; bed sacks, 7; ring pads, 90; second hand garments, 331; miscellaneous, 233. Total, 8,294.

Bandages, 16,914 yards; old linen and cotton, 8 barrels and 9 packages; books, 6 cases; dried fruit, 424 pounds, 88 packages and 3 cases; groceries, 116 pounds; jellies and preserves, 643 jars and 3 cases; wine aud spirits, 114 bottles; fresh fruit, 3 barrels; pickles, 11 kegs and 65 barrels; fresh vegetables, 45 barrels; dried apples, 5 barrels and 3 cases; tomatoes, 17 bottles; barberry syrup for fevers, 86 bottles; cologne, 18 bottles; spices, 4 boxes; blackberry cordial and brandy, 267 bottles; miscellaneous, 11 packages.

CONDENSED STATEMENT.

These supplies have been furnished by 52 towns, which have also aided us by contributing to our funds, and in making garments, &c. The names of these towns are, Avon, Berlin, East Berlin, Bloomfield, Blue Hills, Bolton, Bristol, New Britain, Burlington, Canton Centre, Collinsville, Coventry, Farmington, Forestville, Glastenbury, East and West Granby, Gilead, Griswold, Griswoldville, Haddam Neck, Middle Haddam, East Hartford, West Hartford, New Hartford, Hartland, West Hartland, Hebron, Higganum, Jewett City, Kensington, Manchester North and South, Marlboro', Newington, Plainville, Plymouth Hollow, Rockville, Simsbury, Southington, Suffield, Terryville, Torringford, Unionville, Vernon Centre, Vernon Depot, Wethersfield, Wind-

sor, Windsor Locks, South Windsor, East Windsor Hill, and Warehouse Point.

We have received from friends of the cause in the city,	$2,897 95
in the country,	3,222 41
Total,	$6,120 36

COUNTRY AUXILIARIES.

This we think is a good record, and the result is owing in a very great degree to the energy and steadfastness of our country auxiliaries. To give some idea of the value of their assistance, we would instance the town of Southington, which, during a period of eight months, has contributed to our treasury the sum of $358 89, and made 800 garments.

ANNIE E. COOKE,
Secretary.

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER BY BENJAMIN WOODWARD, M.D.

MEMPHIS, TENN., *February* 17, 1865.

The Western campaign and series of battles opened with "Belmont," Mo., in Nov. 1861; then, in course, came "Donaldson," "Fort Henry," "New Madrid," "Island No. 10," bombardment of "Fort Pillow," the siege of "Corinth," with all its battles; the battle of "Perryville," "Stone River," or as it is sometimes called "Murfreesboro';" the advance of General Rosecrans through Tennessee, ending with the battles of "Chattanooga," "Chickamauga," "Lookout Mountain," "Missionary Ridge;" the defense of "Knoxville," "Buzzard's Roost," "Marietta," and "Dallas." This was the last great battle of which I can speak from personal knowledge. Over all this extent of country and time, we have never been beyond the reach of the Sanitary Commission. Time and again, during my three years service as surgeon, when ordered to open or take charge of hospitals in the immediate rear of the army, I was entirely dependent upon the Commission for everything except bacon and hard-bread, and coffee. At one time at Cowon, Tenn., I had to open a hospital at night, and before morning had over one hundred wounded fresh from the field; but had no beds, pillows, blankets or change of clothing for them. An agent of the Sanitary Commission came, hearing of the fight, and before noon I had beds, bedding, blankets and clothing, with all those delicacies and stimulants so much needed by wounded men. I should weary you were I to tell one of a thousand cases of relief received from that source, and will only instance one case coming under my own eye. Soon after the battle of Franklin, Tenn., on the 30th of November, last, I went there to search among the dead for the body of a beloved son killed there. I found the hospital well supplied with all they needed, received from the Sanitary Commission. Surgeons, officers and men told me "that for eight days after the battle, our wounded—two hundred and eighty—had nothing but what the Sanitary Commission gave them; as the rebels in whose hands they were—our forces having fallen back—had issued no rations or food of any kind to them;" and, said some, "If it had not been for the Sanitary Commission we should all have starved to death."

During the past three months we have sent from our depot here, more than two thousand barrels of vegetables; besides a very large quantity of other supplies to the Department of Arkansas; and nearly as much to posts on the Mississippi River, besides keeping the gunboats and monitors supplied. All the general hospitals not only in this city, but at Vicksburg, Natchez, Morganzia, Baton Rouge, are dependent on us for vegetables. Within the past week we have issued vegetables and hospital stores to the whole of the 16th Army Corps, on their way down the river. We recognize our Eastern friends as among our most liberal donors. The work is one, as the cause is one. If you will take your map and find Little Rock, Arkansas, and then trace 150 miles down the Arkansas River you will find Pine Bluff. There we had last fall a large force, and very many sick. Among the sanitary stores sent there in October, were some shirts, marked "Soldiers' Aid Society, Bangor, Maine." Was that not an evidence of the nationality of the work. We shall have an active campaign in this Department before long. Large bodies of troops are moving, and while I write twelve thousand cavalry are leaving on a fleet of transports. We are concentrating supplies as fast as possible to be ready to send them to any required point.

That God may bless and abundantly reward the labor of love of those who are giving their means and their influence to this good work is my daily wish.

CHIEF JUSTICE CHASE AND THE UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION.

On taking the chair at the annual meeting of the National Freedman's Relief Asso-

ciation, held in the hall of the House of Representatives, at Washington City, February 26, 1865, the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, Salmon P. Chase, referred to the Sanitary Commission as follows:—

This war, now waged for national unity, is marked by peculiar characteristics. The praise of our brave army and navy is upon all lips. The endurance and patriotism of the heroic people, which has never faltered in its resolve to maintain, at whatever cost, the integrity of the American republic, furnish to this, and will furnish to all after-coming generations, objects of wonder and topics of eulogy. The vast energies and the vast resources which have been called into action, puzzle the statesmen and economists of the old world, and astonish our own.

But these, I think, will not hereafter be regarded as the most peculiar characteristics of this war. Men of thought, and especially men who recognize the providence of God in the affairs of men, cannot fail to observe that it is distinguished by great charities even more than by great achievements.

What age before this age, and what country besides our country, ever witnessed such an organization as that of the Sanitary Commission? What needs have been supplied; what wants relieved; what wounds healed; what evils averted, by the activity, wisdom, and unflagging zeal of this admirable organization, fostered and sustained by the people, and recognized and aided by the government.

IMPORTANT TESTIMONIAL BY QUARTER-MASTER GENERAL M. C. MEIGS.

QUARTER MASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., *Feb.* 20, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Sect. Western Dept. U. S. San. Com.

DEAR SIR:—I have received and thank you for your Report of 22d October last. It is an honorable record. I notice particularly the value of the hospital gardens. Remembering the scarcity of all provisions, except the substantial parts of the army ration, and even of those, at the time I met you at Chattanooga, in the winter of 1863, I read with gratification the statement of the quantity of esculents which your gardens, established the next spring, produced for the sufferers in hospital.

I endeavored, while at Chattanooga, to have arrangements made for cultivation during the ensuing spring and summer, but found every one too much occupied with the sterner work of war to be willing to devote time and labor to raising, at that warlike centre, a portion of the supplies which, when brought from the distant North, cost so much and so much interfered with the transportation of men and munitions.

I hope that these gardens will be continued, and that the Sanitary Commission, which is free from the pressure of the sterner duties of the soldiers, will continue to give its attention to extending this cultivation for their benefit.

I am very truly and respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
M. C. MEIGS.
Quarter-Master General and Brevet Major General.

IMPERFECT DESCRIPTIVE LISTS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR:—It is my misfortune to have charge of a General Hospital to which a large proportion of the maimed soldiers of the army find their way, for the purpose of procuring artificial limbs, and eventually their discharges. It might interest your readers to hear of a right armed "police party," a left-hand "coal squad," and a detachment of no-legged clerks; but such is not my present purpose.

I wish, through your columns, to call the attention of company commanders to the great injustice which is often done to worthy soldiers by failing to give complete military histories in their descriptive lists. The palpable violation of orders in not furnishing the amount of bounty received and due is almost too common to hope for reformation, but far more annoyance is occasioned by the simple neglect of stating the circumstance under which a soldier was wounded. The fact that his discharge was given him in consequence of injuries received in the line of his duty must be mentioned in his final statements and discharge, or the contrary is presumed to be the case, and his pocket suffers accordingly. No medical officer wants to give the same certificate of disability to a maimed sergeant that is furnished to a bounty jumper wounded by a Provost-Guard. It is of little use to return such descriptive lists for completion, as weeks or months generally elapse before they come back again. It has never been explained why it takes an official communication ten times as long to reach the Army of the Potomac as a private letter occupies.

Ignorance of their proper duties was once considered the cause of such neglect, but it is hard to believe that in the fourth year of the war any company commander does not know how to make out a descriptive list; yet such must be the fact, for these papers are sent from some of the most distinguished regiments in the army, *signed by a non-commissioned officer*. Date of enlistment, last paid, bounty, clothing account, and the time and place of wounds received, comprise all that is needed, yet not one in ten is complete. These, with a personal description, are required by the regulations, and justice to the soldier demands them, yet every officer having charge of detached soldiers is constantly bothered by the omission of some important item. At this moment over two hundred men, who have lost a limb in the service of their country, are detained in this hospital, kept from home and maintained by the government at great expense, by the careless conduct of their officers who, having sworn to obey the regulations of the service, now neglect those to whose bravery and devotion they owe their present position and credit. If Nemesis is not dead, many captains ought to suffer sleepless nights, because, through their carelessness, faithful soldiers of their command have been deprived of their just dues.

In the name of all mustering officers, all paymasters and all surgeons, I beg for more attention to *descriptive lists*. B.

THREE CHILDREN.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of ten dollars, for the Sanitary Commission, from three little girls in New Castle, Del., who have sent the following note with their donation. If three little children in every town as large as New Castle, in the loyal States would do likewise, what a nice fund would be on hand to aid the soldiers during the coming campaign. We thank the little donors, and hope they will continue in well doing all their lives long.

NEW CASTLE, DEL., *Feb.* 22, 1865.

Please accept this as our aid to the Sanitary Commission, being the proceeds of a fair held by three children.

ELMER W. CLARK,
LIZZIE T. CLARK,
(Ten dollars.) EMILY BATES.

JOHNSON'S FAMILY ATLAS.

The war has suggested to hosts of intelligent Americans, one thing, viz.: that they were inconveniently ignorant of the minute geography of their native land. If the splendid copy of Johnson's Family Atlas which is open before us were open before them, it would suggest another thing, viz.: that by its use they could very conveniently dispel their ignorance.

It contains over a hundred large, clear maps, illustrating the mathamatical, descriptive and physical geography of the world; statistics of the religious denominations in the world; chart of national emblems; a diagram exhibiting the difference of time between Washington and the important cities of the world; a list of the cities, towns, villages and post offices, with their states and counties, in the United States and Territories; historical and statistical views of the United States, Mexico, Europe, &c., &c., &c.

Every page is terse, complete, exact, interesting; and as a book of reference it seems unimproveable, though, from the fact that the binders have left "guards" or "strips" for the insertion of new maps, which the publishers agree to furnish by mail at fifteen cents each, it would seem that wise precautions are made for improvement, and for keeping it up to the times as a standard work.

It is gotten up J. H. Colton and A. J. Johnson, concerning whom nothing in commendation need be said; and is furnished exclusively by subscription. The general agent is Mr. F. G. Rowe, post office box 2060, Philadelphia.

DISABLED AND DISCHARGED.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee of the United States Sanitary Commission, held February 24, 1865:

Resolved, That the United States Sanitary Commission, deeply convinced of the importance of providing, from time to time, as its funds will allow, shelter and protection for disabled and discharged soldiers, will

from this date consider itself authorized to devote any portion of its funds to this purpose; and that due notification be made of this resolution in the *Bulletin*, *Reporter*, and its usual advertising mediums.

J. FOSTER JENKINS,
General Secretary.

No. 823 Broadway, New York.

"SOLDIERS FRIEND."

The following letter from Rev. J. Shrigley, Chaplain of the McClellan U. S. A. General Hospital, Philadelphia, is one of many which we have seen testifying to the grateful reception met with by the "Soldier's Friend," wherever it has reached those whose "Friend" it is. This is right, and in our opinion, aid societies cannot do better for themselves or for soldiers, than by aiding its distribution as far as they are able among the returned prisoners or furloughed soldiers, to whom the information it contains is especially valuable.

It can be obtained by any Aid Society in small quantities, upon application at this office.

McCLELLAN U. S. A. GENERAL HOSPITAL,
Philadelphia, March 10, 1865.

DEAR COLONEL:—I am so highly pleased with the "SOLDIER'S FRIEND," published by the U. S. Sanitary Commission, I should be glad to place a copy in the hands of every patient in this hospital.

It is *multum in parvo*. While it gives every soldier valuable information, it likewise tends to the cultivation of his religious faculties, leading him to put his trust in that Divine Being whose mercies never fail.

The collection of hymns is decidedly the best yet published for the army and navy. May I solicit a further donation for the use of the sick and wounded who may be sent to this hospital? I am, dear sir,

Your very obedient servant,
JAMES SHRIGLEY,
Chaplain U. S. A.

COL. SOEST,
Special Relief Agent U. S. San. Com., Philadelphia.

STORES FOR SHERMAN'S ARMY.

The Sanitary Commission has just sent by the steamer *Uncas*, to Gen. Sherman's army in North Carolina, as it communicated with the coast, an assorted cargo of hospital and field relief supplies. It has now another steamer loading with supplies to replenish its stock at Newbern and Wilmington, and at which last place an exchange of prisoners is now going on, and has ordered a third load for the special emergency of its service in North Carolina.—*Associated Press.*

HOMES.

CAIRO.

At the "Home" in Cairo, during the quarter ending with December 31st, there were furnished 15,529 lodgings and 53,800 meals.

MEMPHIS.

At the "Lodge" in Memphis, during the same time there were furnished 3,593 lodgings and 12,723 meals.

PADUCAH.

There was a good deal of confusion at this point, when the "Home" was first established, owing to the demonstrations of the rebels. During the latter part of November and the month of December, there were furnished about 6,000 meals.

NASHVILLE.

At the "Home" in Nashville, there were furnished during the quarter ending with the year, 37,707 lodgings and 123,444 meals.

JEFFERSONVILLE.

The "Home" here was opened about the 1st of November. During November and December there were furnished 2,136 lodgings and 4,613 meals.

NEW ALBANY.

During the quarter ending with the year there were furnished at the "Home" 1,913 lodgings and 9,397 meals.

CAMP NELSON.

At the "Home" at Camp Nelson, there were furnished during the quarter ending with the year, 35,773 lodgings and 92,573 meals.

LOUISVILLE.

At the "Home" and "Rest" in this city, during the same time, there were furnished 59,872 meals.—*Sanitary Reporter.*

SUPPLIES are still needed. The spring and summer campaign will make large demands upon the people for help.

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THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

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The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regi-

ment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Nos. 10 & 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, State House, New Haven, Conn.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

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U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 46 Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

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U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Columbus, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

EAST.

"Special Relief" Office, 76 Kingston Street, Boston, Mass.

"Special Relief" Office, 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

"Soldiers' Rest," Buffalo, Exchange street, opposite R. R. Depot.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C., where assistance is rendered in procuring Pay, Pensions, Bounty, Prize Money, and arrears of Pay and Bounty, and in various other ways.

"The Home," No. 374 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

WEST.

Soldiers' Home, No. 81 Jefferson avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Soldiers' Home, Third Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky., James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, New Albany, corner of Main and State Streets.

Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill., C. N. Shipman, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn., Captain I. Brayton, Sup't. Rev. J. Hoblit, Relief Agent

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SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General. C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

No. 35. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 1, 1865. No. 35.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 15,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No.* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

THE BATTLE ABOVE THE CLOUDS.

"The day had been one of dense mists and rains, and much of Gen. Hooker's battle was fought above the clouds, which concealed him from our view, but from which his musketry was heard."—*Gen. Meigs to Secretary Stanton, Nov.* 26.

By the banks of Chattanooga watching with a soldier's heed,
In the chilly autumn morning gallant Grant was on his steed;
For the foe had climbed above him with the banners of their band,
And the cannon swept the river from the hills of Cumberland.

Like a trumpet rang his orders—"Howard, Thomas, to the bridge!
One brigade aboard the "Dunbar!" Storm the heights of Mission Ridge,
On the left the ledges, Sherman, charge and hurl the rebels down!
Hooker, take the steeps of Lookout and the slopes before the town!"

Fearless, from the northern summits, looked the traitors, where they lay,
On the gleaming Union army, marshalled as for muster-day;
Till the sudden shout of battle thundered upward its alarms,
And they dropped their idle glasses in a hurried rush to arms.

Then together up the highlands, surely, swiftly swept the lines,
And the clang of war above them swelled with loud and louder signs,
Till the loyal peaks of Lookout in the tempest seemed to throb,
And the star-flag of our country waved in smoke on Orchard Knob.

Day, and night, and day returning, ceaseless shock and ceaseless change,
Still the furious mountain conflict burst and burned along the Range,
While with battle's cloud of sulphur mingled densely mist and rain,
Till the ascending squadrons vanished from the gazers on the plain.

From the boats upon the river, from the tents upon the shore,
From the roofs of yonder city axious eyes the clouds explore;
But no rift amid the darkness shows them father, brother, sons,
While they trace the viewless struggle by the echo of the guns.

Upward! Charge for God and country! Up! Aha, they rush, they rise,
Till the faithful meet the faithless in the never-clouded skies,
And the battle-field is bloody where a dewdrop never falls,
For a voice of tearless justice to a tearless vengeance calls.

And the heaven is wild with shouting; fiery shot and bayonet keen
Gleam and glance where freedom's angels battle in the blue serene.
Charge and volley fiercely follow, and the tumult in the air
Tells of right in mortal grapple with rebellion's strong despair.

They have conquered! God's own legions! Well their foes might be dismayed,
Standing in his mountain temple 'gainst the terrors of his aid;

And the clouds might fitly echo pæan loud and parting gun,
When from upper light and glory-sank the traitor-host, undone.

They have conquered! Through the region where our brothers plucked the palm
Rings the noise in which they won it with the sweetness of a psalm;
And our wounded, sick, and dying, hear it in their crowded wards,
Till they know our cause is Heaven's, and our battle is the Lord's.

And our famished captive heroes, locked in Richmond's prison hells,
List those guns of cloudland booming glad as freedom's morning-bells,
Lift their haggard eyes, and panting, with their cheeks against the bars,
Feel God's breath of hope, and see it playing with the stripes and stars.

Tories, safe in serpent-treason, startle as those airy cheers
And that wild, ethereal war-drum fall like doom upon their ears;
And that rush of cloud-born armies, rolling back the nation's shame,
Frights them with its sound of judgment, and its flash of angry flame.

Widows weeping by their firesides, loyal hearts despondings grown,
Smile to hear their country's triumph from the gate of heaven blown,
And the patriot-poor shall wonder, in their simple hearts, to know
In the land above the thunder their ombattled champions go.

T. B.

—*Watchman and Reflector.*

A WORD TO THE AID SOCIETIES CONTRIBUTING TO PHILADELPHIA AGENCY.

WOMEN'S PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH,
UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION,
PHILADELPHIA, *March* 10.

We come to you with full hearts; hearts full of love and gratitude for the generous response which you have made to our demands, and for the manner in which you have enabled us to carry on the work of the Commission. If it be indeed, as we are told daily, almost hourly, a great work, grand and glorious in its relief of suffering, in its succor to the needy, then to you in a large measure be the honor, to you be the praise! for on you must we of necessity be dependent for support and supplies.

"Oh! sweetest task—like Christopher,
Without a thought of pride;
To bear the Christ of charity,
Thro' battle's reddest tide."

But your very liberality leads us on; we come to you with increased demands; we ask for added interest, added labor, added service; we entreat you never for one moment to slacken or pause, as long as this desolating war shall continue. Go on eagerly and earnestly, finding nothing too small to offer in the service of your country. You can never know the value of what to you may seem all unworthy of your giving. One pair of carpet slippers may carry comfort to a soldier's heart, even more than to his feet; and, by the bright multiple of love, be doubled, trebled, quadrupled in its cheering influence, proving practically as it does, that those at home are thinking and caring for our poor fellows in the field.

I should scarcely have deemed this appeal necessary were it not that wafted on the air has come the faint echo of a feeling,—faintly heard, because, I trust, faintly held and faintly uttered,—that it was all well enough at the beginning of the war: you were ready and willing to work for a moderate term, but that the fourth year over-taxes you; it is more than you can give. It may be there is truth in part of what you say, but only in part. It does need much to carry on and continue such a work. It needs care. It needs thought. It needs labor. It needs interest. It needs self-denial. It needs heart. But it does not need more than you can give; it does not need more than you *will* give gladly and gratefully to our brave "boys in blue," who, surely, if any, are the ones to find the war too long.

Where had we been at this moment, had there risen from their midst one murmur of discontent, one sign of disaffection? No! They go on, proudly and perseveringly to battle to the end; and while they thus go forth cheerfully and uncomplainingly in our stead to hardship, danger and to death; while they give time and toil and blood, shall we, dare we, withhold our efforts for their good? Shall we grudge aught of service that can serve to lighten the weary hours, to relieve the toil or staunch the blood which daily bathes the earth for us with its red current? Oh! what is all we do or can ever do for them when we think upon all this? Nothing, and less than nothing.

"When is your time out?" said I the other day to a bright young lieutenant, risen from the ranks, at home on a fifteen day's leave. "My time out?" said he promptly, "when the war is out, and not before."

So let us say, "When the war is out, and not before," we may pause. And yet we may not even then; for should our country ask our aid for the suffering army which must remain, still are we ready, and warmly

do we pledge ourselves to give her all she asks, and right well we know you will redeem our pledge.

It is our last campaign. And as the happy hour draws near when our blessed banner shall float from every fortress-top in the glad sunshine of a nation's peace, so like the horse whose speed redoubles as the long-wished for goal appears in sight, let us redouble every effort, put forth every power, strain every nerve, that we may not fail or falter till the final moment come.

One word more! Come with me for a moment and look upon two pictures ere we part. I will not detain you long. To many of you this is a new scene. Most mercifully have you been shielded, in your distant homes, from those sad scenes which this same sad four years has made us so fearfully familiar with. I ask you to enter with me this hospital ward. Do not shrink, do not draw back; yes, there is sore suffering here; you may not care to witness it, but let me assure you that one glance for yourself will nerve your arm and fire your heart more than whole pages of description. Walk in; we who are at home here do not hesitate, as we did at first; we know a welcoming smile awaits us from each one of this long row of beds, which seems to strike you so much on entering. Pass up between them with me, and come first to this young white-faced boy, whose life-blood has been ebbing out, and scarcely yet is stayed; and who is fixing those eager, wistful eyes so wonderingly upon the party with me. "Never mind, George, I only want my friends to see what I saw yesterday, and to hear what you told me then; but you are far too weak to talk, let me tell them."

He was brought into the hospital yesterday on a stretcher, wrapped in that counterpane, that you see over him now, of bright patch-work; he seemed more dead than alive, but after stimulants and a few hours rest, he rallied, and by way of beginning an acquaintance, I commented upon the coverlet upon which I read "Aid Society, ——— County, Penna., U. S. Sanitary Commission." Large drops of blood concealed the town and county, but I at once recognized the work of some of our kind helpers.

He brightened instantly. "That counterpane," he said, "did me more good than all the surgeons gave me. The Sanitary Commission's Agent brought it and wrapped me in it, when they carried me off the field to the hospital, and as soon as I caught sight of that piece there, patch do you call it? I knew it was Mother's dress, and I felt sure she had made it, and somehow ever since I just catch hold of that place, and I can see her close to me, and I can go to sleep. They wanted here to change it for one of the hospital spreads, but I begged so hard to keep it, the Wardmaster asked the surgeon, and he gave me leave." I thought even were his idea a delusion, it was such a happy one that I should be the last one to disturb it. No! he does not hear us, he has sunk into that lethargy produced by excessive loss of blood. Look! his hand even now, is grasping the very piece of calico he showed me yesterday, and I think that clasp will only be unlocked in death. Did the kind heart who devised that quilt ever dream of the *moral* ease and comfort it was one day to bring?

Look at the next bed; see that poor arm resting on that soft pillow, and read the mark on its corner, "U. S. Sanitary Commission." Cross the ward, and look at that jar of pickles. "Ah, Henry! I see you've got your pickles."

That was one of yesterday's sick fancies, and the surgeon gave a ready consent but did not supply the article.

"Yes, thank you, ma'am, they told me you got an order for them from the Sanitary Commission, and they're the first thing that's helped me to taste my dinner for a week."

We must not pause at each bed, or the story would be the same; but just stop for a moment and speak to this man rolling himself up and down the ward in that chair with wheels.

"Why John! I have never seen you out of bed before; how are you to-day?"

"Better, much better, thank you, ma'am, and bless the Sanitary Commission for that. They sent me this bully chair, and now I can travel round first-rate."

More hearts than one, I fancy, since this war began, have said, "God bless the Sanitary Commission," and will say it again and yet again, I trust, ere it is done. But we must linger no longer here. One other picture, although, perchance, less cheering to our hearts. Unlatch that door and enter another ward. Was that a groan? Scarcely. A groan or any audible sign of suffering, save the sad moans in sleep, is such a rare sound that I can hardly understand it. The beautiful patience and calm, heroic endurance of the poor sufferers, under great phys-

ical agony, has almost passed into a proverb. Let us walk up to that bed; it seems to come from there, and see what it means.

"What is it, Richard? Are you suffering terribly to-day? Oh, I see; you need a pad to support your poor aching limb. Why don't you send the orderly for one?"

"That's just it, ma'am. I asked for one. We used to have them when I was wounded here before, but he says government never gave them things."

"No, of course not, but the Sanitary Commission does."

"It used to, ma'am, but that was at the beginning of the war; and they say it kept on so long, the Aid Societies, I think he called them, had all stopped; and so we can't have any more, but I think if we wanted them once, we want them just as bad now. Oh dear, oh dear."

"Alas! alas! I feared this would be so when I heard that they had disbanded."

Just look at that man over there, holding his wounded arm. Surely he should have a sling.

"Why, Hamilton, that arm ought to be in a sling; why don't you keep it in one?"

"The surgeon did make this bandage into one for me this morning, but it don't seem to hold it up; and makes it ache worse, so I took it out."

"Of course that must make it ache more. You need one of those nice arm slings, which would support it all the way up, and let it lie, resting as if it were in a bed."

"Ah, yes ma'am. One of the boys was telling me they used to have them in the beginning of the war, but government don't give them, and you know the Sanitary Commission don't send any more; the war kept on so long they stopped. I wish I had stopped too."

"They little know, Hamilton, how much suffering they would cause by stopping, and what constant comfort they gave, or they would never had stopped, I am sure."

Is this not sad? But before leaving the ward let us walk down to see my friend Field, who was so badly wounded in the chest; he lies at the far end of the ward, just where you see that screen."

"Well, Field, how is your wound this morning?"

"It broke out in the night, Miss, so you'll have to excuse this bloody shirt."

"But why not have it changed?"

"So I will, ma'am, when mine comes from the wash. I don't want to draw any more. I've had to draw so many any how, on account of the wound, and you know it comes out of my pay, and I want all that for my poor wife and little ones at home."

"But why not get one from the 'Ladies' Room.' That is precisely what those are kept for to supply just such a case of need?"

"So they say it used to be, Miss, but not now. Those came from the Sanitary Commission, long ago; and they tell us the societies which used to supply them have all stopped, because the war lasted so long, and we can't have any more"

"So you must lie there with that shirt stiffened with clotted blood, till yours comes from wash, in order to save your pay for your family, because the Aid Societies no longer contribute to your comfort."

I do not like this picture, it is too painful; let us go, my friends, I am quite sure it is equally distressing to each one of you.

My first picture was a reality, occurring in our midst every day of our lives. Shall the second ever become so?

On you, and on your efforts, the answer must depend. D.

March, 1865.

FROM ANNAPOLIS.

BY C. F. HOWES.

ANNAPOLIS, *February* 20, 1865.

I have just returned from College Green Barracks, where I have assisted in distributing about six hundred towels, combs, needles and thread to newly arrived prisoners. More than fifteen hundred of each of these articles were distributed one day last week. It will be a heavy tax upon the Commission to supply each returned prisoner with all these necessaries. Yet *nothing* could be given these men which is more needed, and so *much* appreciated, as these very articles. I hope the Commission will continue its bountiful supply.

The exchange is now progressing rapidly. No less than five thousand men will probably arrive this week. I hope to be able to meet each and every demand.

BY MISSES CARY AND PHILLIPS.

March, 1865.

As our hospital wards are all becoming crowded by large daily accessions from the ranks of the newly arrived prisoners, we find full occupation in endeavoring to become familiar with the circumstances and wants of the sufferers. A large proportion of those brought here, have become

ill since leaving prison. The change of air proving too much for their weak frames. We find that in many cases they had neglected to apprize their friends at home of their arrival, having expected to go home in a short time, and the most grateful service we can render, is to write and apprize them of their safety, and urge them to write that they may hear from them once more. Very frequently those who hear from home, for the first time in many months, learn that some of the dear ones they left there, and were fondly hoping to meet so soon, have been removed and numbered with the silent dead. Others who come full of hope and courage, in the prospect of speedily joining those most dear to them, are suddenly cut down in the midst of their fond anticipations and sleep with the dead.

Such an one, intelligent and fine looking, whose character could be read, even in the wan countenance already tinged with the hue of death, was at first able to express his joy and fervent gratitude to God for his deliverance, but soon became unconscious. In a brief lucid interval, just preceding dissolution, he recognized a young comrade who had been with him in prison. "Where am I?" asked the dying man. "In a Union hospital," was the reply. He seemed incredulous for a moment, but his friend calling his attention to the soft bed and warm blankets, he added, "and nice white sheets too." "Oh, I'm all right now. Thank God, thank God, I shall be at home soon. I bless God for bringing me here, where some one will write to my dear wife, and she will come to me." It was evident that he had but a short time to live, and he was asked, "But God, who was with you in prison and has been so good to you, is he not with you now, and do you not love him and trust in him?" To this and other questions of similar import he replied in the affirmative with deep emotion. Becoming exhausted he asked for a cup of tea. It was soon brought, but not until the weary spirit had fled to that heavenly home where sickness and want are unknown, and where he will not miss the loved ones for whom he had pined, for He whose love is stronger than death and greater than that of all other friends combined, will be with him there.

A German soldier, from one of the Middle States, had been captured at Winchester in November. After long waiting for letters from home, they had come just on the eve of battle, bringing the sad news of the death, first, of a loved child, and then of the wife and mother, leaving three helpless little ones unprovided for. The neighbor who wrote to apprize the husband and father of his loss, asks what shall be done for them, but before he has time to reply, orders came for the march. During the action he is taken captive, and all these weary months he has been held in suspense, not having even yet learned the fate of his motherless babes. Such are some of the scenes which come to our knowledge daily, illustrating but faintly, the horrors of war.

CAMP PAROLE HOSPITAL, *March*, 1865.

The week just closing has been marked with an unusual degree of mortality at the hospital. Each day has witnessed the departure of one or more, and on one day as many as six weary souls fled to the spirit land. Some pass away suddenly, in a few hours after being brought in; others linger and wearisome days and nights are appointed them; others still, apparently in no better condition, rally, as if by miracle, and are rapidly recovering.

A large number of the convalescents have been sent away during the week, to make room for the newly arrived prisoners, who continue to be brought in by scores. It is affecting to see the disappointment manifested by many of the poor fellows. "Oh, I have kept up as long as I could, hoping to get home," is a common remark. Many of these suffering ones cannot speak of their prison experience without weeping. It is not possible, they assure us, for any one who has not felt it, to imagine what it is. "Our trials," says one, "were enough to bring us to reflection. We have learned lessons we can never forget."

Said a bright looking young man, "I had been a wild boy, but in that horrid place I was led to think of God and a future life, and there I first learned to love and trust in him." One of the first who arrived, and who has been at the point of death, but is recovering, now says, "If God lets me live, I will be henceforth a true Christian soldier." In conversation with an intelligent man, he remarked, "Often have I lain beside a comrade, conversing of home and absent friends, when his voice would suddenly cease, and on reaching forward to learn the cause, I would *find the face cold in death.*"

But one of the saddest scenes of the week

to us, has been the death of one of the ward masters, whose kind, cheerful face and pleasant smile we have been wont to meet daily for many months. He was ever faithful, patient, and efficient, and as is believed, a sincere Christian. He fell a victim to the prevailing fever. After a few days diphtheria set in, and he was suddenly taken from us, to be forever with the Lord.

BY E. C. GUILD.

— *February*, 1865.

I have the honor herewith to submit my report for the week ending this day.

On Sunday, I had the pleasure, at the invitation of Chaplain Henries, of preaching at the chapel of the Naval School Hospital, and also in conjunction with Rev. J. M. Clark, at College Green Barracks. This latter occasion was one of great interest, as the men were just escaped from such a dire torment in their captivity; just set free by such a joyful deliverance, and just about to go to their homes filled with such conflicting feelings of hope and fear in the thought of what might have occurred in their protracted absence. The occasion spoke for itself, and it was easy to find words for the thoughts that crowded up at the very suggestions of the circumstances themselves. On Friday, we had the pleasure to welcome some 1,500 more paroled men from Richmond, and on Saturday we issued a towel, comb, needle and thread to every man. Paper and envelopes were also issued to them at various times until all were supplied. We have also been kept busy at the office by the demands of the men going to and fro by the City Point boat. It is a pleasure to us to afford every facility in our power to these men, returning from the hardships of camp life, or going forward to encounter the perils of battle. Surely if any are entitled to have assistance and supplies which we have to give, it is those men who are away from their regiments and traveling by an unaccustomed route. The inefficient means of transportation of the single railroad running from this place often delays them for twenty-four hours and causes them much inconvenience. This we have tried to alleviate by every means in our power.

The constant arrival of prisoners at this time keeps us very busy, and I must ask your indulgence in presenting so brief a report, and plead the pressure of immediate duties as my excuse.

ANNAPOLIS, *March*, 1865.

This week has been an unusually quiet one. While we were notified to be prepared for an unprecedentedly large number of paroled prisoners expected during the week, only a few have arrived, most of them escaped men who have come into our lines. Doubtless the delay in the exchange is but transient, and we feel that any day or any hour may be the commencement of a steady influx of paroled men at this post. Meantime, considerable effort is being made in the hospitals to be prepared for their reception; extra beds are arranged in the wards, the tents which have been removed during the extreme cold of the winter are replaced, and additional tents set up. Additions have also been made to the medical staff of the hospital.

In the leisure afforded by the non-arrival of the expected boats, my attention has been called to several cases of more permanent interest. Visiting from time to time the "Home" of the Sanitary Commission in Annapolis, in addition to the faces which come and go, remaining hardly long enough to form an acquaintance, one sees a few sad looking ladies, day after day, week after week, month after month, coming in to refresh their bodies exhausted with watching and have their spirits cheered by kindly sympathy. Here is one who has, with all a mother's patience and tenderness watched over her boy for months; he lies on his back, shot through the body, almost helpless, continually under the irritating influence of excessive pain and needing constant care; but he never looks for help without finding that loving mother at his side ready to do all that can be done for him, and to speak to him words of Christian hope and comfort. Here is another who watches by the bedside of her husband; torn by a racking cough, reduced by his long imprisonment to a mere skeleton, he sits night and day upon his bed unable to lie down, and by his side the faithful wife stands always ready to minister to his every want. And yonder is another wife whose husband lies by himself in a tent, where she keeps continual watch over him. Released from imprisonment, he received a furlough and revisited the well-known and dearly-loved scenes of his home, apparently in good health. Returning to report himself at the hospital he was struck down with fever, and when the fever left him gangrene set in, and now he lies very low, hardly ex-

pected to live from hour to hour, and night and day his devoted wife is at his side to soothe and uphold him in his terrible suffering, and to do for him all that watchful love can suggest. Besides those who are keeping their long and faithful watch by the side of the sick bed, every day brings some wife or mother, summoned by telegraph, not knowing what to expect, and finding sometimes that death has come before, or more rarely that health has already returned, and going away sorrowing or rejoicing, according to the tidings they have received of their loved ones. Surely the Sanitary Commission can do no better work than to afford every aid and comfort in its power to those who are passing so bravely and faithfully through such trying experiences.

This period of accidental leisure was also taken advantage of for an occasion of a social character at College Green Barracks, worthy I think of record. The detachment of men detailed for duty under Captain Davis—men having charge of the buildings and employed in the Captain's office, and in all the varied work of the post—feeling desirous of showing him their respect and gratitude, complimented him on the evening of the 4th of March with a serenade and supper. I had the honor to be present with two other gentlemen of our office and Rev. Mr. Clark of the Christian Commission, and it was a pleasure to see the feeling of mutual confidence and respect which was apparent between the Captain and his men. Such harmony and good will speaks volumes of praise for both parties, and promises the best of care for the paroled prisoners whose interests they have in charge.

BY GEO. A. MILLER.

CAMP PAROLE, *March*, 1865.

The camp is now quite full of paroled men, and they are coming in very rapidly. The condition of the men is as good as could be expected, considering the treatment they have had while in prison.

Having been so long deprived of wholesome food, or even unwholesome food in quantity sufficient to satisfy the demands of nature, they have now an ungovernable appetite. Government furnishes as much good food as they ought to eat, but they are not satisfied, and having obtained a little money as commutation of rations that they did not get while on their visit South, they go to the sutlers and expend their money for pies, cakes, &c. The sutler, being a very philanthropic man, and knowing that these poor fellows will expend all their money for food, and that the less they eat the better for them, very kindly relieves them of their cash for a small quantity of eatables. Nevertheless, it is not uncommon for men to eat enough to kill them. Doubtless many valuable lives are sacrificed in keeping a sutler in camp. It is sometimes convenient to procure things of a sutler, but his presence is by no means "*Sine qua non;*" but on the contrary a superfluous appendage, and that, too, at great expense to government, if she values the lives of men.

A number of officers, lately from the South, have been stopping in camp, waiting for papers from Washington to allow them to visit their homes. They can now appreciate freedom. We, who have never been deprived of it, know little of its worth.

My work has been about the same in kind and amount as formerly, viz.: writing letters and presenting claims for soldiers, and occasionally ministering to the comfort of an unfortunate man, by giving him a few articles of clothing.

Many of the soldiers are troubled with diarrhœa, and I find the "Essence of Jamaica Ginger" an excellent remedy and highly appreciated by the recipients.

IN PRISON.

Extract from a Report by S. G. DOOLITTLE, *Supt. Alexandria Lodge.*

ALEXANDRIA, VA., *February* 19, 1865.

I visited one of the military prisons, and by the request of the surgeon furnished 17 quilts and 10 pillows; they were for the hospital ward and badly needed.

March 4, 1865.

During the week I have visited the following prisons: The Slave Pen, Odd Fellows Hall, Washington Street Prison and the Jail, and distributed a large amount of reading matter. I found them very destitute in this particular, and a lot of men more eager for something to occupy their minds I never saw.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM W. H. HENDERSON.

TURIN, LEWIS COUNTY, N. Y., *March* 10, 1865.

At the close of my address at Harrisburg I was much gratified by a short speech made by one of the audience. The gentle-

man stated that last fall he had gone down to Harper's Ferry to obtain the remains of his brother; that notwithstanding he carried with him ample recommendations and references, he had been unable to pass within the lines until aided by the Sanitary Commission. The Commission obtained a passport for him promptly. Having got within the lines, however, he found himself equally at a loss for want of full information regarding the circumstances of his brother's death, and the required formalities for obtaining the body. Here again the Sanitary had met him with full particulars, obtained from their Directory, and with all facilities for filling up the government forms. He assured the rest of the audience that he could not possibly have accomplished his errand without the aid of the Sanitary Commission.

FROM CITY POINT.

FROM T. L. SEIP.

CITY POINT, VA., *March* 13, 1865.

As we have nearly finished our work at this point I will drop you a few lines, that they may reach you before our return. Mr. Schindel and myself have visited the different Sanitary Stations in this army, and although they are not as busy as usual, in consequence of the fact that the men have just been paid off, still we could not fail to see the necessity of the United States Sanitary Commission, and the good it has already accomplished and is now doing. Many lives have doubtless been saved by its operations, and untold misery alleviated. Besides the *great* things that it does for the men, it is in furnishing *little* articles and in relieving the little, but not trifling wants of the men, that it does a most salutary work. Life, or rather a great part of it, is made up of little things, and so is and should be the work of the Sanitary Commission. But you must not infer from this that I think the Sanitary Commission does no great things. I had too manifest a proof of this, *i.e.* that it does, the other day, to think otherwise. A boat load of exchanged prisoners, who had just come from Richmond, and were yet in all their filth and destitution, stopped at this station. The men, one hundred and sixty in number, were all provided with necessary food and stimulants, were cleansed and newly clothed and made as comfortable as circumstances on the boat would allow, when they proceeded on their way to Annapolis. These poor fellows were in a very pitiable condition. They were mere living skeletons, and were too weak to stand. Two of them died between Richmond and this place, and no doubt others died before they reached their destination.

I used to think the accounts of the sufferings of our soldiers in southern prisons were exaggerated, but since I have heard their tale from their own lips, I believe that the whole truth is not and will never be known; because tongue cannot express nor pen describe what our brave men have endured in the miserable pens of the South. I met several who stated that the United States Sanitary Commission had reached them even in their prisons South. Such cases, of course, are not numerous, because the goods sent by the Sanitary Commission reached their destination in comparatively few instances.

Thus far I have been very much gratified with my visit, and I am now more than ever convinced of the necessity of our people at home supporting, and liberally too, the U. S. Sanitary Commission. I have found the agents generally the right men in the right places, a thing most difficult to find in any very extensive organization.

LETTER FROM J. C. BUSH.

FLAG OF TRUCE STEAMER GEO. WASHINGTON,
AKIN'S LANDING, VA., *Feb.* 25, 1865.

Unexpectedly meeting at this place, that indefatigable gentleman, Lieut. Col. Mulford, whose name is now a household word in so many domestic circles through the entire country, as the instrument of causing so many anxious hearts to vibrate with increasing hope by the general exchange of prisoners of war—I learned from him that about 1,500 of our men were expected on the rebel flag of truce boat from Richmond to Cox's Landing, about four miles from here overland. It is worthy of remark to contrast the difference of appearance between the rebels just brought from Camp Chase and Chicago, and the Union prisoners from Danville and Salisbury.

When the rebels left the transports that brought them here from Baltimore, they were not only looking healthy and strong, but were well clad, every man wearing good clothing from head to foot, and not one in a hundred that could not travel off like horses, while most of our men were but moving skeletons, dragging their ema-

ciated forms along, very few with other than an old rag of a shirt and pants to cover their nakedness, many entirely barefooted and without blankets. Among the five steamers laying here to transport these men to Annapolis, the *George Washington* was designated by Col. Mulford as the hospstal boat to take the most feeble cases. Too weak to stand or walk they were brought over in ambulances and carried on board on stretchers. As soon as all were on board we started with such a load as rarely ever freighted a vessel before. The reality cannot be described. But there was no time to be lost. These men had been as highly excited as their feeble condition could endure with the idea of being free again. Having had no nourishment that day, the smell of food made them almost frantic. Soon a piece of dry toast and a cup of good coffee with milk and sugar was given to each man, which was devoured as only hungry animals can devour food. Then each had a clean shirt, drawers and stockings furnished him, was washed and changed and had his wounds and sores dressed. While this was being done, the ever vigilant steward gave each man a drink of good hot whiskey punch. Such as were able to read had papers or books given them. Very soon there came another round of good beef soup, thick with potatoes and onions. None can imagine the joy and gratitude expressed by these 152 men. On soft beds, fed and clothed, their conversation was strange and mixed. I took their names and address, wrote letters to their friends. The thoughts of home caused many to weep as they gave the name of wife, or mother, or friend to whom I addressed the letter. Soon another cup of coffee and toast bread. Some would sleep, others so full of joy that sleep had departed. Amid their experience in rebel prisons, as they related it, the following may be of interest.

They had their money, coats, shoes, canteens and haversacks taken from them when captured or when put in prison. Those who secreted their money were required to pay at the rate of two dollars for a common size biscuit, three dollars and fifty cents for a pound of poor flour, two dollars for a pound of rice, six and seven dollars a pint for molasses, very thin and black. Meat was so rarely given that they eat all the rats and mice they caught. Pork, when they could induce the guard to get it for them, was sixteen dollars per pound. The officers were opposed to anything being sold to our men, but the guard would smuggle in goods to them. The negroes appeared much pleased when they learned our men were to be exchanged. An intelligent sergeant said he saw the official report of the deaths at Danville from the middle of August to 19th of February, when they left for Richmond, which was 678 out of 2,151, almost one in three. The filth and vermin can only be imagined, when we think that during seven months no change of garments. All the water was brought in pails by details of men under guard from the Danville river. The sergeant of the guard would frequently neglect to have it done. The water left in the pails, not enough to wash and a scarcity to drink and cook what little food they had. They felt more indebted to the Sanitary than they could find words to express. The work was very fatiguing, yet one would not become weary, for the satisfaction derived in relieving their dreadful condition. We arrived at Annapolis, losing but one man on the way, when to all appearance one would think that a score of them was too far gone to survive the journey.

FORT SMITH AND LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS.

The following report and invoice, says Dr. Woodward, are of deep interest, from the fact that Fort Smith is 300 miles above Little Rock, on the Arkansas River, and the country along the route so infested by guerillas that it has hitherto been impossible to get sanitary stores through; only one small lot, by wagon, having ever previously reached that post, and none but a man of Mr. Carpenter's determined character would ever have succeeded.

His trip has been a great success, and his report will rejoice the hearts of those who have friends in that forlorn region. He goes now to New Orleans with the stores just sent by you on the steamer *Missouri*, and will either turn them over to Dr. Blake or follow up the army as circumstances may direct.

Invoice of goods taken by D. B. Carpenter, Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission, to Fort Smith, Arkansas, February 4, 1865.

Drawers, pairs	100	Crackers, lbs	800
Towels	76	Potatoes and onions, bbls	100
Dressing gowns	24	Corn starch, lbs.	120
Oil silk ring pads	4	Tea, lbs.	15
Slippers, pairs	28	Condensed milk, cans	96
Dried fruit, lbs.	600	Prunes, lbs.	20
Lime juice, btls.	75	Arrow root, lbs.	13
Jamaica ginger, btls.	12	Hospital shirts	265
Catawba bitters, btls.	48	Handkerchiefs	60
Assorted jellies, btls.	24	Vests	3
Cranberries, jars	48	Arm slings	24

Rubber cloth, pieces.....	6	Peaches, cans.....	48
Crutches, pairs.....	20	Kraut and pickles, galls..96	
Whiskey, btls.....150		Crushed sugar, lbs.....100	
Raspberry vinegar, btls..	36	Tin cups.....	50
Ginger wine, btls.....	72	Flaxseed, lbs.....	30
Blackberry cordial, btls..	24	Spit cups.....	10
Sugar and lemons, cans..	72	Wash basins.....	12

BY D. B. CARPENTER.

DUVALL' BLUFF, ARK.,
Feb. 15, 1865.

I succeeded in getting the stores I wrote you I intended taking to Fort Smith on board the steamer *Lotus*, during the night of Saturday, and started on our "dubious tour" at daylight the next morning. Of the comforts and luxuries of the trip, it is sufficient to state that the cabin was small, crowded with refugee women and children, returning to Fort Smith after the scare produced by the evacuation. It was cold, with almost no fire, and I had the softest board I could find, with my blanket, to sleep on. It was the same returning, only "more so," as the boy said. I did hope, in going up, that the return trip would be less crowded and more bearable, but found myself grievously disappointed, as far as table luxuries and delicacies are concerned. They wanted to charge $1 per meal for the biscuits and fat pork, but concluded to take 75 cents this time. Of the compliments the guerrillas and bushwhackers saw fit to send us, you have probably some full accounts in the papers, and, as that is not germain to my purpose, I will not repeat it.

We touched at Lewisburg an hour or two. I left some stores there for the hospital, and paid it a short visit. It is under the charge of Dr. A. D. Thomas and Assistant Dr. Madison; is a good frame building, and appears neat and well kept. Did not have time to go to any of the regiments. Sanitary stores have been supplied to them occasionally from Little Rock. I made arrangements with Dr. Thomas to have the mortality report copied and forwarded to Louisville, which he did before my return from Fort Smith; also to forward all changes in the hospital regularly, for the use of the Directory. At Fort Smith I found matters in a very chaotic state, as they had not become re-arranged since the evacuation. Dr. Swasey, Acting Medical Director, had only arrived the day before, and some of the surgeons the same day. Most of the hospital furniture and medical supplies were on the same boat as myself, consequently it would not be just to form a judgment or express an opinion, from their condition at that time. Dr. S. is as fine and honorable appearing a man as I have met in the army. He was there before the evacuation, and would know best where stores were needed, so that I thought it best to turn the supplies over to him, to distribute according to his best judgment. They were stored, under his care, in the rooms of the medical purveyor. I did not visit the hospital only for two reasons; first, lack of time, which was very limited, and, secondly, I was so unwell and used up, that I could not take the necessary exertion, without manifest injustice to myself; but I learned from the surgeon that the general health of the troops was full as good as any where else in the department. I think scorbutis is more prevalent. The country is so devastated, that they get no vegetables at all, and the guerrillas are so thick, that no foraging is done, except in large parties. They have been on part rations a good share of the time,—sometimes one-half and sometimes one-fourth. I think chronic diarrhœa is not as prevalent as at points down the river. I suggested to Dr. Swasey to raise a hospital garden, as there is a fine piece of ground convenient. He said he would be very glad to do so, but could get no seeds. I proposed to furnish these to him; and, in my opinion, no greater boon can be granted to the poor fellows, sick, and away out of the world at Fort Smith, than to furnish them immediately with garden seeds and onion sets sufficient for 11 acres of ground. There is plenty more land there for a larger garden, and the men would be glad to work it, but fencing is among the things that "were, and are not." I took up an excellent supply of stores for present exigencies. Vegetables and pickles, together with all the dried fruit we can get, will be the principal requirements at that point, as well as the rest of that department. A considerable quantity of crackers and farinaceous articles will also be required for the hospitals. I made arrangements also and left blanks with Dr. Swasey to have the mortality record and names of the patients in the hospitals copied immediately, and all changes forwarded to Hospital Directory weekly.

I am now at Duvall's Bluff, awaiting further orders.

SOLDIERS' LODGE, PORTSMOUTH, VA.

Ever since the capture of Norfolk, Va., by our forces, Portsmouth has been the immediate base to the army of occupation sta-

tioned in that quarter; and, as such, a point where many soldiers on furlough, discharged, or convalescent, have gathered. Large general hospitals, in the immediate vicinity, have been kept filled by the sad sickliness of past seasons, and, as a consequence, many relations of patients therein treated have found themselves in the cheerless streets of the twin-cities, friendless and homeless, if not moneyless. To the same point, also, white and black refugees from Virginia, North Carolina, and other southern states have fled. Hence it was deemed necessary by the United States Sanitary Commission that a Soldiers' Home should be established. Accordingly, in March, 1864, Mr. John Alcooke, as superintendent, opened the "United States Sanitary Commission's Soldiers' Lodge" in Portsmouth. Every facility that could be reasonably asked was promptly extended by the military authorities; and, since they have witnessed the admirable workings of the institution, their cordial approbation has only been excelled by the praise expressed by the recipients of its benefits. Soldiers; fathers, mothers, wives or sisters, who are nursing their dear ones in the hospitals; refugees, wet and worn by the trip through the Dismal Swamp; and, not last, fugitive slaves, have found care and comfort at the hands of the warm-hearted Friend in charge. The following extracts from reports and letters will give a partial idea of the variety of the relief given; while the annexed table shows that 3,110 soldiers have been entertained, and 5,553 lodgings, and 16,960 meals given during the past year

LETTER FROM JOHN ALCOOKE, SUPT.

PORTSMOUTH, VA., *Feb.*, 1865.

FRIEND ——:—I fear thee will think I have forgotten thy request. In the first place a Lodge was much needed here, in consequence of so many soldiers being stationed within a few miles of this place, and also in consequence of many hospitals being here. We opened the house on the 16th of March, 1864, after much labor, as it was in a most filthy condition. Thou wilt find in the accompanying paper a list of meals for each month, also lodgings and men accommodated, also the number of soldiers from each State, also the relatives of soldiers who have been accommodated. Up to the end of February the number of meals given was 16,960, and lodgings 5,553; the number of men 3,110, besides over 6,000 men who have been relieved in various ways with clothing, shoes, slippers, combs, towels, tobacco, pens, paper, and envelopes, and many other articles.

DYING BOY.

On the 18th of March, after we opened the lodge, I was notified of a sick soldier boy lying in the street in a helpless condition. I went and found him as reported, in a dying state. He not being able to walk, I took him up in my arms and carried him home. He had been at Fort Schuyler, and just come off a transport. It was a relapse from measles. Not being able to take care of himself during the voyage, he was in a very dirty, destitute condition. After having made him comfortable, we sent for one of the surgeons from the hospital, who found him in a very low state, and requested that, after reporting to the Medical Director, he be sent to the hospital. The next morning he was too far gone to be removed. He lived only ten days. He was desirous at all times to hear prayer and instruction. A few hours before his death I asked him how he felt,—if his Redeemer was near him. He looked up to me with such a beaming face and replied, "Oh, friend A——, I am not afraid to trust my soul in his hands." He sent loving messages to his home, and in a short time died in my arms, blessing me for what had been done for him.

MOTHER AND CHILD.

We have had numbers of soldiers here from their regiments, for a few days good nursing and care; and in all cases have received letters from them after their return. The latter end of May a soldier's wife was brought here with a child twelve months old, both in the last stage of consumption. She was with us seven weeks. She died on the 5th of July, and the child on the 15th. They are buried together in the city graveyard in this place. During the time they were with us we did all we could for their comfort and happiness. I engaged a colored woman to attend to them, and I myself was their nurse. The poor young woman died

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF "SOLDIERS' HOME" AT PORTSMOUTH, VA.

1864.	Connecticut.	Delaware.	Illinois.	Kentucky.	Maine.	Maryland.	Massachusetts.	Michigan.	New Hampshire.	New Jersey.	New York.	North Carolina.*	Ohio.	Pennsylvania.	Rhode Island.	Vermont.	Virginia.*	Wisconsin.	Canada.	England.	Total.	Lodgings.	Meals.
March.....	50	....	....	....	....	....	3	....	....	....	27	2	....	4	....	....	....	....	....	1	95	87	293
April.....	34	3	....	....	....	4	7	....	23	....	108	12	12	98	3	5	12	1	3	4	384	415	1455
May.....	5	2	....	....	....	1	61	2	6	2	64	8	6	40	....	....	6	2	4	5	204	366	1112
June.....	23	1	7	....	8	3	67	4	12	22	210	....	10	67	5	6	70	3	7	8	583	421	1412
July.....	8	....	....	....	4	....	33	....	....	15	71	16	4	22	....	3	26	....	2	3	250	405	1157
August.....	6	3	....	....	3	3	28	....	3	7	61	16	101	13	....	5	4	....	....	....	250	541	1654
September..	6	....	2	....	....	....	42	....	1	6	64	18	16	15	....	....	2	2	....	....	579	408	1207
October.....	1	....	....	....	....	....	23	....	....	2	118	67	16	17	....	....	11	1	....	....	234	449	1242
November..	....	1	....	....	....	2	26	....	3	3	152	22	6	21	....	2	20	....	3	....	265	420	1281
December..	5	....	....	....	....	....	17	....	2	1	232	3	7	13	....	....	15	....	....	4	295	522	1664
1865.																							
January.....	3	....	....	....	1	....	11	....	3	1	190	29	2	4	....	....	10	....	....	....	253	503	1585
February...	....	2	....	....	....	....	26	....	....	....	148	14	6	6	2	....	7	....	....	....	215	416	1254
	189	10	9	2	16	13	335	6	53	67	1445	196	171	320	10	21	190	9	21	27	3,110	5002	15,296

Relations of Soldiers sick in Hospital.	Lodgings.	Meals.
Delaware	24	72
Iowa	15	45
Maine	26	78
Maryland	7	21
Massachusetts.	110	327
New York....	197	604
Ohio	144	433
Pennsylvania.	26	84
	561	1,664
Total,.....	5,002	15,296
	5,563	16,960

* Principally Refugees, white and black.

full of gratitude to the Sanitary Commission for the home and care she had received.

WEARY AND FAINT.

On the 10th of November, Robert L. J——, of the 20th N. Y. Cavalry, came here for a rest and the comforts of home. He had been ailing before, and had been here for a few days from time to time. The last time he came I saw he was a very sick man. He said to me as soon as he came inside the house, "Friend A——, I am come once more to thee for a little care. I am very sick, and it is so like home here." Of course I received him kindly, but with all I could do I could not raise him up. He died on the 18th of November.

SOULS NOT NEGLECTED.

Remember one thing; I do not neglect the souls of those who come to my house, either in sickness or health. We have regular family prayers, and however full the house is there is the greatest order and attention, and in no one instance has there ever been any irreverence. I always make it a point every evening to speak to the soldiers of their homes; the influences of early years, their mothers and sisters; and try to stimulate them to self respect. We have also on first day evening Friends meeting. All in the house attend. Sarah Smiley, of Philadelphia is here, and she speaks to us generally. She is conducting (for the Friends) an industrial school. We have also a number of other Friends here. We are all anxious to assist in all good work.

SOMEBODY'S DARLING.

Since the capture of Fort Fisher I have had much on my hands. Quite a number of the officers and men who were killed there were sent to Norfolk for embalming; and in most instances their clothes were either torn off them or too bloody for use. The persons in charge applied to me for grave clothes, and my assistance in placing them in their coffins. In all instances I have furnished shirt, drawers, socks, cravat, collar, and nice white flannel shroud, made by myself; for it is such a relief to the friends to see the remains of those they love nicely cared for after death. On fourth day of last week, I clothed and placed in his coffin General Bell, acting brigadier, and yesterday I clothed Colonel Moore, 203d Pennsylvania Infantry; also Doctor Longshaw, as well as two privates. I always feel that they are somebody's son, husband, or brother, and they have some one to love them, poor fellows; and I know it is such a shock to friends on the first opening of a coffin to see the person in a half naked condition.

DISMAL SWAMP AND DISMAL PROSPECTS.

We have had many refugees here, and to tell all their sufferings would fill a volume. One instance I must relate. On the 27th December, 1864, a party of refugees came here who had gone through everything. They had to wade three feet deep in water through or up a creek, four miles. One man, educated and intelligent, who had been previously sick, took a violent cold on his lungs. I found the next morning he was not able to accompany the rest. I asked him his destination, &c., his answer was if he could find a place to stay till he was better he should be most thankful. I told him he should stay here; I consulted with General Vogdie, who gave a hearty assent. I called in a doctor who said he could not live ten days; but I am thankful to say that he is now well. We have done all in our power to restore him, and God has blessed our efforts; and through the influence of a friend of ours he has procured a situation in a dry goods store in Norfolk, and is gone this morning.

ONE OF MANY.

About ten days ago a poor woman, who had never been ten miles away from her home before, was brought to us by a lady residing in this place; stating she had found her weeping bitterly on the landing. Her husband was sick in a hospital here, she said, but did not know where. The lady at once brought her here. After she had taken some refreshments, I went in quest of her husband. His name, Iram Pety, N. Y. V., belonging to 13th N. Y. Heavy Artillery. I at once went to the hospital of that regiment, taking her with me; but the poor man had died the night before. Words cannot tell her grief when I told her he was dead. We did all we could for her. His comrades had his body embalmed, and she stayed here until all was ready. She then took him home. I was so much grieved when she opened her trunk to show what in her poor way she had brought for his comfort. All sorts of nice eatables which her means would allow, and which he liked when at home.

FATHER AND SON.

Major B. was here two weeks ago and visited the camp of the 3d N. Y. Cavalry at Suffolk, where his son, a lad of 19 years, is a private. He brought the boy down here, as he was not well, to stay a few days and have a rest. When he went away he recommended the boy to my care and sympathy if he needed it. Well, on last sixth day the company he belongs to went on a raid to Blackwater—the boy was shot through the head. I have had him embalmed, and also have provided a good coffin, nice flannel grave clothes, and placed him in his coffin. I have just been to the side of his coffin to put some early spring flowers around him, and he looks as if he was sweetly sleeping. I have combed the hair over his wound, and done all I can to spare his poor father's feelings. I am looking for him this morning, and dread the meeting. I trust our Heavenly Father will comfort him, he loved the lad much. I can only feel as I stand by his coffin and look on his placid face, that he is, I trust, sweetly sleeping in Jesus. They brought him to me from Suffolk in a box, just as he had died, but there is now nothing to shock any one's feelings. I have had crowds to see him since he was in his coffin. It made me feel bad to see the soldiers of his company come in so orderly, and pass around the coffin to take a last look at their comrade, whilst the great tears rolled down their sunburnt cheeks—may God teach them how uncertain is life. Time and space will not allow me to say more.

WHAT OTHERS SAY.

From Dr. W. Madill, Surgeon 20th N. Y. Cavalry, formerly Medical Director.

"You have ever been kind to the soldiers of my regiment, for which please accept my sincere thanks. Many of them will never forget your kindness, and willingness to mete out comforts to them when needed. May God prosper you in your good work, and may you finally reap the reward you so much deserve."

From Captain Peter Bailey, of the 27th Massachusetts Infantry.

"Accept my heartfelt thanks for the many acts of kindness shown to me, a perfect stranger, unknown to you. I shall always remember you with feelings of kindness and friendship, as well as to the boys of my regiment. There are those at home who have already blessed you for your great kindness to many a poor soldier boy."

From the Mother of a Soldier, who went from the Lodge to die at his home in Ohio.

"Allow me, at the close of my letter, to bless and thank you for the great love and

kindness shown to my poor son. He never wearied in talking of you; and oh, how can I thank you for pointing his dear soul to the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world. May God ever bless you, and the noble Sanitary Commission for what they have done, and are constantly doing, for our sons on the field of battle."

FROM A SISTER.

"DEAR FRIEND:—I received your kind letter, containing my own to my brother ———, on the 26th inst. I thought I would not answer it until the remains of my dear brother arrived. They reached this place last night. This morning his coffin was opened, and once more we looked upon the face of our long absent and loved one, but not as ever before; for now he is clasped in the embrace of death. Oh! it is painful to see him lie there, so still and quiet, entirely unconscious of our presence, and know that he can never look or speak to us again. His features are natural, and there is a sweet smile resting upon his lips. The flowers placed round him are nearly as fresh as when put there. He loved flowers when he was alive, and I am very grateful to you for putting them in his coffin. His remains and shroud show that loving and careful hands placed him there in his long narrow resting place. Words cannot express the gratitude we feel towards you, for your untiring and affectionate care to our dear absent one, and *God will bless you* for taking care of the needy. We did not know that he was dangerously sick, until we heard of his death; so the news was most unexpected. It would have been a consolation to us if we could have taken care of him, and attended to even any of his wants; but that was impossible, and, as it is, we feel that he was as well cared for as he could have been at home. We thank God for raising him up a helper and comforter in time of sickness and death. * * *

"My brother —— has just this moment come from the post-office, with your kind letter of ——. Your renewed sympathy and affectionate words call forth fresh gratitude. You have done all we can ask, for our dear Robert. One sentence alone gives us great consolation; it was this: 'I hope and trust he has gone to live with our Redeemer.' That is all I wish. They are the most precious words you could have spoken."

SANITARY COMMISSION.

The loyal thousands of the land who have contributed so liberally to the aid and support of the United States Sanitary Commission would be gratified and more than repaid could they see for a day the workings of the Commission in this city. The thousands of our released men who have arrived here during the past and present month from Richmond and other rebel dungeons have been cared for in the most liberal manner, and their many wants supplied from its bountiful storehouses of articles not furnished by the Government.

It is sometimes asked, "How all the money of the Sanitary Commission is expended?" The thousands of our returned prisoners will answer for the department of Annapolis. Through the untiring efforts of Major C. F. Howes, of Massachusetts, an old army officer, and his energetic assistant, Mr. P. S. Schwrar, all are made as comfortable as it is possible to make men in their condition. But it is not only our returned prisoners who are the recipients of the bounty of the Commission. The sick and wounded in the hospitals are supplied with many delicacies and comforts that otherwise they would never see or know of, and that materially assist in relieving their sufferings. The Commission here works quietly and unostentatiously, but none the less energetically. It should be fostered by the friends of the soldier everywhere in the land, for all alike, and from every state, have experienced its blessings. — *Balto. American, March* 11, 1863.

LETTER FROM BEAUFORT.

BY M. M. MARSH, M.D.

March 2, 1865.

For the last month, I have very little to communicate.

Our work has been chiefly among the sick, left by General Sherman, at Savannah and Beaufort, comprising about five thousand; which number, however, is rapidly reduced by the hospital boats, *Barnes* and *Ben De Ford*, conveying these diseased men (there are few wounded) as early as possible to a more salubrious clime. Usually the sick are retained in regimental or general hospitals until a removal is simply to secure a northern grave. Not so the policy of General Sherman. As soon as a man sickens he is sent to the rear, and as soon as possible thereafter, north. These men recover and return; and, unlike some other com-

mands, there is no complaint, that "when a man goes north that is the last of him," but there is, from these invalids and recruits, a constant accession in numbers. The soldiers of this army see the immediate fruit of their labors, which doubtless accounts for their unbounded devotion to the interests of this command. For certainly they are clothed and fed more poorly, and worked harder, than any body of troops I have seen. If commiserated, the soldier commonly replies, "If our officers can stand it, we can." The officers of this army do share with the soldier all his privations, and if it lightens not, it makes him willing to endure toil and suffering.

During the month we have received two entire cargoes of sanitary supplies, by the steamer *Uncas*, and have distributed to the necessities of hospitals, to the various detachments of General Sherman's army, lying at Beaufort, awaiting his advent to the coast, and to patients going north upon hospital boats. This latter class have especial reason to bless the providence of the Sanitary Commission. Thrown into hospital with clothing fit only to burn, and while there their respective commands ordered on the march, and no provision made by which they could draw a single article when they should come out of hospital, and the Department of the South unable or unwilling to issue to them, when the time came to return to their regiments, or to be transferred north, the Sanitary Commission was their only reliance, absolutely, in most cases, their only resource. Nor will this call cease while "Sherman's men" are in the department. Their officers have told me that not one-half the clothing which the men required was issued before the march. They assert that the same state of things existed before leaving Atlanta; and the appearance of the army fully justifies the assertion. Anovistus boasted to Cæsar that some of his men had not been under a roof for fourteen years: this army can certainly rival the German's in respect to clothing. There are constantly arriving, too, from the north numbers, temporarily waiting to rejoin their regiments, who are sent without any preparation, and for whom the Commission must provide. In addition, the small-pox hospital—which disease is just now rife—has made no inconsiderable demands upon us. A soldier is taken there, perhaps with a well-filled knapsack, blankets, and overcoat; all these, with all his personal apparel, are burned; and, on leaving hospital, Government allows him for his three blankets, overcoat, dress parade suit, and his personal every day clothing, only one shirt, one pair of stockings, one pair of pants, and a thin flannel blouse; and one who has served his country faithfully, and escapes death from a disease which eminently reduces vitality, is turned out to the damp and piercing winds with this protection, inadequate for the most robust and hardy; and this is said to be by an order from the war-office. Certain, it is the practice, and the country ought to know it.

These calls alone have made large drafts upon the Commission; but on the 25th ultimo we forwarded to Morehead City, N. C., by the steamer *Uncas*, to meet this roving army, an entire cargo of sanitary stores, in part composed of the following: 200 bbls. pickles, 150 bbls. kraut, 6,000 lbs. canned tomatoes, 3,000 lbs. beef stock, 4,200 lbs. canned milk, 600 bottles stimulants, 20 chests of tea, with coffee, sugar, butter, hams, cheese, 2,000 lbs. dried apples and fruit, 150 bbls. soft crackers, and the the different farinaceous articles in proportion; with clothing consisting of 200 military overcoats, 200 prs. pants, 200 blouses and dress-coats, 1000 blankets, 37 cases woolen shirts, 23 cases of drawers, 17 cases of socks, 8,000 towels, 9,000 handkerchiefs, 8 cases of cushions and pillows; and a corresponding supply of the little but very necessary articles of pins, needles, thread, &c., with stationery and postage stamps,—a necessity, from the fact that most of this working, conquering army have received no pay for more than eight months, whether members of cabinet and Congress have or have not drawn their monthly stipend. The above cargo, with one nearly equal in value, which we hope the Commission in New York will ship directly for Morehead City, will pretty fully meet the wants of these brave, intelligent men, of whom the West may well be proud; and giving an elasticity of muscular fibre and feeling, which a recognition of services always insures, will help them to accomplish that which they most desire, viz., to meet the strength of the rebellion, under him whom, inch by inch, they fought, from Chattanooga to Atlanta. For such men the country cannot do too much; and at this juncture the efficiency of this army, to an extent, depends upon the efforts of the Sanitary Commission.

BY F. A. S. PERRY.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. SAN. COM.
IN THE FIELD, SIX MILES FROM COVE CREEK,
March 11, 1865.

SIR:—I have the honor to report, that for the past week my time has been occupied at Newbern and here, as follows:

Last Sunday and Monday I was at Newbern, discharging the cargo of the Commission's steamer *Uncas*. Tuesday we were engaged in storing away the same. Wednesday we packed stores for the front, put them aboard the cars, and came to this place, pitched our tent, and placed our stores under shelter. In doing all this we had very hard muscular work to perform, and since we arrived here we have been up late every night, issuing relief to our sick and wounded.

It was the early hour of one o'clock Thursday morning when we reached this place, and, after three hours sleep in camp, were in readiness to commence work for the day. We first arranged our stores in tent, so as to be had when wanted, and took us about midday, when in came some seventy wounded from the front, to whom we rendered every assistance in our power. We pitched a tent for them, spread it with straw, and helped them in it, and furnished them with sacks and blankets, made them beef soup and coffee. gave to such as were wounded in the feet socks, in the legs drawers, in the body shirts, and to all such as were dirty such articles of clothing as they were in need of. The beef soup and coffee were very timely, as the poor fellows had come seven miles in ambulances, over a dreadful road, and were weak and hungry. They blessed us over and over again, and will one day say to the people of the North, the Sanitary Commission has been a God-send to them. It was stormy through the day, and at night a heavy and chilly rain set in, and, but for the tent we gave them, they would have had none. They were dependent upon us for a change of clothing and for food, except hard-tack and salt pork.

On Friday showers of rain fell, and the heaviest fighting at the front occurred; but only some forty men of our wounded have yet come in here. We served them as we did those of yesterday, and left them only as they fell asleep or sought it. At midnight I set out upon horseback, with a quantity of stores for the 3d Division Hospital, at Gum Swamp, five miles distant, as they were wanted for immediate relief. My path thither was alongside the railroad track, and was in some places so narrow my horse's hoofs would strike the sleepers, so close did I have to ride to the track, from fear of my horse falling into the deep ravine which runs from here all the way to Gum Swamp. When half way up, my horse became restive, and backed down into the ravine, there some eight feet deep, and half full of mud and water, but did not dismount me. My horse became more restive than ever, and, as I reined him up the steep bank, he stood upon his haunches and leaped, taking me through a margin of thick bush, and, leaping again, stumbled and fell with me to the ground, doing me no injury, further than maiming me a little. Upon reaching Gum Swamp, I found the hospital there more than full of wounded patients, and in immediate want of the stimulants and beef stock brought them, and greatly in need of blankets and other things I had not with me. I therefore slept upon the ground beside a blazing fire, with nothing but two rails underneath and the canopy of heaven above.

Saturday morning, as early as seven o'clock, I left Gum Swamp and returned upon foot, without having had a mite of breakfast, and reached here in about two hours after. No wounded have come in to-day, and our issues have been small, so I have had time for rest.

A MAJOR'S OPINION OF THE SOLDIERS' HOME AT COLUMBUS, OHIO.

COLUMBUS, OHIO,
March 17, 1865.

MY DEAR FRIEND:—Being detained in this city for four hours to-day, by missing the Crestline train, I thought I could spend my time profitably in visiting the Soldiers' Home, a large and commodious building erected by that truly patriotic and national organization, the United States Sanitary Commission. The building is only a few yards from the depot, and the sick or wounded soldier needs no direction to find it, for a large, conspicuous sign informs all that it is the Soldiers' Home; and, on entering, I assure you I found it to be such. I entered a large sitting-room, where I found about sixty returned prisoners sitting comfortably around a glowing stove, and reciting to a few listeners their thrilling stories of outrage and wrong, that make us blush for our kind south of Mason and Dixon.

To the left of the entrance was a large hall, with long, cleanly spread tables, on which was loaded an abundance of that wholesome food for which these noble fellows had pined during their gloomy captivity. But now "they were in God's country," as they called the North; and I felt, as I gazed on these provisions made for their comfort by the voluntary contributions of our citizens, that they were also "amongst God's people." One of the officers of the Commission took me into the comfortable little hospital attached to the "Home," where I saw rows of neat, clean cots, and on each was stretched the pale, emaciated form of a returned prisoner. Poor fellows! no tongue can tell their sufferings while in the hands of "the chivalry;" and, although I have seen the reality myself, I listened with renewed interest, and, as I heard some touching story from the lips of a worn-down, ghastly looking soldier, once a strong and stalwart youth, I could not hold back the tears of sympathy, while the fires of indignation burned afresh against our more than barbarous foe. But here, in the cozy "Home," there was a quiet feeling of happiness. Kind hands were here to minister, and a hundred comforts assured them that their prolonged captivity was not caused by a lack of interest on the part of the American people. They fully appreciated the philanthropy of the Sanitary Commission; and I heard many repeat the oft-quoted phrase, "God bless the ladies." I understand these poor fellows will be forwarded to their homes to-morrow, and their places will be occupied by others coming on. I assure you, my friend, my heart went out towards this noble organization, and I know every true soldier blesses it.

The Legislature is in session here, but my visit to the Home prevented my going to see the State-House. I hope to see you soon. With best wishes, believe me

Faithfully your friend,

A. R. C.

"SANITARY SUPPLIES FOR THE SOULS OF SOLDIERS."

An editorial in the New York *Observer* of 23d inst., under the above caption, seems to require a notice and reply, as follows:

The U. S. Sanitary Commission has never purchased a dollar's worth of Unitarian or Universalist literature for the army; but such literature having been sent to it for distribution, and some of our soldiers, having a preference for that kind of reading, the Commisson, as a national organization, had no right to determine that they should not read what had been sent. The ranks of our army are not filled up exclusively by orthodox or evangelical Christians; there are tens of thousands who do not believe as most Christians do, and whose convictions are just as firm and as honest as ours are, and we have no right to attempt to control their choice, unless we can furnish them with what we think is better. The "boys" in the army, (as some are pleased to call our soldiers,) are eager for reading matter, and if the Church does not supply the kind of reading that is best for them, through this largest and most efficient agency within reach of the people and the army, we have no right to complain that the men seek other kind of reading. If we would flood the Sanitary Commission with a stream of gospel truth, in the form of good books, bibles, &c., it would flow through every camp and hospital in the land, for the healing of the nation. The Church, however, has not done this. It has not availed itself of the providential advantages that were thrown in its way. The Sanitary Commission has appealed to them again and again for religious literature, but the supply has been small. Soon after the Christian Commission came into being, it was welcomed by the Sanitary Commission, by whom the proposition was made to transfer the whole matter of receiving and distributing religious reading to them, as well as the matter of religious teaching, provided that the Sanitary Commission should be allowed to act as the channel for all the stores that might be contributed by the people. Had such an arrangement been made, the agents of both Commissions would have had a common storehouse for supplies, and a common storehouse for reading matter, and a union and fellowship of interest and labor would have been seen, such as the world has never

yet seen; but the offer was declined. The Christian Commission claimed to be the representative of the Christian sentiment of the people, and by this act of refusal to cooperate have placed that sentiment below, as we think, its normal and actual standard. The Sanitary Commission was thus compelled either to ignore its broad, catholic principles, or to continue before the country as an unbiased, free, and universal channel for whatever *the people* might send to the army. The wants of the soldier must be met; the nation demands it. His moral and spiritual, as well as his physical wants must be met. The Church by its immediate agency or by its assumed representative, the Christian Commission, has not met the emergency, by supplying the reading and supplementing the chaplaincy, as its sole and honored calling, and hence must bear the responsibility of the evil now complained of. It was in its power to have controlled by an overwhelming influence this whole question, so far as national organizations were concerned. It did not, however, measure up to the demands of the hour, and has lost the grandest advantage that ever opened before a Christian organization. The record of the Sanitary Commission is clear upon this subject. While it has never assumed to teach religion in either of its distinctive forms, and while it has never published or contributed to the publication of Unitarian or Universalist literature, it has published by tens of thousands, hymns from our choicest Christian selections, and psalms, commandments, and prayers, such as are commonly used in all our Sabbath and domestic services. These have been circulated by authority in all parts of the army, while no strictly *denominational* literature has ever been officially recognized. It could not have done otherwise. The grand spirit of Christian charity, and the noble expression of Christian benevolence that crown this age with the richest honor for the past, and promise for the future, would not have been satisfied with any narrower ground.

The only remedy now available for the evil complained of by the *Observer*, is for the Church to gird up its loins and go into the work, in connection with the Sanitary Commission—to use this organization for the free and abundant employment of our Christian literature. It will be gladly received and diligently circulated. This institution is acknowledged to be the broadest, grandest, and most comprehensive instrument known to the world, for reaching all parts of the army; and, as its storehouses are open for Christian books, and its agents are ready to receive them, and the soldiers are anxious to read them, the Church is recreant to its obligation, in not using such an opportunity for extended usefulness. The Managers of the Commission have never authorized its agents to call for such reading as the *Observer* objects to; they call upon whomsoever will give, and the Church cannot afford to be less liberal in giving than those whom the Church ignores. On the other hand, the Managers have objected by vote to proprositions from associations that are named by the *Observer*, to allow their missionaries to use the Commission as a vehicle for promoting their denominational interests. The *Observer* thinks the "Commission should decline altogether the work of circulating religious reading," rather than subject itself to objection on such grounds. It is submitted again, that the Commission, foreseeing the evils of a division of interest, proposed the only remedy to the Christian Commission, but they, declining to accept the exclusive work of supplying the army with religious books, have unintentionally assumed the burden of the evil of which complaint is now made. The remedy is with the people. The last paragraph in the *Observer's* article points to this remedy;—it is, that Christians "put forth vastly augmented efforts." Let these efforts be in the direction, *not of opposition, to the Sanitary Commission*, but efforts which shall embrace this most efficient and comprehensive agency, that opens its doors for

all the contributions that may be given, and offers its aid in the scattering of every tract or Testament that may be placed at its disposal. This question must be met—fairly met. If the churches and the religious press can afford to say that the Sanitary Commission is not a Christian commission as well, they can afford to ignore tens of thousands of their church members and subscribers, who are identified with its interests, and who will continue to be, while it is in existence. It has been sustained hitherto by the Christianity of the land as a Christian work; it has been peculiarly prospered and blessed by a Providential guidance, which is cause for constant thanksgiving. We would say, then, to those who offer these objections, mark well the paths of your feet, that all your ways may be established. Remember the beam, before striking at the mote.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE.

Remarks by Doctor Joseph Parrish, of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, before the Philadelphia Conference, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, March 23, 1865. *Reported for the Bulletin.*

MR. PRESIDENT:—I have to thank this Conference for the opportunity thus afforded me to speak for a few moments, especially as the opportunity was not only unsought by myself, but unthought of until the propopition came voluntarily from this body. I receive your invitation as another evidence of the fraternal interest you have frequently manifested towards me on former occasions, and while I heartily appreciate it, I desire in any way that I can, to reciprocate it. It is also another evidence of the interest you feel in promoting the works of humanity, and of knowing the whole truth as to what is being done by the people for our army and navy; and for this I offer you especial thanks. I want to say to you a few words about the United States Sanitary Commission, not because I want to divert your attention from other interests, but simply that you may know what you do not now know about that Commission. It was instituted very soon after the commencement of this war, and one of its characteristics is, that it is a mixed Commission. It knows no denomination. It recognizes no race. It believes in no party lines, and its action covers the entire territory of the United States, regardless of all differences of opinion, and of all sects. In that respect it differs from some other organizations.

As to the extent of this work, I have only to say that having been appointed by the President of the United States and the Secretary of War, at the request of the Surgeon General, it felt it to be its duty to go wherever the army and navy went. If you will begin at Washington, and run down the Potomac and all along the coast, till you get to the Florida Keys, then come up the Gulf coast and follow it to the mouth of the Rio Grande, and starting again at New Orleans up the Mississippi to the mouth of the Ohio, and go westward and eastward to St. Louis, and Cincinnati, and Pittsburg, you have a line covering over four thousand miles of extent, which the Sanitary Commission has traversed with its stores and agents, and where it is now represented by some of its agencies at garrisons, ports, camps and hospitals. If you will then begin at Harper's Ferry, and follow Sheridan in his march through the Valley, you will find the work of this Commission represented in every foot of that march, and its relief afforded in every battle. If you will begin with the noble Sherman, when he started from Chattanooga, not on a grand march, but on his quiet promenade across all those states, till he came to the coast, you will find all along his journey, the Sanitary Commission accompanying him, with its agents and stores. When he reached Savannah and Charleston, he was met also by the agents of this Commission, with their storehouses all supplied. And if you will go for a little while in front of Petersburg, among the trenches and hospitals there, you will find the same work of busy care for present, and active preparation for anticipated wants. I run over this, simply to show the extent of the field of service occupied by the Commission.

We have also a large home work, with ten thousand women all through the Northern states, as an available army, engaged in various churches and communities, not in gathering money simply, to be sent to our treasury, but in gathering stores as well, to be sent to our depots of collection and distribution.

You will ask, very naturally, "How are these goods distributed?" The question comes up here as to the voluntary system and the paid system of distribution. Our people, in some places, have an idea, and probably some of this Conference sympathize with that idea, that the surgeons and even the chaplains are accused of appropriating the stores intended for the soldiers for their own use. Now, I don't believe that our chaplains are that class of men. I don't believe the surgeons and officers of the American army are made of such stuff, that they will take the contributions of the people, and withold them from the soldiers for whom they are intended. But the system of distributing these goods in the hospitals and the trenches by the agents, who are paid, or distributing them in the hospitals by surgeons, who make requisitions for them, is a question which interests the people, and about which they ought to know.

The voluntary system is a grand system. It brings into the service hundreds and thousands of men, from the pulpits and colleges of the North, and puts them right alongside the soldiers in the hospitals, and in personal sympathy with them. They no doubt do good there, and when they come home they do good by stirring up the people in behalf of the soldiers; but as a question of economy, and efficiency, it is very doubtful in experience. The Sanitary Commission, I am thankful to say, employs agents in the field, pays them a reasonable compensation for their service, and keeps them at it. We would just as soon expect to receive them for nothing, as a reliable force, as we would expect to see the government calling upon its citizens to go down for a month or so to try the battle-field, and come back to be exchanged for others who would do a similar amount of service, on the same gratuitous terms, and busy themselves gathering new recruits for the same voluntary employment.

I will not detain you with incidents of this field-service, to excite your sympathies, and awaken your responses, for of these there are more than I can tell. You do not need this. Your patriotism is all alive, your hearts are all aglow with noble impulses, and I know I need not attempt to add to the inspiration you already feel; but I believe there is solid sense enough in this Conference to take hold of this great question in all its solemn weight and importance, and measure it in its vast proportions; and while time will not allow me to do more than glance at the surface of the work, I must call to your notice one phase of it done by the Sanitary Commission that nobody else does, that the Christian Commission, or the government does not, and that would not be done, but for the Sanitary Commission.

While we are sitting here to-day, there are thousands of soldiers—to say nothing of those who are in the hospitals, and who are otherwise disabled from efficient service—who are in transitu from their homes to the field, and from their regiments to their homes, on furlough, who need to be fed and lodged, and to be provided for, personally, in various ways, who have their claims upon the government for back pay, bounty, prize money, &c. Also, thousands of widows all through the land, who have similar claims against the government; and who, if it were not for some benevolent agency in their behalf, like the Sanitary Commission, would fall into the hands of sharpers, and be deprived of a great portion of their money. Every day there are from five to ten thousand soldiers fed and lodged, and having their claims against the government collected, free of charge, who are kept out of rum-shops, and drawn away from other sources of temptation and evil, and directed on their pathway home. In this city there is to-day, in the office at 1307 Chestnut street, a crowd of soldiers and soldiers families, who are there to receive direction and guidance. An hundred a day, on an average, present their claims upon the government through that office alone for back pay, prize money, &c.; and as many more come, wanting little personal attentions and guidance. Then, all through the trains along the western routes, and up through our great throughfare, from Washington to New York, are hospital cars attached to the trains, when needed for carrying the sick to the hospitals of the East and North; and three times a week a physician is always on the train from Washington to New York, ready to administer medicine and necessary luxuries to those sick and wounded soldiers who may need them. And all this is free of expense to the soldiers. The money expended for this purpose comes from the great loyal heart of the American people. Now, as a conference of ministers, representing a great church, you will very naturally ask of this Commission, which has spent ten million dollars worth of supplies upon the

army, within the past four years,—this Commission, which covers so great an extent of territory, that has at hand such wonderful resources, *Does it carry the gospel to the soldiers?* The popular sentiment is that it does not. If you will tell me what the gospel is, in your judgment, then, perhaps, I will be enabled to answer the question a little more definitely. If by carrying the gospel is meant carrying simply methodism, presbyterianism, or any other *ism* in the shape of dogmas and preaching, then the Sanitary Commission don't do it. It recognizes, I said, no race, no degree, no denomination, but it goes with the love and example of Christ, carrying comforts personally to the men who are fighting the battles of our country. It does that kind of work without stint, and none work so efficiently in its behalf as the ministers of the gospel themselves, and in no strictly ministerial service do they do more or better preaching than in these deeds of mercy.

I would not appeal to so low a motive as the Methodism of this body to enlist its sympathy on behalf of the soldiers. I would appeal rather to its high, noble Christianity, and ask it to recognize in our efforts the hand of the Almighty leading a great people to the performance of the noblest Christian charities that a nation was ever called to perform. How can you look upon this vast work and be indifferent to its success? Can the church afford to say that it will not give it a helping hand? that it will not aid this well planned scheme of benevolence, and assist its well directed instrumentality which the people have so generally employed to attain a humane and Christian object?

It was my privilege during part of last summer to have charge of the work of the Sanitary Commission in the armies operating against Richmond. We had seventy ministers and theological students employed in our service; not for a few weeks at a time, but month after month; some of them laying down their lives, in going from bed to bed, and from intrenchment to intrenchment, administering comfort, temporal and spiritual, to the soldiers there. I mention these things in order to secure the judgment of this Conference in favor of the declaration that this work is a Christian work. I do this because an effort has been made, and is now being made, to prove that it is not a Christian work. But I feel sure that this body of Christian ministers are not prepared to endorse such a sentiment.

I have been asked (and I confess that I approach the subject with some delicacy, because I know that I may come in contact with the sympathies of a great many men whom I love), I have been asked to state distinctly to this body what is the relation of the U. S. Sanitary Commission with the Christian Commission. I do it frankly, in a plain, honest, Christian spirit, as I trust. The Sanitary Commission was the first-born child of benevolence in a national form, which this country knew after the outbreak of the rebellion. After it was organized, planned, and in full operation, the Christian Commission, its young and vigorous sister, came into the field likewise. We received her with open arms, and said, Come, let us work together. We made the official proposition,—Come, let us work together,—let us go hand in hand, and heart to heart into this magnificent field, and do whatsoever our hands find to do in this behalf; and in order that there may be no collision you shall share our supplies, and we will share of your Bibles, Testaments, and tracts. and both lend our time and strength to the cause of God and the Union. Let *us* do the hard, grinding toil of carrying the boxes, and wheeling the barrels, and feeding and dressing the soldiers, and let your duties be that of administering to their spiritual wants. That was the official proposition made to these brethren. What was the answer? "No." And so we went on with the work, each of us doing what we could. Again the proposition was made, and again declined. Perhaps it is well that it was declined. Perhaps there is much more interest created in the country by having two agencies. Perhaps there are larger contributions by the people, and though it may be well, in this respect, experience has proved that it is not economical. But as we can't have this unity of action in one direction, or through one channel, let us have unity of feeling and concord, and let us go on with this work to the end. (Applause.)

I don't believe as some do that the war is going to be stopped in ten days or two weeks. I believe there are deeper issues at stake than can be settled in so short a time. An army of five hundred thousand men cannot be disbanded in a few days. An army of one hundred thousand or more disabled men cannot find employ-

ment in so short a season. The thousands who are now in the hospitals, and such as are about to be discharged, cannot come back and take to their old industrial pursuits at once. We must therefore keep up our organization, which looks to the welfare of men so situated. Such is now the programme which is laid out under the direction of the Sanitary Commission. For this purpose Annapolis alone, with its wasted and starving prisoners is enough to engage the labor and sympathy of the country for a long time, and here the Commission has done an immense work. Oh, if I could only infuse into this Conference the spirit that was manifested by a poor widow woman at Annapolis, the other day, who went down there in search of her son, who had been taken prisoner, and who had died in Andersonville, I know that you would be the better for the inspiration. She said to some of his comrades at Annapolis, on their return, "Have you seen my George?" "Yes, I saw George," said a former associate of her son's, "I saw George carried out of prison in Andersonville, dead." "Oh no," said she; "George can't be dead. My George is not dead." And as the next boat came up to the wharf, and the poor fellows from the Southern dungeons walked out with their skeleton faces staring upon freedom again, and their feeble limbs tottertering homeward, every man looking like every other man, so that you could scarcely distinguish them, she stood anxiously at the plank, and gazed into the eyes of each one that passed, hoping to find her George; and she did not leave when all the living had landed, but waited till the dead were carried off on stretchers, and as each corpse was brought out she lifted up the sheet that covered it, and gazed at the face hoping yet to recognize her son; but still it was not George. Having seen the whole number, she came to the conclusion that George had really died in Andersonville, and then, with the noble impulse of a noble American woman, she said, "*Well, it is no matter, they are all Georges to me, and instead of grieving and lamenting I will go into these hospitals and take care of every one of them, just as I would of George.*" (Applause.)

That is the spirit that actuates the women of this land. That is the spirit that ought to actuate every man in this land; a spirit of universal sympathy, a spirit unfettered by name or rank. When our denominational preferences rise up to hinder us in our labors, we should banish them for the broader and truer love of God and humanity, and reach our hands out to every man that fights under our flag, be he black or white, American or foreigner. So long as he has the blue uniform on his back and the brass buttons on his coat, and marches under the broad standard of liberty, he should be recognized as a brother and friend. (Applause.)

Now then, Christian brethren, let us think this thing over; and no matter whether we be pledged to this or that charity, let us remember that the Sanitary Commission is a universal Christian charity, such as the world has never before witnessed. It occurs to my mind here that when I last saw this Conference two years ago, you little thought at that time, when under circumstances which you will all remember, there was a spirit of fear and trembling passed over this body, when a few little children stood up before you to sing a hymn of praise to God to the tune of "Old John Brown;" that you yourselves during this Conference would rise up with the same tune on your lips to sing the battle cry of the Republic beginning with

"Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;"

and each verse ending with the stirring refrain

"The truth is marching on."

And two years from this day you will be astonished on reviewing the past to see the conquests that truth shall have made in the church and out of the church. The truth is marching on, and God is marching on.

All I have to say now is that you remember this work, that it is a Christian work, and when you hear people say that it is not, do not stop to argue the question. Take the example of our blessed Master, who went about doing good to all, and compare that with the work of this Commission and settle the question for yourselves.

Rev. S. W. Thomas desired to know how ministers of the gospel would offer their services to the Commission, and also how soldiers obtained their pensions through the Sanitary Commission.

Dr. Parrish said that if any members of this Conference desired to work in behalf of the army, through the Sanitary Commission, or desire to go to the front, that

they could do so by sending their names and residence to him, and if there should be an emergency requiring the service of such men they would soon be called upon. Passes will be furnished at Philadelphia, and the way will be opened for doing much good. They would have the privilege of living in tents, eating hard tack and bacon, and going about doing good, like their Master did before them.

Rev. Mr. Neill inquired as to the manner of procuring pensions and back pay through the Sanitary Commission.

Dr. Parrish said there are offices in this city, and in all the principal cities, where all claims against the government are collected without cost to the soldier or his friends. In this connection he stated a case of a widow whose husband had died in the war, and who had a claim against the government. Not knowing how to collect it, she went to a lawyer who charged her two-thirds of the whole amount that was coming to her. A widow applying for money due her must give a satisfactory voucher as to her marriage and identity, stating the name of her husband, the company and regiment to which he was attached, and other necessary informatian. It is of course necessary that strict attention be paid to the details, to protect the Commission and the government against fraud. We have published a little book called the Soldier's Friend, which is to be had at the offices of the Commission; which book contains the necessary directions for all these matters, and a copy which is on the stand for each member of the body.

Dr. Parrish thanked the Conference for the kind attention with which they had listened to his remarks, and retired from the stand amid the congratulations of the members. A resolution of thanks was passed for his address, and of commendation of the cause.

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER OF DR. C. R. AGNEW, OF U. S. SAN. COMMISSION.

WILMINGTON, N. C., *March* 20, 1865.

The returned prisoners sent number about 9,000. Of these, 6,000, the less famished, have been sent North. General Abbott, who receives them in exchange, just told me that language would utterly fail to describe their condition. Filth, rags, nakedness, starvation were personified in their condition. Many of the men were in a state of mind resembling idiocy, unable to tell their names, and lost to all sense of modesty, unconscious of their nakedness and personal condition; some of them moving about on their hands and knees, unable to stand upon their gangrenous feet, looked up like hungry dogs, beseeching the observer for a bite of bread or a sup of water. Some of them hitched along on their hands and buttocks, pushing gangrenous feet, literally reduced to bone and threads, before them. Others leaned upon staves, and gazed from sunken eyes through the parchment like slits of their open eyelids into space, without having the power to fix an intelligent gaze upon passing objects. Others giggled and smirked and hobbled like starved idiots, while some adamantine figures walked erect, as though they meant to move the skeleton homewards, so long as vitality enough remained to enable them to do so. To see the men who remain here in the hospitals, would move a heart as hard and cold as marble. Their arms and legs look like coarse reeds, with bulbous joints, and their faces as though a skilful taxidermist had drawn tanned skin over the bare skull, and then placed false eyes in the orbital cavities. They defy description. It would take a pen expert in the use of every term known to the anatomist and physician, to begin to explain their fearful condition. "May God, in his mercy, forgive our enemies."

WOMAN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF.

GLEANINGS.—NO. IX.

Will our Auxiliary Societies be kind enough to send us their names, and the names of their Presidents and Secretaries, before the 1st of May? And will those who have already done so, during the past year, be good enough to repeat it, as we want to make our list complete up to the latest dates. *Auxiliary* Societies are defined in a previous article as "those who, by vote, bind themselves to work exclusively through our agency." Those societies, however, who do this, without having gone through the formality of voting, may be entered upon the list as auxiliaries.

In this connection we cannot forbear speaking of the pleasure we have recently had in welcoming to our ranks the "Soldiers' Aid Society" of Rochester. For years this great centre has been one of our most valuable contributors, and we may well feel gratified at this unsolicited expression of confidence from a society so large, so flourishing, and of such marked efficiency as that of the "Rochester Soldiers' Aid

Society." The letter, lately received, says: "We have held our meeting, and the motion for an auxiliaryship to the Woman's Central Relief Association was carried unanimously. The change seems, at first view, merely in *form*, we were so closely connected with you before—and yet it is more than this. There is a great difference between contributing to the Sanitary Commission from month to month at pleasure, and identifying ourselves with it. The latter gives us a more fixed character, moulds us into a more definite shape, in other words, precipitates us into a Sanitary crystal. We talk Sanitary Commission now in more decided words and tones than before, and the decided and general satisfaction evinced, although I had felt that we were ready for the movement, exceeds even my anticipations."

While looking for the letter from which to make the above extract, we happened upon, and stopped to read over for perhaps the twentieth time, a little package of letters, now lying on the table beside us. It is an unassuming little package, held loosely together by an elastic strap, the letters themselves seeming never to have been either folded, or filed, or pasted, or spiled, but retaining each its individual post office character. Should you ask to what department these letters belong, and whether you might not endorse, and put them away, we should answer that they don't "belong" anywhere, and that they are never put away. The fact is that we like to keep them always in sight, and think we value them none the less for not having the business-like look of other correspondence. And, at the close of one of our "statistical" days,—so called because spent in poring over figures, balancing accounts, or making up reports,—when eyes and brain are weary, there are some of us who think—it may be only a fancy—that there is a talismanic charm about the little package, a charm which dispels fatigue, and brings rest and renewed strength.

The busy, bustling day's work is over, and we may hope for a quiet half hour before going home. Take this seat, here by the desk, and let us read over the little package together. This first letter is from one of our old correspondents. Struggling with ill health she has still kept on with the work until this year, and now writes to say how much she regrets that increased feebleness obliges her to cease every active effort. We want to thank her again for that unreserved expression of confidence in the Sanitary Commission, for her words of personal sympathy, and for the little glimpse of home-life, so simply told: "I have three little girls," she writes, "who, for a while, have been denying themselves *sugar* at the table, on articles of food where they most desired it, and the money they have raised by this means has been called their 'soldier money.' In the box, which will I hope soon reach you, you will find sago, tapioca, &c., for the hospitals, provided by these little girls with their well-earned money, and affording them the sincerest pleasure, I assure you. The lint and bandages have been made, and the bundle of cotton and linen washed and ironed with their own hands. May some suffering hero find even half the comfort in these articles, which the little girls have found in their preparation."

God bless the children! Could the soldier, slowly recovering from fever in some distant hospital, but know of the three little hearts, beating so warmly for him, of the six little hands, ministering so tenderly to his comfort, we think it would put new life into the worn-out body, and homesick heart—would make him feel that he was not alone, while the love of these little children remained with him, a love sealed by sacrifice.

A little note drops out of the package; merely two or three lines, of very familiar handwriting, which came with a pair of socks. They are the one hundred and thirty-fourth pair knit and sent us by an old lady in her seventy-fourth year. Those two letters may lie together. Surely, this must be a blessed work, to be so sanctified by the gifts of childhood and old age.

The third letter, from a private in hospital at Germantown, was brought us by the mother herself. She had not heard from her boy for ten weeks, since this, his last letter—no answer to her letter; and "he had always been so good about writing—would we write to the surgeon for her? for perhaps, Miss, they might answer a letter from you, with the printing at the top of it, sooner than they would my poor writing." We give the letter, word for word, as it lies open before us:—

"U. S. Hospital, Germantown,
December 23, 1864.

"My dear Mother:—I hope you got home safe from here, and that your health is better than when you were here. My health is very poor, but I hope it will soon improve. I have fretted about the loss I came to, not on my own account, but on

your account. When I paid my money on that place I thought I would have a home for you in your old age; but God forgive them that cheated me out of my deeds. Dear mother, keep up your heart; if I am spared to come home, I will make you happy and comfortable. Yet I would advise you to stop in New York, as you belong to it, and when my time is up I will claim you—if I don't make up my mind to join the army again, if there is another call for men. But don't be angry, if I say I love my country's cause, and the dear old flag, I may say, better. Do you blame me for doing so? Although I have a ball in my cheek, it will not stop me from facing the enemy; and, dear mother, if I should fall, you live in a noble country. It will not let you want, as you will be entitled to a pension. Dear mother, I hope you will be praying for me, and I hope I will soon be enabled to rally round our dear old flag once again; and don't be afraid, but we will shout the battle cry of freedom.

"I must conclude; and remain

"Your affectionate son until death,

"_____ _____,

"Co. A, 140th Regt. N. Y. Vols."

There may be many letters coming home, day after day, from camp and hospital, as simple and as true as this is; but we do not remember seeing one more noble in spirit, or which breathed a stronger love of country, united with such tender filial affection, as shown in these rough, untutored lines, from the boy in the hospital to his widowed mother at home. And so our soldiers fight and fall. Thank God, that we are permitted to do something for such men as these—let us pray that we may be faithful to the privilege and to the trust.

We will read no more to-day. Fold up the letters; slip them under the strap. Lie there little package—your charm is still unbroken; for are we not rested, and is not our strength renewed?

For the Committee on Correspondence.

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER,
Chairman.

NEW YORK, 7 COOPER UNION,
March 24, 1865.

THE GREAT SANITARY FAIR.

FINAL REPORT OF THE PROCEEDS—MORE THAN A MILLION DOLLARS MADE.

We have received the following documents, showing the results of the Great Philadelphia Fair:

UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION,
PHILADELPHIA AGENCY,
No. 1307 CHESTNUT ST., *March* 24, 1864.

To the Editor of the Press:

SIR:—I beg leave to enclose to you copies of the receipt by the Treasurer of the United States Sanitary Commission, and the letter of the President of the Commission, to John Welsh, Esq., showing the fruits of the Fair, and the acknowledgments of the Commission to the Philadelphia gentlemen who conducted it.

Subject to the receipt of final reports from some of the committees, the work of the Fair is now closed; and the Sanitary Commission acknowledge gratefully your active and valuable aid in attaining the results now realized.

Very respectfully yours,

HORACE BINNEY, JR.,
Chairman of Executive Committee of Philadelphia Associates of the United States Sanitary Commission.

Received, New York, Feb. 17, 1865, of C. Cope, Treasurer of the Philadelphia Associates of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, one million, thirty-five thousand, three hundred and ninety-eight dollars and ninety-six cents, being the net proceeds of the Great Central Fair, held in Philadelphia, in June last, for the benefit of the United States Sanitary Commission.

$1,035,398 96. GEORGE T. STRONG,
Treasurer of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

NEW YORK, February 25, 1865.

TO JOHN WELSH, ESQ.,
President of the Great Central Fair.

DEAR SIR:—On returning to New York, after a week's absence, the Treasurer of our Commission informs me of his receipt from Mr. Caleb Cope of the sum of ($1,035,398 $\frac{96}{100}$) one million and thirty-five thousand, three hundred and ninety-eight and $\frac{96}{100}$ dollars, being the total net product of the Great Central Fair, for the benefit of the United States Sanitary Commission. We have remitted $514,310 08 to our Philadelphia associates, to be expended in their Branch, for our general benefit.

The grand result of your Fair is already known to all the world. I found the people in California rejoicing in it last July, and the beautiful chromotype commemorating the scene of it hangs in hundreds of homes, thousands of miles apart, on both sides of our continental country. The elegant record which our distinguished fellow-commissioner, Mr. Stillé, has made of the Fair,

already in so many admiring hands, will, with other documents of the Commission, be, in a few days, on its way to Egypt, to fill an order made by American friends there in favor of the reigning Pasha.

There is no part of the world where the history of the uprising of American women and children, American homes, American industry and art, in behalf of the brave sufferers in the cause of our national integrity and stableness, has not excited an enthusiastic sympathy and approbation, and redounded to the honor of free, popular institutions and the American name. The United States Sanitary Commission had the privilege of leading off in this glorious career, and of first crystallizing on a national scale the sympathies and practical benevolence of the people, in behalf of our sick and wounded soldiers. Into its treasury, accordingly, have flowed the broad streams of the popular favor and support; and specially it has worn about its neck a golden chain, on which the great cities, linked together, have hung their jewels, each more splendid than the other, as it caught the public eye, and all dearer than Cleopatra's pearl, because to be finally dissolved in a draught of mercy, for lips more royal, even those of an army of martyrs for Liberty.

No city in the Union has given a stouter and more persistent support to the war, to the comfort of soldiers on their way to and from the war, or to the relief of the sick and wounded falling in the course of the war, than Philadelphia; and to no city, except San Francisco, is the United States Sanitary Commission so much indebted for an intelligent, laborious, and costly support —a support including moral, intellectual, and financial sustenance and loyalty. Philadelphia has understood and endorsed the peculiar principles of the Sanitary Commission, trusted its officers with generous confidence, and fed its treasury with systematic contributions.

The magnificent contribution we have just received, the product of your Fair, is, I venture to say, the largest ever made in one sum, not only to this, but to any unincorporated charity in the world. It is a miracle of free, concerted action seeking with unjealous and confiding benevolence to make an institution, without local or State interest, the almoner of its overflowing bounty towards those sufferers made sacred by the cause in which they offer their lives and shed their blood. You have freshened the Declaration of Independence, originally made in your city, issuing it anew, rewritten in the blood of your sons, with every precious line of it now illuminated with your gold.

I was, fortunately, present at the great gathering of the heads of all the economical interests of your vast hive of industry, when the Fair was inaugurated by assigning its departments to the most energetic men in Philadelphia. I said then, what I repeat here, that I never knew an undertaking whose success was so thoroughly assured by the method and spirit in which it was started. What the zeal, the taste, and the generosity of your State and city—not unaided by New Jersey and Delaware—finally produced in the way of a splendid and instructive spectacle, I learn from thousands who had a pleasure denied to me, then in California, of visiting that beautiful temple of art and humanity. The solid product of all those labors and successes I have now the profound gratification of acknowledging the receipt of, into the treasury for which it was originally designed.

To that Divine Providence in which all great blessings originate; to the generous public who first gave and then bought back the materials of the Fair; to the women of of your city and neighborhood, whose taste and humanity, whose strength and tenderness flowed into its preparation and conduct; to the various committees, whose patient fidelity in a noble rivalry with each other, secured the success of all its departments; to the executive committee, whose wisdom and devotion reduced the parts of such harmony and perfection; and to you, sir, the president of the Fair, to whose admirable administration, unflagging oversight, and Christian inspiration, all accord the highest respect and admiration, I beg leave humbly to offer, in the name of our clients—the sick and wounded soldiers—the gratitude of their hearts, and with them that of the homes of the nation.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, yours,

HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President U. S. Sanitary Commission.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents is crowded out by more important matter. In its place is presented the notice of the Philadelphia Protective War Claim and Pension Agency.

PROTECTIVE

War Claim and Pension Agency

OF THE

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

All the papers and correspondence required to procure Pensions, Bounty and Back Pay, and Prize Money for discharged soldiers and sailors, and for the relatives of soldiers and sailors dying in the service of the United States, prepared and forwarded, and the proceeds of all claims, when collected, remitted to the parties entitled, *free of charge.*

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1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
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S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
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HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regi-

ment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Nos. 10 & 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, State House, New Haven, Conn.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 244 F Street, Washington, D. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Distribution, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 46 Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Harper's Ferry, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Parole, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, City Point, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Newberne, N. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Beaufort, S. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, New Orleans, La

Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, N. Y.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 59 Fourth Street, Pittsburgh, Penna.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Columbus, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

EAST.

"Special Relief" Office, 76 Kingston Street, Boston, Mass.

"Special Relief" Office, 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

"Soldiers' Rest," Buffalo, Exchange street, opposite R. R. Depot.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C., where assistance is rendered in procuring Pay, Pensions, Bounty, Prize Money, and arrears of Pay and Bounty, and in various other ways.

"The Home," No. 374 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

WEST.

Soldiers' Home, No. 81 Jefferson avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Soldiers' Home, Third Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky., James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, New Albany, corner of Main and State Streets.

Soldiers' Home, Cairo, Ill., C. N. Shipman, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn., Captain I. Brayton, Sup't. Rev. J. Hoblit, Relief Agent

Soldiers' Home, Columbus, Ohio, Col. Isaac Dalton, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Cleveland, Ohio, Joseph Jerome, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

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SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * * IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.
C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

No. 36. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 15, 1865. No. 36.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 15,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No.* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

DRIVING HOME THE COWS.

Out of the clover and blue-eyed grass,
He turned them into the river-lane;
One after another he let them pass,
Then fastened the meadow bars again.

Under the willows and over the hill,
He patiently followed their sober pace;
The merry whistle for once was still,
And something shadowed the sunny face.

Only a boy! and his father had said
He never could let his youngest go!
Two already were lying dead,
Under the feet of the trampling foe.

But after the evening work was done,
And the frogs were loud in the meadow-swamp,
Over his shoulder he slung his gun
And stealthily followed the foot-path damp.

Across the clover and through the wheat
With resolute heart and purpose grim,
Though cold was the dew on his hurrying feet,
And the blind bats flitting startled him.

Thrice since then had the lanes been white,
And the orchards sweet with apple-bloom;
And now, when the cows came back at night,
The feeble father drove them home.

For news had come to the lonely farm
That three were lying where two had lain;
And the old man's tremulous, palsied arm
Could never lean on a son's again.

The summer day grew cool and late;
He went for the cows when his work was done;
But down the lane, as he opened the gate,
He saw them coming, one by one.

Brindle, Ebony, Speckle, and Bess,
Shaking their horns in the evening wind;
Cropping the butter cups out of the grass—
But who was it following close behind?

Loosely swang in the idle air
The empty sleeve of army blue;
And worn and pale, from the crisping hair,
Looked out a face that the father knew;

For Southern prisons will sometimes yawn,
And yield their dead unto life again;
And the day that comes with a cloudy dawn
In golden glory at last may wane.

The great tears sprang to their meeting eyes;
For the heart must speak when the lips are dumb,
And under the silent evening skies
Together they followed the cattle home.

Harper's Magazine.

A FORTNIGHT WITH THE SANITARY.

Reprinted from the Atlantic Monthly.

For three years I had been a thorough believer in the United States Sanitary Commission. Reading carefully its publications, listening with tearful interest to the narrations of those who had been its immediate workers at the front, following in imagination its campaigns of love and mercy, from Antietam to Gettysburg, from Belle Plain to City Point, and thence to the very smoke and carnage of the actual battlefield, I had come to cherish an unfeigned admiration for it and its work. For three years, too, I had been an earnest laborer at one of its out-

posts,—striving with others ever to deepen the interest and increase the fidelity of the loyal men and women of a loyal New England town. I was prepared then, both from my hearty respect for the charity and from my general conception of the nature and vastness of its operations, to welcome every opportunity to improve my knowledge of its plans and practical workings. I therefore gladly accepted the invitation which came to me to visit the headquarters of the Commission at Washington, and to examine for myself the character and amount of the benefits which it confers.

The evening of August 23d found me, after a speedy and pleasant trip southward, safely ensconced in the sanctum of my good friend Mr. Knapp, the head of the Special Relief Department. Starting from that base of operations, I spent two crowded weeks in ceaseless inquiries. Every avenue of information was thrown wide open. Two days I wandered, but not aimlessly, from office to office, from storehouse to storehouse, from soldiers' home to soldiers' home, conversing with the men who have given themselves up unstintedly to this charity, examining the books of the Commission, gathering statistics, seeing, as it were, the hungry soldier fed and the naked soldier clothed, and the sick and wounded soldier cared for with a more than fraternal kindness. I visited the hospitals, and with my own hands distributed the Sanitary delicacies to the suffering men. Steaming down the Chesapeake, and up the James, and along its homeless shores, I came to City Point; was a day and a night on board the Sanitary barges, whence full streams of comfort are flowing with an unbroken current to all our diverging camps; passed a tranquil, beautiful Sabbath in that city of the sick and wounded, whose white tents look down from the bluffs upon the turbid river; rode thirteen miles out almost the Weldon road, then in sharp contest between our Fifth Army Corps and the rebels; from the hills which Baldy Smith stormed in June saw the spires of Petersburg; went from tent to tent and from bedside to bedside in the field hospitals of the Fifth and Ninth Corps, where the luxuries prepared by willing hands at home were bringing life and strength to fevered lips and broken bodies. I came back with my courage reanimated, and with a more perfect faith in the ultimate triumph of the good cause. I came back with a heartier respect for our soldiers, whose patience in hardship and courage in danger are rivalled only by the heroism with which they bear the pains of sickness and wounds. I came back especially with the conviction that, no matter how much we had contributed to the Sanitary work, we had done only that which it was our duty to do, and that, so long as we could furnish shelter for our families and food for our children, it was our plain obligation to give and to continue giving out of our riches or out of our poverty.

I have felt that in no way could I do better service than by seeking to answer for others the very questions which my fortnight with the Sanitary has answered for me. Most, no doubt, have a general conviction that the charity inaugurated by the the Sanitary Commission is at once marvellous in its extent and unique in the history of war. All, perhaps, are prepared to allow that the heart which conceived such an enterprise, and the mind which organized it, and the persistent will which carried it to a successful issue, are entitled to all the praise which we can give them. Few will deny now that this and kindred associations, by decreasing the waste of war, will affect in an important degree our national fortunes. And most, indeed, know something even about the details of Sanitary work. They comprehend, at least, that through its agency many a homely comfort and many a home luxury find their way to the wards of great hospitals. They have seen, too, the Commission step forward in great emergencies, after some terrible battle, when every energy of Government was burdened and overburdened by the gigantic demands of the hour, and from its storehouses send thousands of packages, and from its offices hundreds of relief agents, to help to meet almost unprecedented exigencies.

But what people wish to know, and what, despite all that has been written, they do not know fully and definitely, is how and when and where, and through what channels and by what methods, the Commission works: precisely how the millions which have been poured into its treasury from public contributions and private benefactions have been coined into comfort for the soldier,—how the thousands and hundreds of thousands of garments which have gone forth to unknown destinations have been made warmth for his body and cheer to his soul. The whole heighth and depth and length and breadth of Sanitary work, what varied activities and what multiform chari-

ties are included in the great circumference of its organization,—of that not one in twenty has any adequate conception. And all about that is what everybody wishes to know. The curiosity, moreover, which dictates such queries, is a natural and laudable curiosity. Those who have given at every call, and often from scanty means, and those who have plied the needle summer and winter, early and late, have a right to put such questions. The Commission wishes to answer all proper inquiries fully and unreservedly. It would throw open its operations to the broadest sunlight. It believes that the more entirely it is known, in its successes and its failures alike, the more sure it is to be liberally sustained. To bring the humblest contributor from the most distant branch, as it were, into immediate communication with the front is a work most desirable to be done. I do not wish to glorify the Commission, nor to theorize about it, nor to discuss its relative merit as compared with that of kindred organizations, but rather to tell just what it is doing, precisely where the money goes, and exactly what kinds of good are attempted.

The work of the Sanitary Commission may be naturally and conveniently classed under five heads.

First, the work undertaken for the prevention of sickness and suffering.

Second, the Special Relief Department.

Third, the Hospital Directory.

Fourth, the assistance given to stationary hospitals.

Fifth, the grand operations in the front, on or near the actual battle-field.

The efforts for the prevention of suffering and sickness are first in order of time, and possibly first in importance. When this war commenced, we had no wounded and we had no sick. What we did have was a crowd of men full of untrained courage, but who knew little or nothing about military discipline, and as little in regard to what was necessary for the preservation of their health. What we did have was hundreds and thousands of officers, taken from every walk of life, who were, for the most part, men of great natural intelligence, but who did not at all comprehend that it was their duty not only to lead their men in battle, but to care for their health and their habits, and who had never dreamed that such homely considerations as what are the best modes of cooking food, what are the most health localities in which to pitch tents, what is the right position for drains, had anything to do with the art of war. What we did have was surgeons, many of whom had achieved an honorable reputation in the walks of civil life, but who, on this new field, were alike inexperienced and untried. The manifest danger was, that this mass of living valor and embodied patriotism would simply be squandered,—that, as in the terrible Walcheren expedition, or in the Crimea, the men whose strength and courage might decide a campaign would only furnish food for the hospital and the grave.

Who should avert this danger? The Government could not. It had no time to sit down and study sanitary science. It was bringing together everything, where it found—nothing. Out of farmers and merchants and students it was organizing the most efficient of armies. It was sending its agents all over the world to buy guns and munitions of war. It was tasking our factories to produce blankets and overcoats, knapsacks and haversacks, wagons and tents, and all that goes to make up the multifarious equipment of an army. It was peering into our dockyards to find steamers and sailing vessels out of which to gather makeshift navies, until it could find leisure to build stancher ships. Manifestly the Government had no time for such a work. The existing medical bureau was hardly equal to the task. Organized to take charge of an army of ten thousand men, in the twinkling of an eye that army became five hundred thousand. At the beginning of the war the medical staff must have been very busy and very heavily burdened. With great hospitals to build, with troops of willing, but young and inexperienced surgeons to train to a knowledge ot their duties, and to send east and west and north and south, with every department of medical science to be enlarged at once to the proportions of the war, it had little leisure for excursions into fresh fields of inquiry. That it brought order so quickly out of chaos, that it was able to extemporize a good working system, is a sufficient testimony to its general fidelity and efficiency. It was the Sanitary Commission which undertook this special duty. It undertook to find out some of the laws of health which apply to army life, and then to scatter the knowledge of those laws broadcast.

Prevention, therefore, effort not so much to comfort and cure the sick soldier as to keep him from being sick at all, was, in order of time, properly the first work. And it is doubtful whether at the outset anything

more was contemplated. The memorial to the War Department in May, 1861, says, explicitly that the object of the Commission "is to bring to bear upon the health, comfort, and *morale* of our troops the fullest and ripest teachings of sanitary science." How many of the contributors to the funds of the Society are aware what an immense work in this direction has been undertaken, and how much has been accomplished to prevent sickness and the consequent depletion, and perhaps defeat of our armies? As I have already indicated, at the commencement of the war we knew little or nothing about what was necessary to keep men in military service well,—what food, what clothing, what tents, what camps, what recreations, what everything, I may say. Now the Sanitary Commission has made searching inquiries touching every point of camp and soldier life,—gathering in facts from all quarters, and seeking to attain to some fixed sanitary principles. It has sent the most eminent medical men on tours of inspection to all our camps, who have put questions and given hints to the very men to whom they were of the most direct importance. As a result, we have a mass of facts, which, in the breadth of the field which they cover, in the number of vital questions which they settle, and in the fulness and accuracy of the testimony by which they are sustained, are worth more than all the sanitary statistics of all other nations put together.

And we are to consider that these inquiries were from the beginning turned to practical use. If you look over your pile of dusty pamphlets, very likely you will find a little Sanitary tract entitled, "Rules for Preserving the Health of the Soldier." This was issued almost before the war had seriously begun. Or you will come across some republished European medical paper containing the last results of the last foreign investigations. So early was the good seed of sanitary knowledge sown. We must remember, too, how many mooted, yet vital questions have now been put to rest. Take an example,—Quinine. Everybody had a general notion that quinine was as valuable as a preventive of disease as a cure. But how definite was our knowledge? How many knew when and in what positions and to what extent it was valuable? As early as 1861 the Commission prepared and published what has been justly termed an exhaustive monograph on the whole subject, collecting into a brief space all the best testimony bearing upon the question. This was the beginning of an investigation which, pursued through a vast number of cases, has demonstrated that, in peculiar localities and under certain circumstances, quinine in full doses is an almost absolute necessity. And in such localities, and under such circumstances, Government issues now a daily ration to every man, saving who can tell how many valuable lives? One more illustration,—Camps. Suppose you were to lead a thousand men into the Southern country. Would you know where to encamp them? whether with a southern or a northern exposure? on a breezy hill, or in a sheltered valley? beneath the shade of groves, or out in the broad sunshine? Could you tell what kind of soil was healthiest, or how near to each other you could safely pitch your tents, or whether it would be best for your men to sleep on the bare ground or on straw or on pine boughs? Yet, if you inquire, you will find that all these questions and countless others are definitely settled,—thanks in a great measure to the Sanitary Commission, which has gladly given its ounce of prevention, that it may spare its pound of cure.

If you imagine that the need of this work of prevention has ceased, you are greatly mistaken. Only last summer, in the single month of June, the Commission distributed, in the Army of the Potomac alone, over a hundred tons of canned fruits and tomatoes, and not less than five thousand barrels of pickles and fresh vegetables. It is hardly too much to say that what the Commission did in this respect has gone far towards enabling our gallant army to disappoint the hopes of the enemy, and to hold amid the deadly assaults of malaria, the vantage-ground which it has won before Petersburg and Richmond. All through the spring and summer, too, at Chattanooga, on the very soil which war had ploughed and desolated, invalid soldiers have been cultivating hundreds of acres of vegetables. And on the rugged sides of Missionary Ridge, and along the sunny slopes of Central Tennessee, the same forethought has brought to perfection, in many a deserted vineyard, the purple glory of the grape. And this not merely to cure, but to prevent, to keep up the strength and vigor of the brave men who have marched victoriously from the banks of the Ohio to Atlanta.

Nor is it likely that the value of this office will cease so long as the war lasts. In the future, as in the past, new conditions,

new exigencies, and new dangers will arise. And to the end the foresight which guards will be as true a friend to the soldier as the kindness which assuages his pains. Looking back, therefore, upon the whole field, and speaking with a full understanding of the meaning of the language, I am ready to affirm, that, if the Sanitary Commission had undertaken nothing but the work of preventing sickness, and had accomplished nothing in any other direction, the army and the country would have received in that alone an ample return for all the money which has been lavished.

I come now to the Special Relief Department. I should call this a sort of philanthropic drag-net, differing from that mentioned in the Gospel in that it seems to gather up nothing bad which needs to be thrown away. In other words, it appeared to me as though any and every kind of Sanitary good which ought to be done, and yet was not large enough or distinct enough to constitute a separate branch, was set down as Special Relief. The whole system of homes and lodges to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless comes directly under the head of Special Relief. The immense collection of back-pay, bounties, pensions, and prize-money, which is made gratuitously by the Commission, is Special Relief. Visits to the hospitals are under the direction of this same department. And even the Directory and the vast work done at the front perhaps legitimately belong to it. We can readily conceive, therefore, that the Commission has no department which is larger or more important, or which covers so wide and diversified a field of activity. Let us survey that field a little closer.

Sanitary homes and lodges,—what are they? A soldier is discharged, or he has a furlough. He is not well and strong, and he has no money, certainly none to spare. He ought not to sleep on the ground, and he ought not to go hungry. But what is everybody's business is apt to be nobody's business. Fortunately the Commission has seen and met this want. In Washington, on H Street, there is a block of rough, but comfortable one-story wooden buildings, erected for various purposes of Special Relief, and, amongst others, for the very one which I have mentioned. In the first place, there is a large room containing ninety-six berths, where any soldier, having proper claims, can obtain decent lodgings free of expense. In the second place, there is a kitchen, and a neat, cheerful dining-room, with seats for one hundred and fifty. Here plain and substantial meals are furnished to all comers. This table of one hundred and fifty has often, and indeed usually to be spread three times; so that the Commission feeds daily at this place alone some four hundred soldiers, and lodges ninety to a hundred more. The home which I have now described is simply for transient calls.

Near the depot there is a home of a more permanent character. When a soldier is discharged from the service, the Government has, in the nature of the case, no further charge of him. Suppose now that he is taken sick, with no money in his purse and no friends near. Can you imagine a position more forlorn? And forlorn indeed it would be, were it not for the Commission. The sick home is a large three-story building, with three or four one-story buildings added on each side. Here there is furnished food for all; then one hundred and fifty beds for those who are not really sick, but only ailing and worn out; then bathing-rooms; and, finally, a reading-room. There is here, too, a hospital ward, with the requisite nurses and medical attendance. In this ward I saw a little boy, apparently not over twelve years of age, who had strayed from his home,—if, alas, he had one!—and followed to the field an Ohio regiment of hundred-days' men, and who had been taken sick and left behind. Who he was or where from nobody knew. Tenderly cared for, but likely to die! A sad sight to look upon! One feature more, Every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday a physician goes from the home in Washington to New York, taking charge of those who are too sick or too crippled to care for themselves; while the relief agents procure for the sick soldier the half-price ticket to which he is entitled, or else give him one, and such articles of clothing as are needful to send him in comfort to his own home.

I must not fail to speak in this connection of another beautiful ministry,—the home for soldiers' wives and mothers. A soldier is like other human beings. In his sickness he yearns for a sight of the familiar faces, and sends for wife or mother; or wife or mother, unable to bear longer the uncertainty, when she can get no tidings from the absent, starts for Washington. There, searching vainly for husband or son, she spends all or nearly all her money. Or if she finds him, it may well be that he has

no funds with which to help her. In the little buildings on one side of the refuge for the sick are rooms where some sixty-five can receive decent lodging and nourishing food; and if actually penniless, the Commission will procure them tickets and send them back to their friends.

We often hear people wondering, almost in a skeptical tone, where all the Commission's money goes. When I was at Washington and City Point, I only asked where it all came from. Consider what it must cost simply to feed and lodge these soldiers and their wives at Washington. And then remember that this is but one of many similar homes scattered everywhere: at Baltimore, Washington, and Alexandria, in the Eastern Department; at Louisville, Nashville, Chattanooga, in the Western; at New Orleans and Baton Rouge, in the Southwestern; and at many another place beside. And, finally, reflect that this whole system of homes is really but one portion of one branch of Sanitary work.

The collection of back-pay, bounties, and pensions,—how many have a definite idea of this work? Not many, I suspect. Yet it takes all the time of many persons to accomplish it, and it was the branch of Sanitary work which awakened in my own mind the deepest regard; for it has its foundation in a higher virtue than any mere sentimental charity,—yea, in the highest virtue known in heaven or on earth,—justice. However impossible it may be to prevent such occurrences, certainly it is a cruel and undeserved hardship to a soldier who has served faithfully and fought for his country, and has perhaps been wounded and almost died at the post of honor and duty, that he should be unable to obtain his hard-earned pittance, when, too, he needs it for his own comfort, or when it may be that his family need it to keep them from absolute suffering.

Look at a single class of these collections, the back-pay of sick men. Government, we all allow, must have some system in its disbursements. It should not pay money without a voucher, and the proper voucher of a soldier is the pay-roll of the regiment or company of which he is a member. Now a sick or wounded man drops out of the ranks. He gets into a field hospital to which he does not belong. He is transferred from one hospital to another, from hospital to convalescent camp, and finally, it may be, is put on the list of men to be discharged for physical disability. Meanwhile his commanding officer does not know where he is, cannot trace him, thinks it very likely that he is a deserter. On pay-day the man's name is not on the roll, and, having no voucher, he gets no money. You say that there ought to be a remedy. There is none. It would be difficult to devise one. What shall the soldier do? He cannot go from point to point to collect evidence, for he is sick. Besides, he is utterly ignorant of the necessary forms. If he applies to a lawyer, it costs him often from one-half to three-quarters of all he gets. Very likely the lawyer cannot afford to take care of one or two petty cases for a less price. In this emergency the Commission steps in, and, with its knowledge of routine and its credit in all quarters, obtains for the poor fellow for nothing what he has in vain sought for in other ways. Take one single case, and what they would call at the Relief Office an easy case. Study it attentively, and you will get an idea of all cases,—and you will understand, moreover, how much work has to be done, and how impossible it would be for a sick man to do it.

Charles W. J——, is a member of Company K, One hundred and Twenty-First New York Regiment, and he has been transferred to this company and regiment from Company F of the Sixteenth New York. He has been thus transferred for the reason that the Sixteenth New York is a two years' regiment, whose time has expired, while he is a three years' recruit, who has a year or two more to serve. Now he claims that pay is due him from November 1, 1863, to August 1, 1864, and that he needs his pay very much to send home to his wife. He represents that he was at Schuyler Hospital from the time he left the ranks until December 17, 1863; that then he was sent to Convalescent Camp, New York Harbor; and on December 29, to Camp of Distribution at Alexandria; whence, February 8, 1864, he was brought to Staunton Hospital, Washington, where he now is. He has never joined his new regiment, has only been transferred with others to its rolls. His new officers have never seen him, and do not know where he is. The relief agent hears the story and then sets about proving all its details: first, that the man was a member of the Sixteenth New York Regiment; second, that he has been transferred to the One Hundred and Twenty-First Regiment; third, that he has never

been paid beyond November 1, 1863; fourth, that he has really been in the various hospitals and camps which he mentions. This evidence is procured by writing to agents and surgeons at convalescent and distributing camps, and at Hospital Schuyler, and by examining the rolls of the Sixteenth and One Hundred and Twenty-First Regiments. In a few days or weeks the man's story is proved to be correct, and he is put into a position to receive his pay,—a satisfaction not simply in a pecuniary sense, but also to his soldierly pride, by removing an undeserved charge of desertion.

Now I beg my readers not to imagine that this is a difficult case. At the Relief Rooms they treasure up and mysteriously display, much as I suspect a soldier would flaunt a captured battle-flag, a certain roll of paper, I dare not say how many yards long, covered with certificates from one end to the other, obtained from all parts of the country and from all sorts of persons, and all necessary in order to secure perhaps a three or six months' pay of one sick soldier. The correspondence of the back-pay department is itself a burden. From thirty to forty letters on an average are received daily at one of its offices. They are written in all languages,—English, German, French,—and must be read, translated, and the ideas, conveyed often in the blindest style, ascertained and answered.

A new branch has recently been added,—the collection of pay for the families of those who are prisoners in Rebeldom. But as this involves no new principles or fresh details, I pass it by. Another class of cases should receive a moment's notice. This includes the collection of bounties for discharged soldiers, of pensions for wounded soldiers, of bounty, back-pay, and pensions for the families of deceased soldiers, and of prize-money for sailors. These cases are not, as a general rule, as intricate as those which I have already considered, inasmuch as the proper departments have a regular system of investigation, and take up and examine for themselves each case in its turn. All that the Commission does is to put the soldier on the right track, and to make out and present for him the fitting application. It undertook this because Washington was infested with a horde of sharpers, who, by false representations, defrauded the soldiers out of large sums.

I cannot more appropriately close this branch of my subject than by stating the simple fact, that during the months of July and August, the relief agents examined and brought to a successful issue 809 cases of back-pay and bounty-money, averaging $125,—203 cases of invalid pensions, 378 cases of widows' pensions, and 10 cases of naval pensions, averaging $8 a month,—and 121 cases of prize-money, averaging $80.

I have only to add that the amount of good which can be done in this direction seems to be limited only by the capacity of those who undertake to do it. A relief agent said to me, in conversation, that in one hospital in Philadelphia, there were several hundreds who claimed, but were unable to collect their just dues,—and that what was true of this hospital was true to a less extent of all of them.

The Hospital Directory is a most interesting branch of Sanitary work. Not because it will compare with many other branches in extent of usefulness, but because it shows what a wide-reaching philanthropy is at work, seeking to furnish every possible alleviation to the inevitable hardships of war. Whoever has at any time had a sick or wounded friend in the army knows how difficult it often is to obtain any intelligence about him. I have in mind a poor woman, who exhausted every resource in seeking to ascertain the whereabouts of a sick son, and who never received any tidings of him, until one day, months after, he came home, worn-out and broken, to die. The regiment is in active service and passes on, while the sick man goes back. He has several transfers, too,—first to the corps hospital on the field, then to the army hospital at City Point, then to Washington, and very possibly again to some hospital in Baltimore, Philadelphia, or other city or town farther north, and on that account believed to be more healthy. Meanwhile, amid all these changes, the man may be delirious, or from some other cause unable to communicate with his friends. How shall they get information? The Commission undertakes to keep a correct list of all the sick and wounded men who are in regular hospitals. They obtain their information from the official returns of the surgeons. I do not mean to say that these lists are absolutely correct. They approximate as nearly to correctness as they ever can, until surgeons are perfectly prompt and careful in their reports.

The amount of work done is very great.

Seven hundred thousand names have been recorded in this Directory, between October, 1862, and July, 1864. From ten to twenty-five applications for information are made each day by letter, and from one hundred to two hundred and fifty personally or through the various State agencies. Branch offices, working upon a similar plan, have been established at Louisville and elsewhere.

The subject of assistance to regular hospitals may be despatched in a few words,—not because the gifts are insignificant, but because the method of giving is so regular and easy to explain. Whenever the surgeon of any hospital needs articles which are extras, and so not supplied by the Government, or which, if allowed, the Government is deficient in at the time, he makes a requisition upon the Commission; and if his requisition is deemed to be a reasonable one, it is approved, and the goods delivered on his receipt for the same. As to the amount given, I can only say that something is sent almost every day even to the hospitals near Washington and the great cities, and that the amount bestowed increases just in proportion to the distance of the hospital from the great Government centres of supply. This is a noiseless and unostentatious charity,—sometimes, I am tempted to think, too noiseless and unostentatious. A few weeks ago, a lady friend visited one of the hospitals near Washington, carrying with her for distribution some Sanitary goods. She gave a handkerchief to one of the sick men. He took it, looked at it, read the mark in the corner, paused as if he had received a new idea, and then spoke out his mind thus:—"I have been in this hospital six months, and this is the first thing I ever received from the Sanitary Commission." "But," she replied, "have you not had this and that?" mentioning several luxuries supplied to this very hospital for extra diet. "Oh, yes, often!" "Well, every one of these articles came from the Sanitary Commission."

Just now the Sanitary is seeeking to enter into closer relations with the hospitals through the agency of regular visitors. The advantages of such a policy are manifest. The reports of the visitors will enable the directors to see more clearly the real wants of the sick; and the frequent presence and inquiries of such visitors will tend to repress the undue appropriation of hospital stores by attendants. But the highest benefit will be the change and cheer it will introduce into the monotony of hospital life. If you are sick at home, you are glad to have your neighbour step in and bring the healthy bracing air of out-door life into the dimness and languor of your invalid existence. Much more does the sick soldier like it,—for ennui, far more than pain, is his great burden. When I was at Washington, I accepted with great satisfaction an invitation to go with a Sanitary visitor on her round of duty. When we came to the hospital, I asked the ward-master if he would like to have me distribute among his patients the articles I had brought. He said that he should, for he thought it would do the poor fellows good to see me and receive the gifts from my own hands. The moment I entered there was a stir. Those who could hobble about stumped up to me to see what was going on; some others sat up in bed, full of alertness; while the sickest greeted me with a languid smile. As I went from cot to cot, the politeness of *la belle France*, with which a little Frenchman in the corner touched the tassel of his variegated nightcap at me, and the untranslatable gutturals, full of honest satisfaction, with which his German neighbour saluted me, and the "God bless your honor," which a cheery son of Old Erin showered down upon me, and the simple "Thank you, sir," which came up on all sides from our true-hearted New England boys, were alike refreshing to my soul. No doubt the single peach or two which with hearty good-will were given to them were as good as a feast; and it may be that the little comforts which I left behind me, and which had been borne thither on the wings of this divine charity, perhaps from some village nestling among the rocky hills of New England, or from some hamlet basking in the sunlight on the broad prairies of the West, had magic power to bring to that place of suffering some breath of the atmosphere of home to cheer the sinking heart, or some fragrant memory of far-off home affection to make it better. I came away with the feeling that visits from sunny-hearted people, and gifts from friendly hands must be a positive blessing to these sick and wounded people.

Of course the deepest throb of interest is given to the work at the front of battle. That is natural. It is work done on the very spots where the fortunes of our nation are being decided,—on the spots whither all eyes are turned, and towards which all

our hopes and prayers go forth. It is work surrounded by every element of pathos and of tragic interest. The wavering fortunes of the fight, the heroic courage which sustains a doubtful conflict, the masterly skill that turns disaster into triumph, the awful carnage, the terrible suffering, the manly patience of the wounded, all combine to fix the attention there and upon everything which is transacted there. The questions constantly asked,—What is the Sunitary doing at the front? what at City Point? what at Winchester? are natural questions. Let me state first the general plan and method of what I may call a Sanitary campaign, and afterwards add what I saw with my own eyes at City Point and before Petersburg, and what I heard from those who had themselves been actors in the scenes which they described.

When the army moves out from its encampment to the field of active warfare, two or three Sanitary wagons, loaded with hospital stores of all sorts, and accompanied by a sufficient number of relief agents, move with each army corps. These are for the supply of present need, and for use during the march, or after such skirmishes and fights as may occur before the Commission can establish a new base. In this way some of the Commission agents have followed General Grant's army all the way from the Rapidan, through the Wilderness, across the Mattapony, over the James, on to the very last advance towards the Southside Railroad,—refilling their wagons with stores as opportunity has occurred. As soon now as the march commences and the campaign opens, preparations upon an extensive scale are made at Washington for the great probable demand. Steamers are chartered, loaded, and sent with a large force of relief agents to the vicinity of the probable battle-fields; or if the campaign is away from water communication, loaded wagons are held in readiness. The moment the locality of the struggle is determined, then, under the orders of the provost marshal, an empty house is seized and made the Sanitary headquarters, or general store-house; or else some canal barge is moored at the crazy Virginia wharf, and used for the same purpose. This store-house is kept constantly full from Washington, or else from Baltimore and New York; and the branch depots which are now established in each army corps are fed from it, while the hospitals, in their turn, make requisitions for all needful supplies on these branch depots. That is to say, the arrangements, though rougher and less permanent in their character, approximate very nearly to the arrangements at Washington.

A few details need to be added. Where the distance from the battle-field to the base of supplies is great, what are called feeding-stations are established every few miles, and here the wounded, on foot or in ambulances, can stop and take the refreshments or stimulants necessary to sustain them on their painful journey. At the steamboat landing the Commission has a lodge and agents, with crackers and beef-tea, coffee and tea, ice-water and stimulants, ready to be administered to such as need. Relief agents go up on the boats to help care for the wounded; and at Washington the same scene of active kindness is often enacted on their arrival as at their departure. This is the general plan of action everywhere, modified to suit circumstances, but always essentially the same. It will apply just as well West as East,—only for the names Baltimore, Washington, and City Point, you must put Louisville, Nashville, and Chattanooga.

When I was at City Point, the base of operations had been established there more than two months; and though there was much sickness, and the wounded were being brought in daily by hundreds from the prolonged struggle for the Weldon Road, everything moved on with the regularity of clock-work. As you neared the landing, coming up the James, you saw, a little farther up the river, the red flag of the Sanitary Commission floating over the three barges which were its office, its store-house, and its distributing store for the whole Army of the Potomac. Climbing up the steep road to the top of the bluff, and advancing over the undulating plain a mile, you come to a city—the city of hospitals. The white tents are arranged in lines of almost mathematical accuracy. The camp is intersected by roads broad and clean. Every corps, and every division of every corps, has its allotted square. Somewhere in these larger squares your eye will be sure to catch sight of the Sanitary flag, and beneath it a tent, where is the corss station. You enter, and you find within, if not as great an amount, at least as varied a supply, of hospital stores as you would find anywhere, waiting for surgeon's orders. To a very great extent, the extra diet for all the sick and wounded is furnished from these

stores; and very largely the cooking of it is overseen by ladies connected with the Commission. In every corps there are from five to fifteen relief agents, whose duty it is to go through the wards once, twice, three times in each day, to see what the sick need for their comfort, to ascertain that they really get what is ordered, and in every way to alleviate suffering, and to promote cheerfulness and health.

I shall never forget a tour which I made with a relief agent through the wards for the blacks, both because it showed me what a watchful supervision a really faithful person can exercise, and because it gave such an opportunity to observe closely the conduct of these people. The demeanor of the colored patients is really beautiful,—so gentle, so polite, so grateful for the least kindness. And then the evidences of a desire for mental improve and religious life which meet you everywhere are very touching. Go from bed to bed, and you see in their hands primers, spelling-books, and Bibles, and the poor, worn, sick creatures, the moment they feel one throb of returning health striving to master their alphabet or spell out their Bible. In the evening, or rather in the fading twilight, some two hundred of them crept from the wards, and seated themselves in a circle around a black exhorter. Religion to them was a real thing; and so their worship had the beauty of sincerity, while I ought to add that it was not marked by that grotesque extravagance sometimes attributed to it. One cannot but think better of the whole race after the experience of such a Sabbath. The only drawback to your satisfaction is, that they die quicker and from less cause than the whites. They have not the same stubborn hopefulness and hilarity. Why, indeed, should they have?

Speaking of the white soldiers, everybody who goes into their hospitals is happily disappointed,—you see so much order and cheerfulness, and so little evidence of pain and misery. The soldier is quite as much a hero in the hospital as on the battle-field. Give him anything to be cheerful about, and he will improve the opportunity. You see men who have lost an arm or a leg, or whose heads have been bruised almost out of likeness to humanity, as jolly as they can be over little comforts and pleasures which ordinary eyes can hardly see with a magnifying glass. So it happens that a camp of six thousand sick and wounded, which seems at a distance a concentration of human misery that you cannot bear to behold, when near does not look half so lugubrious as you expected; and you are tempted to accuse the sick men of having entered into a conspiracy to look unnaturally happy.

If you go back now six or thirteen miles to the field hospitals, you find nothing essentially different. The system and its practical workings are the same. But it is a perpetual astonishment to find that here, near to the banks of a river that has not a respectable village on its shores, from Fortress Monroe to Richmond,—here, in a houseless and desolate land which can be reached only by roads which are intersected by gullies, which plunge into sloughs of despond, which lose themselves in the ridges of what were once cornfields, or meander amid stumps of what so lately stood a forest,—that here you have every comfort for the sick: all needed articles of clothing, the shirts and drawers, the socks and slippers; and all the delicacies, too, the farinas, the jellies, the canned meats and fruits, the concentrated milk, the palatable drinks and stimulants, and even fresh fruits and vegetables. And in such profusion, too? I asked the chief agent of the Commission in the Ninth Corps how many orders he filled in a day. "Look for yourself." I took down the orders; and there they were, one hundred and twenty strong, some for little and some for much, some for a single article and some for a dozen articles.

But it is not in camps of long standing that the wounded and sick suffer for want of care or lack of comforts. It is when the base is suddenly changed, when all order is broken up, when there are no tents at hand, when the stores are scattered, nobody knows where, after a great battle perhaps, and the wounded are pouring in upon you like a flood, and when it seems as if no human energy and no mortal capacity of transportation could supply the wants both of the well and the sick, the almost insatiable demands of the battle-field and the equally unfathomable needs of the hospital, it is then that the misery comes, and it is then that the Commission does its grandest work. After the battles of the Wilderness and Spottsylvania, twenty-five thousand wounded were crowded into Fredericksburg, where but ten thousand were expected. For a time supplies of all kinds seemed to be literally exhausted. There were no beds.

There was not even straw. There were not surgeons enough nor attendants enough. There was hardly a supply of food. Some found it difficult to get a drop of cold water. Poor, wounded men, who had wearily trudged from the battle-field and taken refuge in a deserted house, remained hours and a day without care, and without seeing the face of any but their wounded comrades. Then the Sanitary Commission sent its hundred and fifty agents to help the overburdened surgeons. Then every morning it despatched its steamer down the Potomac crowded with necessaries and comforts. Then with ceaseless industry its twenty wagons, groaning under their burden, went to and fro over the wretched road from Belle Plain to Fredericksburg. A credible witness says that for several days nearly all the bandages and a large proportion of the hospital supplies came from its treasury. No mind can discern and no tongue can declare what valuable lives it saved, and what sufferings it alleviated. Who shall say that Christian charity has not its triumphs proud as were ever won on battle-field? If the Commission could boast only of its first twenty-four hours at Antietam and Gettysburg and its forty-eight hours at Fredericksburg, it would have earned the everlasting gratitude and praise of all true men.

But is there not a reverse to this picture? Are there no drawbacks to this success? Is there no chapter of abortive plans, of unfaithful agents, of surgeons and attendants appropriating or squandering charitable gifts? These are questions which are often honestly asked, and the doubts which they express or awaken have cooled the zeal and slackened the industry of many an earnest worker. There is no end to the stories which have been put in circulation. I remember a certain mythical blanket which figured in the early part of the war, and which, though despatched to the soldier, was found a few weeks after, by its owner, adorning the best bed of a hotel in Washington. To be sure it seemed to have pursued a wandering life,—for now it was sent from the full stores of a lady in Lexington, and now it was stripped perhaps by a poor widow from the bed of her children, and then it was heard from far off in the West, ever seeking, but never reaching, its true destination. Without heeding any such stories, although they have done infinite mischief, I answer to honest queries, that I have no doubt that sometimes the stores of the Commission are both squandered and misappropriated. I do not positively know it; but I am sure that it would be a miracle if they were not. It would be the first time in human history that so large and varied a business, and extending over such a breadth of country and such a period of time, was transacted without waste. Look at the facts. Here are thousands of United States surgeons, and attendants of all ages and characters, through whose hands many of these gifts must necessarily go. What wonder, if here and there one should be found whose principles were weaker than his appetites? Consider also the temptations. These men are hard-worked, often scantily fed. Every nerve is tried by the constant presence of suffering, and every sense by fetid odors. Would it be surprising, if they sometimes craved the luxuries which were so close at hand? Moreover, the Commission employs hundreds of men, the very best it can get, but it would be too much to ask that all should be models of prudence, watchfulness, and integrity.

I allow, then, that some misappropriation is not improbable. At the same time I do say, that every department is vigilantly watched, and that the losses are trivial, compared with the immense benefits. I do say, emphatically, that to bring a wholesale charge against whole classes, whose members are generally as high-minded and honorable as any other, to accuse them as a body of wretched peculations, is simply false and slanderous. I maintain that fidelity is the rule, and that its reverse is the petty exception; and that it would be in opposition to all rules by which men conduct their lives to suffer such exceptions to influence our conduct, or diminish our contributions to a good cause. In business how often we are harassed by petty dishonesty or great frauds! Nevertheless, the tide of business sweeps on. Why? Because the good so outweighs the evil. The railroad employee is negligent, and some terrible accident occurs. But the railroad keeps on running all the same; for the public convenience and welfare are the law of its life, and private peril and loss but an occasional episode. By the same rule we support, without misgiving, the Commission, because the good which it certainly does, and the suffering it relieves, in their immensity cover up and put out of sight mistakes, which are incident to all human enterprise, and which are guarded against with all possible vigilance.

But allow all the good which is claimed, and that the good far transcends any possible evil, and then we are met by these further questions: Is such an organization necessary? Cannot Government do the work? And if so, ought not Government to do it?

I might with propriety answer: Suppose that Government ought to do the work and does not, shall we fold our hands and let our soldiers suffer? But the truth is, Government does do its duty. Some persons foolishly exaggerate the work of the Commission. They talk as though it were the only salvation of the wounded, as though the Government let everything go, and that, if the Commission and kindred societies did not step in, there would not be so much as a wreck of our army left. Such talk is simply preposterous. The Commission, considered as a free, spontaneous offering of a loyal people to the cause of our common country, is a wonderful enterprise. The Commission, standing ready to supply any deficiency, to remedy any defect, and to meet any unforeseen emergency, has done a good work that cannot be forgotten. But, compared with what Government expends upon the sick, its resources are nothing. I have not the figures at hand, though I have seen them; and it is hardly too much to say that, where the society has doled out a penny, the Government has lavished a pound.

No sane defender, therefore, of this charity supports it on any such ground as that it is the principal benefactor of the soldier. The Commission alone could no more support our hospitals than it could the universe. But the homely adage, "It is best to have two strings to your bow," applies wonderfully to the case. In practical life men act upon this maxim. They like to have an adjunct to the best-working machinery, a sort of reserved power. Every sensible person sees that our mail arrangements furnish to the whole people admirable facilities. Nevertheless, we like to have an express, and occasionally to send letters and packages by it. When the children are sick, there is nothing so good as the advice of the trusted family physician and the unwearied care of the mother. Yet when the physician has done his work and gone his way, and when the mother is worn out by days of anxiety and nights of watching, we deem it a great blessing if there is a kind neighbor who will come in, not to assume the work, but to help it on a little. The Commission, looking at the hospitals and the armies from a different point of view, sees much that another overlooks, and in an emergency, when all help is too little, brings fresh aid that is a priceless blessing. To the plain, substantial volume of public appropriations it adds the beautiful supplement of private benefactions. That is all that it pretends to do.

There are some special reflections that bear upon the point which we are considering. This war was sprung upon an unwarlike people. The officers of Government, when they entered upon their work, had no thought of the gigantic burdens which have fallen upon their shoulders. Since the war began Government, like every body else, has had to learn new duties, and to learn them amid the stress and perplexity of a great conflict. And, among other things, it has been obliged, in some respects, to recast its medical regulations to meet the prodigious enlargement of its medical work. Beyond a doubt, much help, which, on account of this imperfection of the medical code itself, or of the inexperience of many who administered it, was needed by our hospitals at the commencement of the war, is not needed now, and much help that is needed now may not, if the war lasts, be needed in the future. But it takes time to move the machinery of a great state. And when any change is to become the permanent law of public action, it ought to take both time and thought to effect it. You do not wish to alter and realter the framework of a state or of a state's activity as you would patch up a ruinous old house. If you work at all in any department, you should wish to work on a massive, well-considered plan, so that what you do may last. It is not likely, therefore, that, in the great field of suffering which the war has laid open to us, the public ministries will either be so quickly or so perfectly adjusted as to make private ministries a superfluity.

Neither do we reflect enough upon the limitations of human power. We think sometimes of Government as a great living organism of boundless resources. But, after all, in any department of state, what plans, what overlooks, what vitalizes, is one single human mind. And it is not easy to get minds anywhere clear enough and capacious enough for the large duties. It is easy to obtain men who can command a company well. It is not difficult to find those who can control efficiently a regiment. There

are many to whom the care of five thousand men is no burden; a few who are adequate to an army corps. But the generals who can handle with skill a hundred thousand men, and make these giant masses do their bidding, are the rare jewels in war's diadem. Even so is it in every department of life. It is perhaps impossible to find a mind which can sweep over the whole field of our medical operations, and prepare for every emergency, and avoid every mistake; not because all men are unfaithful or incapable, but because there must be a limit to the most capacious intellect. Looking simply at the structure of the human mind, we might have foreseen, what facts have amply demonstrated, that in a war of such magnitude as that which we are now waging there always must be room for an organization like the Sanitary Commission to do its largest and noblest work.

But, above and beyond all such reflections, there are great national and patriotic considerations which more than justify, yea, demand, the existence of our war charities. Allowing that the outward comfort of the soldier (and who would grant it?) might be accomplished just as well in some other way,—allowing that in a merely sanitary aspect the Government could have done all that voluntary organizations have undertaken, and have done it as well as they or or better than they,—even then we do not allow for a moment that what has been spent has been wasted. What is the Sanitary Commission, and what are kindred associations, but so many bonds of love and kindness to bind the soldier to his home, and to keep him always a loyal citizen in every hope and in every heart-throb? This is the influence which we can least of all afford to lose. He must have been blind who did not see at the outset of the war that, beyond the immediate danger of the hour, there were other perils. We were trying the most tremendous experiment that was ever tried by any people. Out of the most peaceful of races we were creating a nation of soldiers. In a few months where there seemed to be scarcely the elements of martial strength, we were organizing an army which was to be at once gigantic and efficient. Who could calculate the effect of such a swift change? The questions many a patriotic heart might have asked were these: When this wicked rebellion is ended, when these myriads of our brethren whose lives have been bound up in that wondrous collective life, the life of a great army, shall return to their quiet homes by the hills and streams of New England, or on the rolling prairies of the West, will they be able to merge their life again in the simple life of the community out of which they came? Will they find content at the plough, by the loom, in the workshop, in the tranquil labors of civil life? Can they, in short, put off the harness of the soldier, and resume the robe of the citizen? Many a one could have wished to say to every soldier, as he went forth to the war, "Remember that, if God spares your life, in a few months or a few years you will come back, not officers, not privates, but sons and husbands and brothers, for whom some home is waiting and some human heart throbbing. Never forget that your true home is not in that fort beside those frowning cannon, not on that tented field amid the glory and power of military array, but that it nestles beneath yonder hill, or stands out in sunshine on some fertile plain. Remember that you are a citizen yet, with every instinct, with every sympathy, with every interest, and with every duty of a citizen."

Can we overestimate the influence of these associations, of these Soldiers' Aid Societies, rising up in every city and village, in producing just such a state of mind, in keeping the soldier one of us, one of the people? Five hundred thousand hearts following with deep interests his fortunes,—twice five hundred thousand hands laboring for his comfort,—millions of dollars freely lavished to relieve his sufferings,—millions more of tokens of kindness and good-will going forth, every one of them a message from the home to the camp: what is all this but weaving a strong network of alliance between civil and military life, between the citizen at home and the citizen soldier? If our army is a remarkable body, more pure, more clement, more patriotic than other armies,—if our soldier is everywhere and always a true-hearted citizen,—it is because the army and soldier have not been cast off from public sympathy, but cherished and bound to every free institution and every peaceful association by golden cords of love. The good our Commissions have done in this respect cannot be exaggerated; it is incalculable.

Nor should we forget the influence they have had on ourselves,—the reflex influence which they have been pouring back into the hearts of our people at home, to quicken their patriotism. We often say that the

sons and brothers are what the mothers and sisters make them. Can you estimate the electric force which runs like an irresistible moral contagion from heart to heart in a community all of whose mothers and daughters are sparing that they may spend, and learning the value of liberty and country by laboring for them? It does not seem possible, that, amid the divers interests and selfish schemes of men, we ever could have sustained this war, and carried it to a successful issue, had it not been for the moral cement which these wide-spread philanthropic enterprises have supplied. Every man who has given liberally to support the Commission has become a missionary of patriotism; every woman who has cut and made the garments and rolled the bandages and knit the socks has become a missionary. And so the country has been full of missionaries, true-hearted and loyal, pleading, "Be patient, put up with inconveniences, suffer exactions, bear anything, rather than sacrifice the nationality our fathers bequeathed to us!" And if our country is saved, it will be in no small degree because so many have been prompted by their benevolent activity to take a deep personal interest in the struggle and in the men who are carrying on the struggle.

These national and patriotic influences are the crowning blessings which come in the train of the charities of the war; and they constitute one of their highest claims to our affection and respect. The unpatriotic utterances which in these latter days so often pain our ears, the weariness of burdens which tempt so many to be ready to accept anything and to sacrifice anything to be rid of them, admonish us that we need another uprising of the people and another re-birth of patriotism; and they show us that we should cherish more and more everything which fosters noble and national sentiments. And when this war is over, and the land is redeemed, and we come to ask what things have strengthened us to meet and overcome our common peril, may we not prophesy that high among the instrumentalities which have husbanded our strength, and fed our patriotism, and knit more closely the distant parts of our land and its divided interests, will be placed the United States Sanitary Commission?

To Ticknor and Fields, publishers of *Atlantic Monthly*, our readers are indebted for the foregoing valuable article.

LETTER FROM NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE.

BY C. B. RUGGLES.

March 1, 1865.

THE GRAVES OF THE DEAD.

I report the following in regard to my work on the battle-field of Nashville, during the past few weeks. Early in January my attention was called to the bodies of the heroes of this battle, by many persons coming here from the North in search of the remains of departed friends. One man, a Mr. Bracken, from St. Paul, Minnesota, was here for several weeks, searching for the grave of his brother. After visiting the regiment, now lying at Eastport, of which his brother was a member, and getting directions from the men who buried him, he was at last successful in finding the place of his burial, although some wanton hand had removed the head-board and every trace of the grave. While aiding Mr. B. in his search, I made a record of the locality of every grave which we could find with the names on the head-boards, whenever there were any. These graves were scattered over a large extent of territory, from the Charlotte to beyond the Franklin pike; in yards and gardens, near houses, by the road-side, in meadows and tillage lands, in the woods, by fences, wherever the poor boys had chanced to fall —except the graves of negro soldiers and a few of the whiter, but not otherwise nobler heroes. The negroes, some fifty in number, were buried in one trench, near the Overton Hill, and another trench, in front of Compton's Hill, hold fifteen Minnesota boys. The list of names from the head-boards, enabled several to find the graves of their friends quite easily.

A BENEDICTION.

One man, from a town in N. Y., came to a surgeon in one of the hospitals here, and asked his aid in finding the grave of his friend. The surgeon, in his perplexity, came to the Sanitary Commission, and to his surprise was informed where the body could be found. The hearty "God bless the Sanitary Commission" which was his expression of thanks, amply repaid me for many a hard ride in collecting the list.

A CLERGYMAN'S SON.

A clergyman, from Iowa, came for the body of his son; and although he was buried without a head-board, we were enabled by knowing the position of the regiment in the charge, and by accounts which the father had from his comrades to find the grave at

once. The above illustrate several instances of the kind.

REMOVAL OF THE DEAD.

As the spring opened, and preparations were being made to till the land, it was evident that many of the graves, if the bodies were permitted to remain on the field, must soon be obliterated; and also those near the houses would soon be removed by the occupants. The head-boards in several instances had already been destroyed; therefore, I determined to make an effort for the removal of all the bodies to the Soldiers' Cemetary, where the graves could be well marked, and monuments erected over their last resting places, if friends desire. Besides, in the removal we could examine the bodies of the "unknown," and perhaps be able to answer some of the many inquiries which are received here, for friends who were last heard of before the battle of Nashville.

A statement of the case was made to General Miller, commander of the post, who fully sympathized with the project, and immediately made an arrangement with Mr. Cornelius, the government undertaker, to remove the bodies of all Union soldiers, under the superintendence of the Sanitary Commission. The work is now going on, some 50 bodies have already been removed, and in one or two weeks it will be completed. The bodies are taken up, and a record is made of everything which will help friends to recognize them. I select a few names from the record, to illustrate.

RECORDS OF UNKNOWN.

Unknown Soldier.—Brown hair, full beard, cavalry man, shot in side by shell, five feet eight inches high, aged about 22, buried to the left of Hillsboro' pike, near J. Compton's, body covered with tent cloth, a gum blanket near grave was marked W. Hall or Hale, 100 O. V. I. Number of grave, 12,274.

Unknown Officer.—Buried beside lane leading to Casmon's house. Officer's blouse, staff buttons, five feet five inches high, light hair, heavy moustache, small goatee, rest of face smooth, checked muffler about the neck, buried in box, reported by negroes to have died the night of the 15th of December, and to have been buried by a friend, who called him Captain. Number of grave, 12,275.

THE WIFE.

J. Henry.—Eighth Wisconsin, Co. I. Buried near Castleman's place. Head-board was marked with his wife's address, viz:—Mrs. J. Henry, Viroqua, Vernon County, Wisconsin. Number of grave, 12,276.

Each body as it is taken up is placed in a neat coffin, the same as those used in burying from the hospitals, and laid in a seperate grave, in a square set apart for the Nashville heroes. The graves are numbered in order with all others buried from the hospitals. I think the number of bodies will not much exceed two hundred. When this work at Nashville is completed we hope to get the same done at Franklin.

A request has already been sent to General Thomas for the order, but his action is not yet known.

LETTERS FROM WILMINGTON, N. C.

BY T. W. FOSTER.

February 27, 1865

I have the honor to report the workings of the Sanitary Commission in the Army of the Ohio, Department of North Carolina, during the month of February, 1865.

On February the 8th, I arrived at Fort Fisher with the large supply of goods that was shipped from City Point on the 2d. Through the kindness of Capt. Lamb, A. Q. M., I got the whole supply at the station during the afternoon.

HOW IT WORKS.

On the 9th, 10th, and 11th I went around to every regiment in the field, leaving each regiment its portion of paper and envelopes, and at the same time giving the regiments an order for dried fruit, according to their aggregate strength, which was highly appreciated by officers and men, as some had been sixty and even ninety days without vegetables.

On the nights of the 11th and 13th, the 24th corps was ordered up the beach, about fifteen miles. I followed them, returning in the morning, and as no wagons were allowed to go, I packed my mule, so as to be on hand if any sanitary stores should be wanted.

THE ADVANCE.

Dr. Washburn thanked me kindly for being on the ground, as transportation was so limited. On the 12th, General Terry moved his whole force about two miles in advance of the old works, thus bringing his outer line under the rebel breastworks. The colored division was in advance; our casualties were light. I followed up the army Field Hospital with supplies, giving the wounded milk punch, and clean clothing before go-

ing to the rear, particularly those who had suffered amputation.

The wounded were sent to the base hospital, some five miles distant, in army wagons; and on their arrival they were well cared for by Mr. Adams; he deserves much credit for the manner in which he distributed milk punch, clothing, &c.

On the morning of the 19th, at 1 o'clock, A.M., I received a request to accompany the troops that were to cross the river. I loaded my cart with shirts, drawers, socks, tea, milk, canned beef, whiskey, &c., &c.; during the day there were 19 wounded and 1 killed. The hospital had no transportation except what men could carry on stretchers, so you will readily see that all the wounded would get was what the Sanitary agents could furnish them.

ON THE RIVER.

After the wounded were all taken care of, I secured a sail boat to run stores up the river, as they were needed. As the cart would get empty, I filled it from the boat, moving with the army up the river, which served as a base.

RECEPTION BY PRISONERS.

On the 22nd, about 10 o'clock A.M., I entered Wilmington with the troops, who marched up the streets to the buildings now occupied by our captured soldiers. There was a scene that no language that I can write can express; feelings of sympathy were aroused in all for the poor fellows, and indignation against those who are responsible for their starvation. The next thought that seemed to enter the mind was, what can the Sanitary do for the poor fellows? Many would look at the little flag on the cart so heavily loaded, and say, "God bless the Sanitary." It was here I left the column and commenced distributing clothing, &c.

I gave the cooks beef-stock to make up at once, for men that had not tasted meat or soup for three months. Tea and milk for supper was a great treat for the poor boys.

Mr. Adams has not as yet arrived from Fort Fisher. I have not heard from you or the supply that I ordered on the 11th inst. I am in hopes to hear from them, and hear that a large and general supply is on the way.

Three thousand prisoners arrived here this day.

March 5, 1865.

I have the honor to make a report of the work of the Commission, in this department, since the capture of Wilmington.

THE EXCHANGE.

About ten days ago our exchanged prisoners commenced coming in. I was notified by the medical director of the fact, several hours beforehand, and knowing their condition I immediately pressed ten colored men to work, making fires and drawing water.

By the time the first boat arrived, we had some 90 gallons of hot milk-punch, which we distributed to them as they landed; this has been done with every boat that has arrived, and before leaving they were furnished with more for their use on the journey. We have, since the 22d of February, furnished all the hospitals with milk-punch, ready made, for those who required it; and these are not a few. The hospitals are all full, and about 1,500 men are in the railroad depot; the majority of them are almost starved to death. We have them drawn up in line, with cups in their hands, and then send three or four men with buckets, who pass along with the punch, giving each man his portion. Time after time has the Commission been heartily cheered by these starved, ragged, abused, but brave soldiers.

There was a great demand for clothing, but owing to our limited supply, and the great number of calls, many were refused who really needed it; but they did complain when told there was non e.

On the 21st inst. I followed up the army on the right bank of the river, with a strong mule and cart, heavily loaded with beef-stock, milk, tea, sugar, crackers, farina, shirts, drawers, socks, rags, bandages, &c., &c., and distributed them from time to time to the best advantage.

I think the Commission has done a vast amount of good in this department, with the quantity of stores furnished, and I have been aided very much by the following articles, which have been turned over to me:—22 barrels liquor, 16 of whiskey, 6 of rum, 7 barrels of dried apples, one-half barrel of sugar, 1 barrel of syrup, 1 barrel of fish, 50 lbs. hams, 50 lbs. of crackers. These were given to me by the provost-marshal, who has promised to send me two or three cases of tobacco.

I hope to hear from you soon, and see a good load of stores.

"NEW YORK OBSERVER" AND TWENTY FACTS.

The following article, from the New York *Observer*, was noticed in the last number of the BULLETIN. The reply there given cannot be admitted into the columns of the *Observer* without the publication of the following in the BULLETIN. We cheerfully afford the needed space to the *Observer*, and wish our readers to compare the two articles and judge for themselves. The question of circulating religious reading in the army has been discussed now for four years, in all its bearings, and a few facts have been established, which we prefix to the Observer's article, as follows:

1. The soldiers must have reading matter.

2. The Government does not supply it.

3. The soldiers cannot procure it themselves.

4. The people must furnish it.

5. The people must furnish it through some voluntary agency, emenating from themselves.

6. The first agency that appeared in the field, as the expression of the people, was the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

7. This agency comprehended the whole work, and as the war progressed, it enlarged its sphere of operations; and has received, all the time, the sympathy and support of the people.

8. It has always been the office of the Sanitary Commission to furnish supplies of all needed kinds, to all the army in all places, where the Government required its help.

9. It has been busily engaged doing this work of distributing supplies, and reading matter of various kinds, from churches, and publishing houses, and benevolent individuals, and still has the esteem and confidence of the people and the army, as well as the encouragement and aid of the Government.

10. A new organization, called the Christian Commission, came into the field, six months after the United States Sanitary Commission was appointed by President Lincoln, and assumed the work of collecting and distributing religious reading.

11. This Commission, assuming the name "Christian" as a distinctive title, claimed to represent the Christian sentiment of the people, and to be the judge, for the army, as to what was Christian reading matter, and act accordingly.

12. The Christian people did not withdraw their support from the Sanitary Commission, but were as zealous as ever in offering their contributions for its support.

13. The Sanitary Commission proposed to form a union between the two organizations, so that they should act in harmony with each other; and thus teach foreign nations, that while the American people were struggling for their perpetuity as one nation, they could demonstrate one spirit of true Christian charity and effort in the trying times of their struggle.

14. The Christian Commission refused to accept the offer, and thus failed to confess the broad charity of a common brotherhood in this work.

15. There was thus exhibited to the country the original national organization appointed by the Government, with its new and zealous rival—the first embracing all the people, and covering the wide field of the nation's resources; the second excluding from its communion a large portion of the people, and yet asking from *all* a liberal support.

16. These two organizations are now in the field, both doing the same work.

17. The chief objection to the Sanitary Commission is, that it is broad, comprehensive, and unfettered by ecclesiastical rules.

18. The chief boast of the Christian Commission is, that it excludes from its fellowship all who do not subscribe to certain teachings of religion, which they assert are necesssry to the Christian character.

19. The people perceive and understand the difference, and can afford to go on with their work of supplying the army and helping the Government, without being moved

from their purpose by discussions as to who are, and who are not Christians.

20. That man is a Christian, and that society a Christian society, which does the whole work of Christ in the way of His appointment.

Who will be the judge? Man in his ignorance, or God in his wisdom?

From N. Y. Observer.

SANITARY SUPPLIES FOR SOULS OF SOLDIERS.

From various quarters we receive information of the wide and constant circulation of Universalist and Unitarian tracts in the army, and through the agency of the Sanitary Commission. We speak of it not to find fault, either with those who furnish or those who distribute them. And in making use of the fact to awaken new and larger interest in efforts to give the pure gospel, the real bread of life, to our brave soldiers, we are specially solicitous to avoid the suspicion of a desire to censure those who do not believe as we do, for seeking to persuade others to believe as they do.

Of course we think it evil, and only evil, to put into the hands of any man, especially one who is exposed to the dangers of war, a tract with such teachings as this:

"God is love, and he loves us right through. He loves us here, he will love us yonder. He loves us now, he will love us forever. Death makes no difference with the love of God. When the body is dead, then God takes takes that one good grain that is in us all, and plants it again in better soil than this, and under a kindlier sky, and he will care for us, and see to our growth ferever and forever."

This is from a tract for a sick soldier, one of a series of army tracts, published by the American Unitarian Association, and distributed by the Sanitary Commission, in the hospitals of the army, from the Potomac to the mouth of the Mississippi. The tract is full of the doctrine of Universalism, and it is read by hundreds and thousands of sick and dying men. A correspondent of the *Monthly Journal* of the Unitarian Association says of this tract: "Boys in the hospitals at Frederick have told me that they have read and *re-read it five or six times.*" In the same number of the *Journal* the relief agent of the Sanitary Commission, at Newbern, says: "I wish I had a large invoice of your army tracts and the *Soldier's Companion*, for distribution in the camps and hospitals of this department. Your publications would be gladly received here, and would do great good. I am in a position to give them an extensive circulation." Again, at Washington, Rev. F. A. Knapp, agent of the Sanitary Commission there, acknowledging a second box of 4,000 tracts, says: "Allow me to thank the Association through you, and for the Sanitary Commission, for this liberal supply of reading (and singing) matter. Although so large, it will be distributed within ten days at the furthest, and give aid and comfort to a great many suffering soldiers. We shall then be ready and glad to receive again of your bounty for these poor fellows, who ask for books as if craving for food." The agents of the Sanitary Commission not only distribute, but beg for these supplies of poison to give to sick soldiers. We do not object to their distributing what is sent to them under their rule to circulate *all* the books and tracts sent to them; but we suggest that it is carrying the thing a little too far, when their agents, who are paid for another work, make imploring appeals for Universalist tracts to distribute in the hospitals of the army.

In another place the publishers of these tracts say: "We have sent large quantities of the tracts to the Sanitary Commission, at New York, Washington, Newbern, N. C., Louisville, Ky., Evansville, Ind., and St. Louis, Mo.; and to hospitals and regiments at Baltimore, Annapolis, and Frederick, Md.; Philadelphia, New Orleans, and other places too numerous to mention." And their army agent writes: "I am permitted to state that it has just been decided by the managers of the Sanitary Commission to offer to distribute impartially for all denominations whatever religious reading matter they may supply. *I took especial pains to ascertain by my intercourse with the officers of the Commission* whether it would be advisable to avail ourselves of this offer, and I am satisfied that it would, (second of course to the method already decsribed.) *This gives us the means of distributing an unlimited amount.*"

There are two points toward which it is proper for the friends of the Sanitary Commission and the friends of the gospel of the New Testament to turn their attention, in connection with the facts we have now recited.

1. If the Sanitary Commission under-

takes to supply religious instruction for the army, it will distribute whatever is committed to its care for that purpose. It cannot be expected to discriminate against books containing Roman Catholic, Universalist, or even rationalistic and infidel sentiments. There is an agency here in New York for the publication of infidel tracts, and they have been cunningly mixed up with packages of Evangelical tracts, and so smuggled into the camps and hospitals. The Sanitary Commission, with Rev. Dr. Bellows, Unitarian, at its head, cannot decline to send these or any other publications entrusted to them. And it is worthy of inquiry if this was the service for which the Sanitary Commission is instituted and supported by the contributions of the patriotic and benevolent? Every man who gives a dollar to its funds aids in supporting those agents who send their appeals for Universalist books and tracts, and then distribute them among the soldiers. We are free to express our deep and solemn conviction that the Sanitary Commission should decline altogether the work of circulating religious reading, rather than be made the agent for the spread of those works which the great body of its supporters believe to be destructive to the souls of men. If it does work for one sect, it must for all; and, as there is no necessity for its aid in this department of labor, it is worthy of its consideration whether impartial duty to its patrons does not demand the expenditure of its strength upon the appropriate work for which it was instituted, leaving the distribution of tracts, good or bad, to other agencies formed for that purpose.

Another point is this: If the mighty agency of the Sanitary Commission is employed in distributing Universalist tracts to "an unlimited amount" among our sick and dying soldiers, is it not the duty of evangelical Christians to put forth vastly augmented efforts to give the knowledge of the way of life by Jesus Christ to them who are ready to perish? Hundreds and thousands of soldiers have been converted by these efforts, and the intelligence we have from the army is full of encouragement to increase and extend them. While those who teach the soldier that all men, good or bad, will be saved, are sowing tares, let us who believe that repentance and faith are essential to the soul's salvation, be up and doing with our might to give the gospel to the army.

LETTER FROM DOCTOR AGNEW.

WILMINGTON, N. C.,
March 20, 1865, 11 P.M.

MY DEAR DOCTOR:—I am now writing from the steamer *Chase*, at the dock at Wilmington. We left Morehead City at 12 M., yesterday, reached the bar off Wilmington at 10 30 P.M., and came to anchor to await daylight and high tides, at 11 A.M., we crossed the bar, passing Fort Fisher, and reached Wilmington at 1 P.M. We immediately sought for Mr. Foster, and found him exhausted from hard and continuous labor. He had dispensed the last of his stores yesterday afternoon at 4 30, our arrival, therefore, being most fortunate. I saw at once General J. C. Abbott, commandant of the Post, and Captain Lamb, Post Quartermaster, and obtained a wharf and storehouse for our cargo. Dr. J. C. Dalton immediately explored the town, and ascertained that about 1,500 returned prisoners and 2,400 sick and wounded from Generals Sherman and Terry's forces were still here in hospitals, the former in a condition impossible to describe, and the latter needing also many of our supplies. The medical officers were delighted to hear of our arrival, and expressed the warmest thanks, in advance, for the stores brought. General J. R. Hawley, commanding the district, at once, upon hearing of our arrival, sent an orderly on board of our vessel, with a note expressing his gladness at our arrival, and a warm sense of the value of the supplies of food and clothing which we had bought. To-morrow morning at 6 o'clock Captain Lamb will send a detail of 50 men to unload our vessel, and Mr. Foster, our agent, will receive the stores and issue them at once. Every thing we have will be immediately used. We only left about one-fourth of the cargo at Morehead, and I cannot tell you how thankful I am that we did so. We could not obtain any reliable information at Morehead of the condition of things here, and hence our bringing so large a portion of the cargo was most providential.

The returned prisoners sent into Wilmington numbered nearly 9,000. About 7,000 of the less famished have gone North. General Abbott, who received our poor fellows in the exchange, has just told me that language would utterly fail to describe their condition. Filth, rags, nakedness, starvation were personified in their condition. Many of the men were in a state of mind

resembling idiocy, unable to tell their names, and lost to all sense of modesty, unconscious of their nakedness and personal condition. Some of them moving about on their hands and knees, unable to stand upon their gangrenous feet, looking up like hungry dogs, beseeching the observer for a bite of bread or a sup of water. Some of them hitched along on their hands and buttocks, pushing gangrenous feet literally reduced to bone and shreds before them. Others leaned upon staves, and glared from sunken eyes through the parchment-like slits of their open eyelids into space, without having the power to fix an intelligent gaze upon passing objects. Others giggled and smirked and hobbled like starved idiots; while some adamantine figures walked erect, as though they meant to move the skeleton homewards so long as vitality enough remained to enable them to do so. To see the men who remain here in hospital would move a heart as hard and cold as marble. Their condition is that of men who have for months suffered chronic starvation. Their arms and legs look like coarse reeds with bulbous joints. Their faces look as though a skilful taxidermist had drawn tanned skin over the bare skull, and then placed false eyes in the orbital cavities. They defy description. It would take a pen expert in the use of every term known to the anatomist and the physician to begin to expose their fearful condition. May God, in his infinite mercy, forgive the creatures who have done this horrid thing.

Everything we have with us will be needed, so that I shall not have much to leave at Morehead on my return. We propose, through Dr. Buzzel and the hearty co-operation of Generals Hawley and Abbott, and Captains Lamb and Hopkins, to commence to-morrow to clothe and feed these sufferers. We shall issue about 4,000 suits of woolen clothing, and feed every sufferer for at least three weeks to come. The surgeons have promised to issue our tomatoes, beef stock, condensed milk, chocolate, soft crackers, onions and potatoes as freely as the starved men can eat them. They now have army rations, and such food as the hospital fund can purchase in this bare market, but many of them cannot muster physical power enough to bite a hard cracker, or stomach to digest beef or pork. They must be fed with nourishing broths and vegetable food for a long time, before they can be moved North. Many, alas! will go to the cemetery to lengthen the lines of graves, now so long.

Wilmington is very, very dirty; its alleys and back-yards are as bad as they can be, and no one who has not been in the South can form an idea of what this means. The streets swarm with refugees, 15,000 black refugees, and about 5,000 white ones. Almost all of these people occupy one dead level of poverty. The negroes can work for the Quartermaster and get rations and pay. About 4,000 white refugees are fed daily by a local relief committee from stores of corn meal and rice, while all draw rations from the post commissary, of pork and beans. Such a scene I have never before witnessed. Now, a few words in regard to supplies. I cannot yet say, in whole, what will be needed here additional, but we need some helpers for Mr. Foster, who is overworked. I would propose to have Mr. Knapp run down here at once. Many details in the conduct of the future relief work will demand his skilled labor. Lime is needed to disinfect the city, say 500 bbls., in the proportion of 150 bbls. of chloride of lime, to 350 of unslacked lime. Ice is needed in the hospitals. Lemons greatly needed, they should be sound ones, or else portable lemonade would be better. Slippers are needed, say 1,000 pairs. Bed-ticks, say 1,500; also shoes, 1,000. I write as I think, and therefore may prolong my letter and make it more obscure than it should be.

I shall unload the *Chase* to-morrow, and dispatch her to New York, direct, via Beaufort, N. C., if her coal will carry her there, if not, to Fortress Monroe, to coal, and thence to New York. She draws too much water for us. The *Uncas* is a better boat for our purposes as she can run to Newbern via Hatteras inlet, and also over the bar to Wilmington. My being compelled to lighten the *Chase*, at Beaufort, caused three days' detention. It is not safe to send a steamer to these parts on such errands as we run, drawing more than eight and one-half feet for Newbern, or twelve for Beaufort, or ten and one-half for Wilmington. Send, to repeat, Mr. Knapp to Wilmington with an assistant or two, and answer all Dr. Page's requisitions. Send very few, if any, potatoes or onions. Send it to the committee at New York after you have read it. Nothing from Dr. Marsh later than my last. Dr. Page is deserving of our highest esteem and confidence.

Supplies sent to North Carolina by steamer Chase, March 11, 1865, *to be drawn upon for the relief of exchanged Union prisoners, and the sick of General Sherman's army at Wilmington.*

Blankets	1750	Sour-kraut, bbls.	166½
Flannel drawers	2400	Tomatoes, cans	12000
Flannel shirts	2400	Condensed milk, cans.	12000
Knit shirts	2604	Condensed coffee, cans.	92
Knit drawers	2604	Ground coffee, lbs.	1875
Wool half-hose	6000	Crackers, bbls.	479
Cotton shirts	211	Maizena, cases	40
Towels	3984	Corn starch, cases	20
Handkerchiefs	1008	Chocolate, lbs	3300
Shoes, pairs	60	Bourbon whiskey, btls.	1320
Beef-stock, lbs.	2040	Stock ale, bbls.	10
Onions, bbls.	507	Lemon syrup, doz. btls.	8
Potatoes, bbls.	520	Smoking tobacco, dozen papers	28
Pickled tomatoes, gals.	1467	Tobacco, lbs.	50
Pickled onions, gals.	3162½	Thread, lbs.	132
Pickles, cucumbers, bbls	194	Pen-holders, gross	8
Needles	12000	Pencils, gross	4
Writing paper, reams	270	Ink, doz.	24
Envelopes	51500	Ink-stands, doz.	12
Pens, gross	42		

Also chloroform, opium, cushions, crutches, haversacks, candles, soap, suspenders, combs, head-posts, bed-pans, urinals, stationary, cooking utensils, tin-cups, &c.

PETERSBURGH AND RICHMOND.

That the public may be relieved from anxiety with respect to the provision made for the comfort of our sick and wounded at Richmond, Petersburg, and City Point, the Sanitary Commission would say that they had on Friday last an abundant supply of all things necessary on the spot, and that since then two vessels loaded with supplies, in addition, have reached City Point, and others will be dispatched.

The Commission, with a view to the present emergency, has provided a full corps of agents, both with the army and at the hospitals at or near City Point, where most of the wounded are brought.

Two gentlemen of the Commission, from this city, visited the army last week, and found every preparation made for the emergency.

In addition to the heavy stock at City Point and with the army, the following articles have reached there since Friday last.

Respectfully yours,
R. M. Lewis.
General Superintendent of Philadelphia Branch of the United States Sanitary Commission.

Shirts, woolen	10000	Suspenders, pairs	1200
Shirts, cotton hospital	2687	Blankets	1000
Drawers, woolen, pairs.	10000	Combs, fine, gross	2200
Drawers, cotton, pairs.	2000	Blackb'y cordial, btls.	1200
Socks, woolen, pairs	5000	Crackers, lbs.	200
Towels	20000	Beef and mutton, cans.	1800
Handkerchiefs	11000	Cups, tin	5000
Comfort bags, housewives, &c.	1125	Pails, wooden	140
Slippers, pairs	1500	Condensed milk	9600
		Corn starch, lbs.	4000
Maizena lbs.	2000	Pickles, galls.	1433
Farina, lbs.	4500	Pickles, jars	100
Dried apples, bbls.	20	Old linen, lbs.	7
Camphor mixtures, gr.	5	Jamaica ginger, galls.	50
White thread, lbs.	25	Sugar, bbls.	20
Black thread, lbs.	24	Soap, castile boxes.	20
Yarn, lbs.	50	Soap, brown family, boxes	40
Tin dippers, with long handles	200	Candles, boxes	20
Combs, coarse, gross	2200	Knives and forks, gr.	12
Chocolate, lbs.	2000	Cushions	2000
Bay rum, btls.	500	Plates, tin, gross	6
Crutches, pairs	2000	Cond. egg (dessicated).	200
Con'd lemonade, boxes.	70	Head rests	50
Apple butter, galls.	75	Plugs tobacco, lbs.	2000
Lemons, boxes,	20	Smoking tobacco, lbs	2000
Ale, btls.	1400	Brooms	36
Pillows	300	Tin pails, small	100
Fruit asst'd, dried, bbls.	1000	Tobacco pipes, boxes.	25

And a large amount of stationery and other useful articles.—*Philadelphia Papers, April* 5, 1865.

LETTER FROM PATRICK STATION.

BY J. HENRY DAVIS.

March 26, 1865.

Early yesterday morning the troops were under arms and in motion. Orders were given to the hospitals of the 2d Corps to pack up and to be ready to move at a moment's notice. The 2d Corps station, Sanitary Commission, were instructed to pack up and move with the 3d Division. The surplus stock, large tent and stove, were sent down to the Point under charge of Mr. Peck. The two wagons belonging to this station were loaded and everything got ready for a march. The 5th Corps station did not move, the 5th Corps hospital not receiving orders to pack up; but Mr. Barton, in charge of the station, had his wagons packed, and could have moved at short notice.

Before sunrise of the 25th, the enemy made a sortie on front of the 9th Corps, surprised and captured a fort, turning its guns upon our troops. The enemy were successful for a time, but our brave men were soon rallied and forced the enemy to retire, after suffering severe loss. Our loss was slight, in all not over 400.

The 2d Corps began before daylight to feel the ememy's lines, on their front. The 3d Division commenced at 3 o'clock to skirmish with the rebel line, which was responded to by the enemy with spirit; the 6th Corps also commenced picket firing. This amusement was kept up all day, varied by occasional discharge of heavy guns.

During this time the rebels had strengthened their skirmish and picket line, until it became a strong line of battle. About 5 in the afternoon the 3d Division of the 2d Corps were ordered to charge the rebel lines, which they did most gallantly, capturing many

prisoners, and the enemy's old picket line, which was held by Alabama and Georgia troops. The 1st Divison also charged along their lines, capturing many rebels. The official list of the wounded foots up to about 100 killed, and between 5 and 600 wounded, and perhaps 50 missing. This loss is between the 3d and 1st Divisions. The 2d Division suffered slightly, their loss being only 40. The 6th Corps also made a charge, capturing 500 prisoners and holding their old picket line. At dusk the building known as General ——'s quarters was fired, and lit up the scene for some hours. The loss of the 6th Corps was between 3 and 400 in all. The 5th Corps were, with the exception of the 1st Division, in reserve, under cover of Fort Fisher, and supporting the 6th Corps. The 1st Division, 5th Corps, were held along the left, on the flank of the 2d Corps; throwing out their skirmish line they found the enemy, engaged him for some time, inflicting some loss upon the enemy, and losing about 50 in all. Mr. Barton is busy looking after the wounded in that direction.

The 6th Corps wounded have all been sent in. Our wounded at this point will be loaded on the cars at 1 o'clock, and sent to the Point. About 1 o'clock yesterday the first load of wounded came into the 3d Division, 2d Corps. I at once gave instructions to make milk punch, which was done and continued far into the night, Up to this time over 100 gallons of punch have been made and given to the sufferers. All about this station have worked well. They have, I am proud to say, done their duty. Mr. Thomas and Mr. Vasser were dispatched to the field with canteens filled with punch, and performed signal service in ministering to the sorrows of our wounded braves.

The 1st Division has been supplied with crackers and many with shirts. On every side we hear the warmest expressions of gratitude to the people of the North, who through the Commission, aid so nobly, remembering their fellow citizens on the battle-field. My supplies, with a few exceptions, are yet ample; my stock of milk, and liquors, and crackers, is getting short. If you will send up 3 cases whiskey, 2 barrels crackers, 3 cases milk, I think I would be be as ready as ever to relieve the wounded. If you could add 2 cases tomatoes, it would be a blessing.

On the whole yesterday was a day of victory. The object was probably to ascertain the strength of the enemy, and keep them in their lines. The official report foots up for this day's work, 3,800 rebel prisoners, 1,200 killed and wounded, rebel loss, low, 5,000. Our loss cannot be over 1,000 or 1,200. All well, but somewhat tired.

"IN PRISON AND YE CAME UNTO ME."

BY GEO. H. RICE.

BOSTON, *March* 23, 1865.

DEAR SIR:—Yours of 21st instant duly received, and this morning the book came to hand. Please accept my warm thanks for the same. It will be read with great pleasure, the more so that I have heard you relate some of the incidents while in camp. The want of mental exercise was that which we suffered for so much. Did I tell you how eagerly the books which reached us from the Sanitary Commission at New Orleans were sought after? If not, you would be pleased to learn with what pleasure we refreshed our memories with the first rudiments of arithmetic, and the various class-readers. No one knows, but those that had felt our wants, how welcome such things were. I confess had I never been a prisoner I should never thought of making such selections; but they are truly welcome, and the Sanitary Commission need have no fear of their not being gratefully received, *everywhere.* It would have done you good to have seen the little groups that got together with a piece of board for a slate, and charcoal for pencil.

From the New Orleans Daily True Delta, March 18.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION AND CONFEDERATE PRISONERS.

The following letter shows that it is not alone our own gallant soldiers who derive benefits from that great charitable institution, the Sanitary Commission. A subscription is now being taken up among our citizens to aid in replenishing the treasury of the Commission, and with the following statement before them, even persons whose sympathies are with the rebellion will hardly refuse to contribute according to their means:

SHIP ISLAND, MISS., *January* 25, 1865.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, New Orleans, La.:

GENTLEMEN: Serious indisposition, from which I am just convalescing, has prevented my acknowledging your valuable favors at an earlier period. I have during the past

few months received from your hands a large quantity of pickles, pickled cabbage, sauer-kraut, onions, potatoes, shirts, drawers, socks, combs, soap, etc., for the use of the sick and suffering at this post. Nothing could have been more opportune than these gratuities. Besides the large number of persons ordinarily at this station, we have had recently as many as seventeen hundred prisoners of war. These, from long exposure, insufficient food and clothing, and utter neglect of personal cleanliness, were mostly broken down in health, and were as wretched a set of men as were ever assembled together. The diseases prevailing among them were small-pox, measles, scurvy, and a great variety of cutaneous and other contagious affections. Out of the entire number there were not five hundred exempt from disease, and the mortality upon their first arrival amounted to an average of two cases per day. With your prompt assistance, together with that of the Medical Department of the army, we have in a very short time been enabled to change this gloomy aspect. We have been enabled to furnish bedding, clothing, proper diet and cleanliness to men who had long been deprived of these comforts. The sick list among them has decreased from nearly one thousand to less than forty patients, and but three men have died in as many weeks.

Under these circumstances, I cannot too sincerely thank you for the kind assistance you have rendered, nor too highly commend an institution whose good works in the cause of humanity are so palpable and potent.

With much respect, I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JOHN H. GIHON, Ass't Surgeon
In Charge of Hospitals at Ship Island, Miss.

ONE HOSPITAL IN SAVANNAH.

BY CHAPLAIN JEREMIAH PORTER.

MARSHALL HOUSE, SAVANNAH, GA.,
March 17, 1865.

I am happy to report that Mrs. Porter has continued her labors in this hospital, unremitted except by a few days of sickness, until the present time. That now our number being reduced from 400 to about 100, and of these only a few that are not recovering, she is anxious to go to Sherman's army as soon as it shall find a new base on the Atlantic, which we trust will be reached before this reaches you.

In the twelve weeks since we arrived here 27 of our white patients have died and 8 colored. All of these were comforted by the sympathetic attentions of Mrs. Porter, as the almoner of the bounties supplied by the U. S. Sanitary Commission. Beside preparing light diet and delicacies for the feeble and sick, she has replaced garments worn out or lost on the battle-field and hospitals the following, to individuals who could not purchase, either because out of money or without their descriptive roll: pants, 47 prs.; flannel shirts, 35; vests, 11; woolen drawers, 39; blouses, 14; overcoats, 13; prs. stockings, 20; hats, 20; blankets, 24; prs. shoes, 14. During one month, from Jan. 9th, the opening of the first Sanitary goods in this city, to Feb. 7th, Mrs. Porter received the following supplies, by request of the surgeon in charge, and saw that they were distributed so as to comfort the sick:—Bbls. potatoes, 2; bbls. dried apples, 2; bbls. crackers, 3½; cans tomatoes, 48; cans milk, 45; cans beef stock, 50; papers farina, 62; corn starch, 47; papers gelatine, 6; cans currant jellies, 2; cans extract coffee, 12; bottles Jamaica ginger, 16; bottles bay water, 5; bottles blackberry cordial, 11; bottles raspberry vinegar, 2; prs. pants, 31; blouses, 11; hats, 6; prs. shoes, 6; drawers, 66; shirts, 64; vests, 11; prs. socks, 24.

During the past month our number of sick has been constantly decreasing by return of convalescents to duty in the field; by furlough of the wounded, and by sending the permanently diseased to northern hospitals; and Sherman's army having gone, we are receiving very few new patients, yet we have drawn liberally from the Sanitary rooms.

The gratitude of the patients for these sanitary supplies through our hands has been expressed by multitudes of them. I have always had from the Sanitary writing paper, envelopes, ink, pens and pencils, as well as a rich variety of books and papers, so that intellectual as well as physical wants have been happily supplied. In the hospital chapel, the patients having been removed from it, and it being pleasantly seated, we have had religious meetings each evening for a fortnight of very pleasant religious interest. There has been joy here, as we trust, in heaven, over sinners repenting among convalescents, as well as those who have died trusting in the Saviour.

Among the stores received the past month were two pecks of dried currants and as many dried blackberries. Nothing except the blackberry cordial has comforted so

many sick and contributed so much to the comfort of the emaciated as these berries. Mrs. Porter keeps some of them stewed on hand always, and every one who would be benefited by them is readily supplied. They are much more profitable than jellies, and much more easily brought to the army and kept for use. Call loudly for small fruits dried, and multitudes comforted by them will bless you for it.

A few days since an escaped prisoner from Andersonville from the 111th Illinois, who was captured on the 22d of June last before Atlanta, was brought to our room by two of his own regiment who are now nursing in this hospital. Testifying to his entire truthfulness, and finding him almost destitute of clothing, as he could bring nothing from his prison except what he wore, and having traveled 300 miles in 24 days, he was furnished with a complete outfit: a hat, an overcoat, a pair of pants, a flannel shirt, a pair of drawers, a pair of stockings, shoes he had previously obtained. Doffing his brown cotton, and clad in his Sanitary suit, he hardly retained his personal identity. So I gave him a certificate showing how he was clothed after his long imprisonment and journey to Savannah. He confirms all the terrible reports of Andersonville. He left here for Iowa.

We are highly gratified to see a thousand colored children and adults already gathered into schools in Savannah: while we are pained to visit the hospital for the blacks and find it in a loathsome condition. We have endeavored to see that the sufferers are made more comfortable. In the last two days the few surviving ones are removed to hospital tents, and we hope their wants will now be better supplied.

One or two regiments of colored troops just raised at Charleston have come to garrison this city. The inhabitants are horrified at the thought that their own arms are all taken from them and they are to be guarded by armed negroes. Is not this righteous retribution? Who dreamed that our eyes would see these things when Uncle Tom's Cabin was written. Truly has inspiration said: "I work a work in your day which ye will not believe if a man declare it unto you."

LETTER FROM E. L. JONES.

NASHVILLE, *March* 25, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY.

DEAR SIR:—I enclose my report for the week ending this evening. We are doing a good deal for the hospitals, and with the grateful appreciation of their officers. The large number of patients from the new regiments seems to diminish rather than add to their hospital fund, and they are drawing upon us more largely than heretofore.

There are also more troops in and around the city, and they all want something, so that the total issues make rather large figures, larger than I calculated during the week, as I had on mind the importance of sending as many stores forward to Chattanooga and Knoxville as possible. We have now comparatively few applications that we cannot provide for reasonably well. My remarks in former letters will still apply to the want of bedding, ticks, sheets, quilts, pillow-cases, towels, and handkerchiefs, slippers, eye-shades, and especially rags and bandages,—to canned fruit, condensed milk, and codfish. I have had many applications this week for eggs, wines, and spirits, and cordials, and even whiskey; we have none of these to issue, except in small quantities, none to ship. Everybody wants a few onions, but we have none. Boots, shoes, and hats; once in a while one is a great comfort to a ragged, dirty, and barefooted soldier just escaped from a southern prison or exchanged.

Monday I loaded two cars* for Chattanooga, one with fifty barrels kraut, and the other with seed potatoes, onion setts, &c. I also loaded two cars* for Knoxville direct, same day, with fifty barrels kraut and ninety-four barrels potatoes. The cars are still on the track, though I had the promise of the agent that they should be sent off immediately. The fact is they have not the motive power at their command to move them, but they are daily now expecting engines from the South that will enable them to clear the track again. The pressure upon the road for the transportation of troops and munitions has been tremendous, and could not be interfered with except by the major general in person.

We have received from Cincinnati, this week, 200 barrels potatoes, 50 barrels kraut, 25 barrels cabbage in curry, 25 barrels pickles, and 15 barrels dried apples.

LETTER FROM H. TONE.

CAIRO, *March* 25, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY.

DEAR SIR—I arrived at Paducah only this morning, having been delayed on the river by heavy winds.

* These cars got off the next day.

By permission of Captain Ernst, A. Q. M., the captain of the *Atlantic* delivered to me at that place all the sanitary stores which were not covered with grain in the hold of the boat, and these, very fortunately, included all the boxes, 160 in number, and forty-nine barrels of crackers and dried apples. Mr. Sutliffe has gone to Eastport with the remainder, to issue whatever is needed, and reship whatever is not needed to Paducah. There is quite a number of sick still at Eastport, notwithstanding the hospital steamer *D. A. Jamany* brought away a full load.

Mrs. Horner arrived from Eastport yesterday morning, and from her I learn that the great cavalry expedition started from there on Tuesday last. Their first objective point is said to be Tuscaloosa. They had a skirmish with the rebels on the afternoon of the first day, and several wounded were sent back. It was anticipated that there would be considerable opposition, and, perhaps, a pitched battle in three or four days, as Forrest is represented as having 8,000 well mounted cavalry, and 4,000 infantry, within that number of day's march of Eastport. At the time she left, General Hatch expressed himself as fearful that the exchange of prisoners having been so long delayed would not be effected.

Mr. Way received your despatch to-day, stating that the *Elnora* would leave Louisville on Saturday night, and directing me not to wait for her. There was no boat for Vicksburg at Paducah to-day, and I presume the *Elnora* will be the first along. Having made all necessary arrangements for forwarding the stores by the first boat, I came on to Cairo to see what was being prepared here, and to have the goods sent on the same boat with the others. I find Mr. Shipman has already sent forward one shipment, and is expecting another from Chicago, which I hope will arrive in time. I will enclose invoices of them if I can get them before the mail closes.

Mr. Johnson will come as directed on the *Elnora*. Mr. Owen has nearly recovered from his illness and will report at Louisville as soon as he is able.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

In the telegrams from San Francisco, dated April 5, we learn that, "arrivals in twenty days from Honolulu bring intelligence of liberal sucscriptions to the U. S. Sanitary Commission and heavy earthquakes." That the subscriptions to the U. S. Sanitary Commission have caused the earthquakes is not probable, and that the earthquakes have not caused the subscriptions is certain; for the large-hearted benevolence of those distant and regenerated Islands—a benevolence based upon principle and impelled by a fervent love for the broad truths of the gospel—is as natural and splendid to their people as is the foliage of their vallies. What grand changes have been wrought by the Good Father since the daysw hen the hero missionaries first set foot upon the coral shore. "A nation has been born in a day;" and that Pacific nation, born from out heathenism into Christianity, aids with its wealth in bearing to the wounded upon Atlantic battle-fields and the captive in the barbarous prisons of the Gulf, both temporal and spiritual benefits.

"Mine eyes have seen the coming of the glory of the Lord."

FANS FOR ARMY HOSPITALS.

The following letter from Dr. MacGowan has been received by Dr. Bellows:

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March* 21, 1865.

H. W. BELLOWS, D.D.,
President of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

REV. AND DEAR SIR: So varied are the functions which are performed by the U. S. Sanitary Commission, that those who have plans for promoting the comfort of disabled soldiers naturally submit them to your association for trial. To the consideration of a proposal having that end in view, I have the honor of inviting your attention.

The warm season is approaching, when musquetoe netting is resorted to in our hospitals for protecting patients from the annoyance of those enemies of repose. But there are times the netting almost stifles the sufferer, who, it may be, is in special need of a current of fresh air. He needs not only a contrivance which shall keep musquetoes away by night, but which shall constantly ward off from his wound the attacks of flies. These objects, together with fresh air, are obtainable easy enough by having relays of attendants for fanning the patient. But no hospital, public or private, can command the requisite number of attendants. The end can be attained, however, by a very simple contrivance, by the suspension of a punkah from the ceiling of ward, having a palm leaf fan, or merely a handkerchief waving gently over each bed.

If properly constructed a single attendant can fan the entire side of a ward—say forty beds. As in some cases fanning might not be allowable, and in all the operation would require temporary suspension, the fans should be easily removable at pleasure. The labor of drawing the punkahs could be performed by men who have been deprived of an arm or a leg, although it is likely that when the attention of our inventors is called to the subject we shall have plans for accomplishing the object by a simple and noiseless piece of machinery. It were superfluous to undertake to show the need that exists for some such contrivance. Any one who has been in a hospital on a summer's day either as patient or visitor, will admit that this is a desideratum, and such is the ingenuity of our countrymen, that you have only to make known the want and you shall surely have it supplied. Now for my proposal: Offer an honorarium for the best contrivance for fanning a long row of beds, to be tested in the nearest military hospital to your headquarters, and, my word for it, we shall soon have a contrivance which in all future time will be considered an indispensable part of hospital appliances. Be prompt, that the thousands who are destined soon to be prostrated by fever, or suppurating wounds, may have their sufferings ameliorated by sanitary zephyrs, through the agency of the Sanitary Commission.

Most respectfully submitted,

D. J. MacGowan.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION—AN EXPLANATION.

Washington, *March* 29, 1865.

To the Editor of the Washington Chronicle:

Dear Sir:—Your issue of this morning contains an appeal from Wilmington, under date of March 15, in behalf of the Union prisoners gathered at that point, in which the writer states that the Sanitary Commission was out of supplies. As this may convey to many a false impression, I must ask you to publish the following brief statement:

From the first military movements preparatory to the attack on Fort Fisher, the Commission was represented in that army by an efficient agent, Mr. Foster, and assistants, with an ample stock of hospital and battle-field supplies, renewed from time to time from our depots further North.

On the first arrival of the prisoners, he was able partially to supply many of their wants, especially in clothing and milk punch, the articles most needed in their critical condition. In furnishing the latter article, which was issued in large quantities, Mr. Foster was assisted by the provost marshal, who added twenty barrels of whiskey (confiscated) to his stock.

Preparations having been made in New York in anticipation of the demand, a steamer was despatched from that port with supplies on the 11th instant, but did not arrive until after the date of the letter above referred to. A small part of this cargo was reserved for the twenty-four hundred, more or less, of Sherman's army in hospital at Wilmington, but much the larger portion was devoted to the prisoners, and is still doing its good work for them, whose wretchedness words cannot exaggerate, nor in any measure describe.

A glance at the appended list of the cargo will indicate its character and value (over $60,000), to which heavy additions have since been made.

The large and important work of the Commission has already called out the hearty acknowledgments of General Abbott, the commander of the post, Dr. Barnes, the medical director, and Dr. Buzzell, in charge of forwarding the prisoners.

I deem it important to add, in this connection, that the whole number of prisoners received by exchange at Wilmington is about 8,700, and that a large proportion of them have already been removed from that crowded and filthy town to comfortable hospitals, or furloughed to visit their homes, most of them remaining, being too feeble for transporting. Of the whole number exchanged, 8,700, about 2,000 were on stretchers, many of whom have died.

Yours, very respectfully,

Francis Fowler,
Asst. Sec. U. S. San. Commission.

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3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

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The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regi-

ment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Nos. 10 & 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, State House, New Haven, Conn.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 244 F Street, Washington, D. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Distribution, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 46 Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Harper's Ferry, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Parole, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, City Point, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Newberne, N. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Beaufort, S. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, New Orleans, La

Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, N. Y.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 59 Fourth Street, Pittsburgh, Penna.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Lamed Street, Detroit, Mich.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Columbus, O.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

EAST.

"Special Relief" Office, 76 Kingston Street, Boston, Mass.

"Special Relief" Office, 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

"Soldiers' Rest," Buffalo, Exchange street, opposite R. R. Depot.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C., where assistance is rendered in procuring Pay, Pensions, Bounty, Prize Money, and arrears of Pay and Bounty, and in various other ways.

"The Home," No. 374 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

WEST.

Soldiers' Home, No. 81 Jefferson avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Soldiers' Home, Third Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Superintendent.

Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky., James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, New Albany, corner of Main and State Streets.

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Soldiers' Home, Nashville, Tenn., Captain I. Brayton, Sup't. Rev. J. Hoblit, Relief Agent

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SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * *

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SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

No. 37. PHILADELPHIA, MAY 1, 1865. No. 37.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 15,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No.* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

For the Sanitary Commission Bulletin.

STARVED TO DEATH!

Suggested by the remark of a mother, one of whose sons had died of starvation in a rebel prison; "I hardly expected my boys would return to me unharmed, but I never dreamed one would be *starved to death.*"

BY MINNIE MINTWOOD.

Above me, soft'ning April skies;
And all around, the tender grass,
With slight green arms that eager rise
To catch the sunbeams as they pass;
And just below, the rippling brook,
With pulses throbbing low and deep,
While birds and flowers and mossy nook,
All mem'ries of my darling keep.

Within, upon my pictured wall,
One brow is fairer than the rest;
Ah, me! it seems at yester's call,
His head was pillowed on my breast.
His every curl some gold had caught,
The sweets of flowers were in his breath;
In all my life he was inwrought,
And now, to know he *starved to death!*

That he was brave you well may know,
No heart more loyal, true and leal,
Among the first of all to go
And bare his breast to rebel steel.
And when he in his armor stood,
The bravest of them all, one saith:
"Virginia's soil may drink his blood,"
But none, "your boy will *starve to death!*"

Full well I knew 'mid shot and shell
And clash of sabres he would stand;
But He, who doeth all things well,
Might shield him with His loving hand.
But if he fell! I could not bear
Within my heart a place for this!
To see no more his forehead fair,
Or nevermore his lips to kiss.

Still, should it be my woman's part
To see my bliss in ruins lie,
For my *loved country*, e'en my heart
Could bear for *him* to die,
If he, as patriots, should fall
With victory flashing in his eye,
His spirit leaping at the call
To join the ranks of souls on high.

For every mine must yield its gold,
From every hearth some incense rise,
I gave the best of all my fold—
My boy—a country-sacrifice!
But, God! I never thought to know,
With hunger weakening every breath,
By squalid want and torture slow,
My boy would ever starve to death!

Hilldale Farm, near Ludlowville,
Tompkins County, New York, April, 1865.

LETTER FROM NEWBERN, N. C.

BY J. W. PAGE, M.D.

March 19, 1865.

I enclose to you some of the notes received from my brother, in charge of the Relief Corps at the front, and dated respectively the 11th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th. Several of these should have gone forward with the lists of wounded I have already forwarded; but the early hour and hurry of my departure for Moorehead, on the day of my last communication, occasioned their oversight, and I was surprised to find them still lying on my table.

These notes, jotted down on the field, tell in their style, as well as in their narra-

tive, the yeoman service which our Relief Corps has rendered thus far in a campaign in which, perhaps more than in any other of the war, not only the comfort, but the salvation, of our sick and wounded depended on the extraneous Relief of the Sanitary Commission at *the right time* and the *right place.* The railroad construction has progressed *pari passu* with the army, but five or seven miles in the rear. Our chief supply tent was at the terminus of the railroad in season to receive, and shelter, and provide for the first instalment of the wounded from the battle field; while our Relief agents were extending the needed relief to the field hospitals along our extended battle line. The reconstruction of the railroad, employing an army of two thousand constructionists, building wharves and depots, laying tracks and transporting material therefor, has been going on at the same time with the transportation of thirty thousand troops, with all the *impedimenta* of modern warfare, directly into the enemy's country, equipped and appointed for an immediate battle with an army of the enemy equal in numbers. Yet all this herculean work has been done with *four* wheezy engines and a correspondingly insufficient provision of truck and box cars. I question whether such a brilliant feat of railroading, all things considered, has ever been accomplished since the commencement of this war, of which railroading has been such a novel and important military element. It is a railroad victory which adds as much lustre to the genius and energy of Colonel Wright and Mr. Van Dyne, as does the battle of Kinston to the military reputation of our successful generals. These allusions would be episodical, were they not intended to draw your attention to the long intervals which must necessarily happen between the arrivals of trains on a road so illy provided with rolling stock, and so enormously taxed beyond its reasonable capacity. A long line of railroad, constantly advancing its terminus into a wild and swampy country, where our sick and wounded must meet it at unheralded hours, and await on the damp ground, through rain and shine, or enveloped in the swamp fogs of the chilly nights, with only the little covering and scanty comforts that could be brought for six miles over horrible roads, in overloaded ambulances, from destitute field hospitals and await, through these cheerless hours, the unfrequent trains. We have had floods of rain; and an ambulance travelling over the deeply gullied roads would tax the endurance of *well* men. You can imagine, then, the condition of our sick and wounded after six miles of such rough jolting; and you can imagine, perhaps better than I can describe, the full measure of their satisfaction, when, instead of being dumped on the cold, wet ground, to await, chilled and hungry, the arrival of the cars, they found, ready for their reception, our spacious tents, emblazoned in front, so that "he that runs may read," with the full name of our glorious old Commission, and provided within with every comfort for the outer and the inner man. Soft beds of quilts, laid on clean straw—warm blankets—rich soups, with Boston crackers—hot coffee and tea, gentle attendance and good cheer, and the assurance of the same comforts being transferred to the cars for their transportation to Newbern. The luxury of being the instrument in affording such relief was new to my brother, and to some of the improvised corps of assistants, and stimulated them to exertions too strained and continuous for their own safety; so that I have relieved them in a measure, by forwarding, in charge of supplies, the volunteer but temporary aid of several young gentlemen in the Department, whose truthful natures and warm sympathies I had learned by previous acquaintance to appreciate. The number and character of these offers from young men long associated with this Department in military and civil positions, and their proffered willingness to serve the Commission at the front, at the very time when the drizzling spring rains and the booming of the distant cannon told them plainly that such a campaign was no child's play, have illustrated, with gratifying clearness, the deep hold which the Sanitary Commission has already gained on the affections of the generous youths of our land, whose characters are being moulded on the gigantic occurrences now transpiring, and forming the history of their country. I had anticipated the usual proffer of battle-field aid from "our friends over the way" of the Christian Commission, as in days gone by. I had received instructions to accept such proffered aid on the field, and to supply and treat the delegates as our own Relief agents; and my experience in South Carolina, and in previous campaigns in this Department, had led me to place a high estimate on the value of such relief aid; and I had instructed my

brother, if such relief was proferred to accept and treat it in accordance with the estimate I had entertained of its value. No proffer, however, was made by the delegates of the Christian Commission, though several of them were here, and several new ones appeared on the ground about the time and since our active campaign began. I understand from one of their number, that several of the new ones left, during the week of the fight, for other localities, as Wilmington and Plymouth, &c. None of them, however, were on the field, nor have been to the front; unless I except a *quasi* delegate, who appeared after the fight, penny-a-lining items for the local newspaper. This avoidance of the field, at the time of active operations, and when our soldiers are breasting the deadly fire of the enemy, leads me to suppose there may have been some change in the *programme* of the Christian Commission, of which, from my long absence from our northern centres of action, I have not been made aware. From previous experience, I had reckoned on their co-operation, and its failure compelled me, at a late hour, to improvise a supplementary Relief corps from the ardent and generous materials I have previously alluded to. My previous acquaintance with the self-denial and usefulness of the delegates of the Christian Commission at such times as these, would lead me to think any such fundamental change in the objects of their mission an unfortunate one, as I cannot see any corresponding compensation to the service.

I returned from the front on Wednesday, the 15th, leaving our Sanitary depot and corps at Dow's Station, then the terminus of the railroad, about 8 miles from Kinston, and from which point our stores radiated to the different hospitals and encampments of our large army. The corps and division wagons were constantly arriving at and departing from that point with army stores, and every facility for transportation was furnished us. From the moment of the arrival of our stores and the establishment of the Sanitary depot where the hospital trains must meet the terminus of the railroad, an order was issued from the headquarters of General Palmer to the Quartermasters of his division to furnish all the transportation we might need in forwarding our relief to any portion of the field. Our Depot has kept pace with the railroad. It has been a moving hospital, meeting the sick and wounded always at the point where the long weary hours of detention would have been painful and dreary but for the comforts provided for them by the agents of our Commission there. The long list of wounded which I have forwarded you were all the recipients of our care at that point, and their railroad wants provided for until they should arrive at the doors of the general hospital in Newbern.

I spent one day in visiting the Division headquarters along the extensive line of our new position, and the hospitals in the field, witnessing the elation of our gallant troops, and the burial of a multitude of rebel hopes.

The earthworks thrown up by our troops under fire, and begun with the use of tin cups and shingles, instead of the pick-axe and spade, are a wonderful monument of the daring and efficiency of our veteran troops. Though the work of a couple of hours, they are as extensive and strong as the original defences of Newbern, on which the rebels had labored for weeks. This was especially observant on the right of our line, in front of the old 9th New Jersey, of Burnside fame, and the 132d New York, whose valor has so often and so stubbornly held our outposts against the assaults of the enemy. These regiments, with the rest of the division of General Palmer, held the extreme right of our line, which the enemy assailed vigorously on the first day's fight, with their heavy artillery in exact range of the Division Headquarters, but relinquished the attack for the desperate onset they made on the left, in which they were at last so severely punished.

Our sanitary stores had reached the Division in quantity, and were stacked under guard. Mr. Perry, our Relief Agent, did some hard horse-back riding, and severe and prolonged labors, in conducting our wagons over miles of muddy and deeply gullied and rough corduroy roads. I saw the captains of two companies of cavalry, long celebrated in this Department for their vigor and daring, now, when under orders to move forward, appeal to these stores for vegetables for their men, and themselves count out the onions, that they might be sure every man should get one. These vegetables are more prized at such a time by these men than would be the choicest tropical fruits.

On the advance of the army from the battle field, I accompanied it to Kinston, passing one night at the new encampment opposite the town, and in the morning visit-

ing the town itself. The rebel works on both sides of the river are of the strongest description of earth works, and well manned would have presented a formidable obstacle to our advance; but our stout fighting in front, and the fear of danger in their rear, compelled them to abandon these works.

I returned to Newbern via "Dover Station," to which point our depot had advanced, and after a splashing ride of ten miles on horseback, as many more by cars, three miles on foot, and five on a hand-car, arrived here at dusk. Crowds of soldiers have been passing up to the front, and everything indicates operations on a large scale.

I received a telegram from Dr. Agnew on my return, and took the first train for Morehead City, where I met him on the transport steamer *Chase*, with a full cargo of stores for the Commission. The limited capacity of the railroad, already overtaxed, forbade the landing of stores at the wharf. Dr. Agnew placed such stores as we needed here on board a provisionary schooner, some four or five hundred barrels in bulk, which I have made arrangements to transport to Newbern by water. The next day Dr. Agnew took the rest of the steamer's cargo to Wilmington, for the relief of our liberated Union prisoners, and on his return will discharge what may remain at Morehead for the campaign on this line.

I was at Wilmington the day after its capture, having run down with Generals Palmer and Carter and staffs; I met the Sanitary Agent, Mr. Foster, there, preparing for a depot of reception, but at the time destitute of supplies. I should have advised the sending what few stores could then have been spared from this point, had not Mr. Foster informed me that he had eleven days before, made full requisitions on the central depot at New York, and was daily expecting ample stores. The condition of such of our returned prisoners as I then saw was pitiable beyond expression, and the evidences of the barbarity of the rebel leaders was most damnable. The filth, squalor, emaciation, idiocy, and insanity of those who survived their infernal treatment, prepared me to witness the sight of the charred remains of those whom the rebels burned on evacuating the city; telling the poor, bed-ridden victims of their cruelty "if they would not get out and follow their army, they would *scorch* them out," and carried out their devilish threat by setting fire to one end of the building!

HEADQUARTERS U. S. SAN. COM. IN THE FIELD, SIX MILES FROM COVE CREEK, N C., *March* 11, 1865.

I have just returned from a visit to the Division Hospital at the front. I started in advance of an army wagon, furnished me by the Chief Quartermaster, which I loaded with stores for the front from our depot at this station. I arrived at the hospital, nine miles from this station, at about 3 o'clock this P.M. A portion of the road being almost impassible for man or beast, and so I spent a longer portion of the day on the road than I otherwise would; but I met Dr. Rice at the hospital, and found him making his preparations for breaking up his hospital at that point, and preparing for a forward movement toward Kinston. I learned that the rebels had burnt their iron clad ram and the bridge across the Neuse river at Kinston; also that they were retreating toward Goldsboro'. They retreated from our front, taking only such of their wounded as they thought likely to survive their injuries, leaving the worst cases and the dead for our forces to bury and otherwise care for. On my return to camp I found that Mr. Perry had obtained the enclosed list of wounded men from the front, whom he had cared for and seen properly and comfortably provided with blankets, and had a rich beef soup made of the beef stock furnished by the Commission, and every one had a tin cupful before being placed on the cars, after which he gave each one a cup of hot coffee and crackers. I also called on my return from the front at the hospital at Gum Swamp, where I found Dr. Weaver in charge, having seven wounded men from the front, and wishing for some relief, which was afforded him immediately, as he came to the depot, and I supplied his immediate wants from the stores of the Commission. To-night I go to bed for the first time since I came out here before two o'clock at night.

HEAD QUARTERS U. S. SAN. COM., IN THE FIELD, 6 MILES FROM COVE CREEK, N. C., *March* 12, 1865.

I wrote to you yesterday morning, quite early, a hasty note, which I forwarded by Dr. Wilson, Assistant Surgeon, 123d Indiana Vols., in charge of about thirty wounded and some 20 sick soldiers from the front.

I had on that day visited, in company with Captain Kimball, Chief Quartermaster, the headquarters of General Palmer, which is at the right of the line of defences. We

left our depot at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and arrived at headquarters about 12 noon. We heard heavy firing all the time, and on arriving near, we learned that the rebels, under Hoke, had made a desperate attempt to flank the left of the line of General Palmer's Division, but were repulsed with a severe loss in killed and wounded, and a few hundred prisoners, including one Lieutenant Colonel, and one of General Hoke's aid-de-camps.

While at headquarters a courrier arrived with a message from General Cox, commanding the 1st Division of the 23d Army Corps, saying that couriers had arrived at his (Cox's) headquarters, bringing intelligence from General Couch, commanding 2d Division of the 23d Corps, that he was at that time at Beaver Dam, moving from Wilmington on to Kinston. This intelligence was received with a hearty welcome, and doubled the assurance of the capture or annihilation of the rebel force so desperately struggling to break through our lines, if they did not retreat. .

I learned also that our loss during the day in killed and wounded, was not near as much as that of the enemy. The force opposed to us on our front, amounted to about 20,000, commanded by the rebel Generals Hoke, D. H. Hill, and S. P. Lee, well known in this region from his having made several unsuccessful attempts to drive the "hated Yankees" from Newbern. Seven consecutive charges were made on the fortifications at the right of the line, commanded by General Palmer. Every attack was repulsed with as much determination as it was made, and the rebels were obliged to retreat. At the last attack a portion of one rebel brigade was captured by our forces, which will partly compensate for the loss of one regiment, captured by them yesterday forenoon, that is as far as numbers of prisoners are concerned.

I also visited the division hospital, with Dr. P. B. Rice, the Division Surgeon. I met here Dr. Whitney, of the 18th Wisconsin Vols., and Drs. Whittier, 23d Mass. Vols., Holcomb, Surgeon, and Cowles, Assistant Surgeon 15th Conn. Vols., busily attending to the wounded as fast as they were brought in from the field of action.

Here I obtained from Dr. Rice a memorandum of what stores he was in pressing need; and as transportation is very limited to the front, and the roads in such a condition as to enable but about 1,200 or 1,500 lbs. of stores to be transported by one six mule team, I made the assortment to comprise the greatest variety possible, as you will see by a memorandum copy of the issues of to-day, which I send you, as follows:—100 handkerchiefs, 50 towels, 120 pairs socks, 96 cans condensed milk, 48 lbs. farina, 40 corn starch, 60 tomatoes, 60 beef-stock, 1 bbl. dried apples, 25 lbs. white sugar, 1 box lint, 1 bed tick, 1 bbl. old linen, 24 btls. whiskey, 2 bbls. crackers, 1 bbl. onions. Captain Kimball, Chief Quartermaster of this division, has promised me one army wagon to-morrow morning, which I shall load and send forward, and see that they reach their destination as soon as possible.

At 10 o'clock, P.M., I sent Mr. Perry with relief supplies to the division hospital at "Gum Swamp," 5 miles further up the road.

I have thus far obtained all the names of the wounded sent to this station, except some who have been sent to the general hospital at Newbern, via the county road to Cove Creek, in ambulances, passing a mile or more at the right of this station, and at times when I have not been apprised of the fact until too late to get the names; at any rate, I have sent you nearly all the names thus far of the wounded, to this date; with the nature and region of the wound, and the missile with which it was inflicted.

I have also attended to the placing these men on the cars, and supplying them with the necessary articles for their comfort during the transportation to Newbern general hospital; and many have been the heartfelt expressions of gratitude towards the Commission for the attention paid to them in their suffering. I have made long day's work for the time I have been here. Last night I was among the wounded all night, going to bed about 3 o'clock this morning; so it has been all along. I am not unwilling to sacrifice my own comfort for the relief of our gallant boys, who have fought so bravely and been the unfortunate ones to stop the deadly bullet of the rebel minions.

I shall write to you again to-morrow evening, and give you all the particulars I can obtain of the condition of affairs here and at the front.

This morning comes out clear and cool. The first pleasant day from the time that we established our depot at this point. I have called on the Quartermaster of the 1st Division of the 23d Army Corps, and made arrangements to send a load of sanitary

stores to Dr. Spurrier, Surgeon-in-Charge of that division.

I have visited the Division Hospital, 1st Division, District of Beaufort, at Gum Swamp, and furnished them with relief from our stores. Dr. Weaver, the Surgeon-in-Charge, has since called at our depot, and says he shall send all the wounded forward to-night to this station, to be sent to the general hospital at Newbern, and I have had made provision for their accommodation under shelter, until they can be forwarded.

We have heard some artillery firing in the direction of Kinston, at intervals during the forenoon, and couriers who arrive from the front, say that the rebels have destroyed a portion of the bridge across the river at Kinston, and are retreating towards Goldsboro', destroying the railroad as they go.

I also learn that General Couch's Division of the 23d Army Corps, from Wilmington, has formed a junction with the left of our line, in the rear of Kinston.

This forenoon, 260 rebel prisoners including one Lieutenant Colonel, and several other officers, were brought here under a strong guard from the front, to be taken to Newbern by railroad. Your visit to our station to-day, gave you the opportunity of seeing the condition of affairs at our depot.

I have to-night, at 11 o'clock, received a communication from Dr. Weaver, asking me to aid him in getting the wounded from Gum Swamp Station to Newbern general hospital; I have seen the conductor of the train, and he has promised to stop a car at a point three miles this side of the Swamp, and have them taken on and forwarded.

These wounded men, some 12 or 13 in all, have twice been started for this station in ambulances, but owing to the bad condition of the roads, were unable to proceed, and returned to the hospital; but to-night they have come from the main road across a new road to the railroad, at which point I have made arrangements to take them on the cars.

The addition of Mr. Rand to our present relief corps, in the field, has come just in the right time, as Mr. Perry and I have been taxed pretty severely, having been at work day and night for three days, and his arrival relieved us of a portion of the duty.

March 13, 1 *o'clock*, *A.M.*

The cars have just arrived from Newbern, heavily loaded with rations and pontoon bridges. I have seen the conductor, and made arrangements to take these men on the train, as they return to Newbern. At 5 o'clock the train started down the track, and when they arrived at our depot I supplied them with relief, and having had them all comfortably arranged in the cars, and seen them start off, properly cared for, and under the charge of Acting Hospital Steward ——, of the 132d N. Y. Vols., I went to our tent and lay down for an hour or two; after this short rest, I procured a six mule team from the quarter-master, and loaded it with an assortment of sanitary stores, and sent Mr. Perry in charge of it to the 1st Division, 23d Army Corps, Dr. Spurrier Surgeon-in-Charge. He left our depot at 11 o'clock, A.M. During the remainder of the day I was at the depot, making arrangements to move the tent and stores five miles further up the railroad, to Dover Station, and issuing a few minor articles of relief such as paper, envelopes, socks, shirts, &c., to some of the sick in the field relief hospital at this station. During the day I had some 100 letters left with me at the tent, to forward by mail, and as we have no mail carrier at this station, will it not be possible to make some arrangement by which we can have a mail-bag left with us each day, and forward these soldiers' letters to Newbern postoffice each day, as they accumulate. I think it will be a much needed service rendered by the Commission if it can be so arranged.

I have this evening made preparations, and packed our stores ready to strike the tent for removal just as soon as we can obtain transportation, which our quartermaster at this station informs me will be to-night or to-morrow morning.

Mr. Perry returned from the front at 11 o'clock, P.M., having walked some 12 miles, there being no means of transportation. He says that the division at the front will advance to-morrow morning some five miles nearer to Kinston, to await the arrival of the pontoon train, and then cross the Neuse at some point near, and occupy Kinston.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. SAN. COM.
IN THE FIELD, DOVER STATION, N. C.
March 14, 1865.

I have, as you will see, by the date of this letter, removed our depot some three miles nearer to the front; this being the terminus of the railroad to-day.

I took down our tent, and with the assistance of men from the quartermaster's guard, placed all our stores on the cars by

12 o'clock, M., when the train was backed six miles down the track to Cove Creek to obtain water for the engine, which being rather a slow process, we were at 3 o'clock again under headway for our new position at this station, where we arrived at five o'clock, P.M.

While Mr. Perry superintended the discharging of the stores from the cars, I proceeded to find a location in which to again set our tent which should be convenient to transportation, both by railroad and wagons. Having found a good location I had the tent set and the goods stowed away inside. Fortunately we had a fine day, and although it was well along into the evening, we succeeded in storing everything at about dark.

On my arrival at this station I found an ambulance train loaded with the wounded, sent in here this forenoon, with about eighty wounded soldiers from the Front Division Hospital 1st Div. 23d A. C. There were many very severely wounded cases among them, and as they had nothing to eat since morning, I immediately took a barrel of crackers from the cars and distributed them among all. This done, I consulted the surgeons in charge of them, Dr. Wilson, 123d Ind., and Dr. Garwood, as to what relief we could furnish to these men from the stores of the Commission. I learned from them that the most immediate want was blankets and stimulants while on the cars between here and Newbern, whither they were being taken to the General Hospital. As the men were placed on the cars each one was supplied with an extra blanket. I also sent candles, lanterns and stimulants to the surgeons to use in the transportation to Newbern, and when the cars left the station all were provided for and made comfortable.

Just before the cars left I learned that there were several very sick men from the 3d Div. (Couch's) of the 23d A. C., who had been sent in from the front and placed in an old house near our quarters. I immediately went to the house, and there I found twenty-three men, lying on the floor, some without and some with blankets, without any attendant whatever. They told me that they were left there this forenoon, and some of them had nothing to eat or drink since they left their hospital this morning. I went to our tent, had some hot coffee prepared for them, and took a pailful of crackers and carried them to these men, also took blankets to cover those who had none. I found here one case of measles, three very sick of typhoid fever, two who were completely paralyzed and unable to even turn over without help, and the remainder were cases of remittent fever and diarrhœa or rheumatism. I had them all properly cared for according to my best judgment, and left them to sleep or rest, intending to call at 11 o'clock and see them again before I went to bed, as I did, when I found some sleeping quietly, while others too sick to rest or sleep on so hard a bed without some medical assistance or medicine. I again supplied them with good drinking water, and fixed each one anew in his bed, and bade them good night, promising to see them early in the morning, and to make arrangements to send them to Newbern by the first train of cars. This quieted their fears of being left here to take care of themselves; and they all thanked me for my attention to them, and seemed to feel as though they had one friend, (the Sanitary Commission), so I heard one of them say.

I went to our tent, and had just layed down when I heard some one call at our door, to know if we were all asleep.

I turned out and found it was Assistant Surgeon Platt, of the 140th Ohio Volunteers, who had been detailed to come in from the front to attend to these poor fellows, and ship them to Newbern immediately. He thanked me very kindly in the name of his Division Surgeon for the attention I had paid to them, and after going with him again through this house and learning that nothing more could be done for them at present than I had already done, I left him, and went to bed at nearly 1 o'clock on the morning of March 15th.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. SAN. COM. IN THE FIELD,
AT DOVER STATION, NEAR KINSTON,
March 15, 1865.

This morning is clear and fine. I have been engaged in assorting our stores and arranging them in our tent. I also have had a rich soup made for the sick men spoken of in my letter of last night. I also had each man furnished with soap, towels and water, or had them washed, and gave them a clean suit of under-clothing, after which they all seemed to feel very much better, and were ready to be put on the cars for transportation to the General Hospital at Newbern.

During the forenoon, Chaplain Bayles, of 16th Kentucky Vols., in charge of the Corps Hospital 3d Div. 23d A. C., to which

these men belong, called at the tent, having coming in on purpose for sanitary stores, and on learning what I had done for these men, he thanked me very kindly in behalf of the Division Surgeon, as well as the whole command, saying that he did not know what would have become of the poor fellows, had they not been relieved by the attentions of the previous evening. He also expressed his highest appreciation of the Sanitary Commission, and has offered to assist me in obtaining transportation to the front, by volunteering the services of his train of hospital wagons under his command. I shall try and secure this opportunity to push forward to Kinston immediately.

I have sent a few stores to the 2d Brigade of the 1st Division; also, have been able to supply some relief to the needy at this station.

The sick were all sent to Newbern this evening; a list of which I forwarded in my letter of yesterday.

A wounded man from Capt. Graham's company arrived at the tent just at dark, he was dumped on the railroad about a mile from here by the ambulance driver, and obliged to walk here. I received a telegram from Dr. Rice to look out for him and put a bandage on his wound, which I did and kept him in the tent until the cars left. He seemed to suffer some pain from having to walk so long a distance to this station on the railroad.

The wounded man referred to is now in the General Hospital here in Newbern, and is doing well. J. W. P.

WOMAN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF.

MONTHLY REPORT—NO. X.

Our report for the month of March is 239 packages received, 470 packages distributed. Of these there have been sent to City Point, for the armies operating against Richmond, 357 packages; to Norfolk, Va., 24 packages; to Washington, 1; Newbern, N. C., 10; Beaufort, S. C., 39; New Orleans, 21; Portsmouth Grove, R. I., 1; U. S. Navy, 1; five hospitals in and near New York city, 15; "Special Relief," 1.

Since we last wrote, we have to congratulate our friends upon the capture of Richmond—the capitol of the late Southern Confederacy. The good news, coming to us yesterday, is too recent, the joy and thankfulness too deep for many words, as yet. We meet our friends, we shake hands, we say: "Yes, it is indeed good news—thank God!" That is all. And we try to realize what it means, and why it is that this victory is so much more to us than any other victory, and we look back and count over the battles of the four years, and remember how we felt after each one of them, and feel this to be very different from any of the others. And we wander off into thoughts of peace, of a time when there will be no more fighting, no more prisoners, no more anxiety, of a time when body and spirit can rest from the thought-pressure of physical suffering—how strange!

"I suppose you are very busy so-day, sending off everything," says a voice at our elbow, recalling us from dream-land to the practical realities—the poetical realities often—of No. 10 Cooper Union. "No, not particularly busy just now—we *were* very busy last week and a fortnight ago, shipping supplies to City Point, in anticipation of these battles. More than three-quarters of all we sent off during the past month went there. Here are the invoices of those consignments. Naming only the most important articles, we find 10,020 flannel shirts, 8,129 pairs flannel drawers, 11,994 pairs cotton drawers, 981 pairs of socks, 282 pillows, nearly 200 bed quilts, and 1,200 cans lemonade. Besides these, large quantities of supplies, which we could not furnish, have been purchased and sent from the Central office of the Commission. This morning a telegram from City Points tells us that the store houses of the Commission are full, and that everything is being done for the wounded. It is a great relief to know this. Were it not for the steady work of the Soldiers' Aid Societies, working, as they do, month in and month out, with or without any special excitement, we could never have been so prepared for this emergency, could never have had these supplies on the very spot, and at the very moment when they are so much needed." "And what is your work for this week?" "Our receipts will be larger than usual, they always are after a battle, and we are thankful that it is so. They will keep us busy. We shall also, most probably, make large shipments, but whether to go up the James River to Richmond, or to some point on the coast for Sherman's army, we do not know—have not yet received the requisition from the Central office."

You may have noticed that our distributions for both February and March largely

exceed the receipts for those two months. Owing to the comparative inactivity last winter of the armies at the East, we were able to accumulate a large stock on hand, and it is this reserve stock we are now drawing upon, and which enables us to meet the very heavy demands for this spring's campaign.

How much longer the need for our efforts may continue, we do not yet know. We do know that when the time comes for us to stop working, the Commission will apprise us. Until then we hope the work will not be allowed to slacken.

For the Committee on Correspondence.

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER,
Chairman.

NEW YORK, 7 COOPER UNION,
April 4, 1865.

A WEEK IN ANNAPOLIS.

Extracts from the Journal of Mrs. H——, Visiting the Prisoners.

ANNAPOLIS, *March* 25.

MY DEAR MRS. G.:—The few days we have been here we have been fully occupied in acting as "Hospital Visitors." Perhaps a few incidents, taken from the daily entries in my note book, may give you a better insight into our work.

The very first thing that attracted our notice, the morning after our arrival, was a train of ambulances passing the San. Com. office, carrying the dead to the cemetery. We followed on after them, the bodies in the first and last ambulance are covered with the flag, under whose folds they have so often battled bravely. The ambulances, the guard following the procession, carrying 19 coffins moved on into the Soldiers' Cemetery, and there, with the burial-service said for all, we saw them laid to rest.

It seems to me but right, that on each prisoner's head-board should be inscribed, "STARVED TO DEATH;" that in time to come, Southern chivalry may see and know what they have done.

The remainder of that day we spent at St. John's College Hospital. In the 1st ward we found an old gentleman from Ohio, watching by the bedside of his only child, the last of six, as he said. The rebels captured and murdered his other sons the past summer, and this one was all he had. The boy, though starved, is doing well, probably may live.

In the last arrival came a skeleton-looking boy who seemed to grieve sadly over his younger brother, who died before reaching the cars; he said they had 3 miles to march, his brother was too sick to walk, so he took him upon his back and carried him two miles, when he found that his strength was so entirely gone that he was obliged to lay him down to rest awhile. When he started again, he found he could not move any further, and laid him upon the ground. The boy reached up towards him, put his arms around his neck and died directly, and there he was obliged to leave him, while he tottered on himself to the cars. Steward Newman, of the 5th Michigan cavalry, told us of a father who coming to look for his son, arrived two hours after his death! He was the last of seven sons, who had fallen in the service; four died in rebel prisons, and the fifth soon after he landed.

While Newman was prisoner at Florence, he entered his name in three different squads, that he might draw rations for 3 men,—he was so starved and desperate that he was willing to run the risk of being detected and of receiving 100 lashes, which he knew would be the penalty. At thanksgiving, the rebels found they were tunnelling out somewhere, and because they would not tell, gave them no food for eighty hours.

A little German boy had been so low with scurvy that his palate dropped off. At Anderson he laid for two days beside a dead man that he might draw his rations.

ANNAPOLIS, *March* 27.

The more I see of the "Sanitary Home and its working, the more inclined I am to say with a woman from Mass., "that it is the best and noblest institution she ever heard of." She came, a stranger, looking for her boy; was aided in her search, and to-day found his Bible, his father's likeness, and a few other treasures, and then upon the record read his death on the 14th. He was too weak to speak plainly, and so they had not his name correctly, but the articles belonged to him, and that was enough.

Yesterday there were two mothers here, mourning for their dead. One, from New York, had been an inmate of "The Home" for six months, waiting upon her wounded son, a returned prisoner. He was her only child, and yesterday, after so many weeks of suffering and of agony, calmly and gently "slept the sleep that knows no waking." The other, an English woman, from German-

town, Pa., who arrived two hours after her son was buried,—"he was her only son, and she was a widow." She bears it all so beautifully, submitting as only a Christian can. The whole house is interested in her, and her expressions of grateful appreciation of the kindness received through the Sanitary Commission are most touching.

ANNAPOLIS "SANITARY HOME," *March* 29.

Yesterday I had the privilege of assisting in some sanitary work so very gratifying to me, that I cannot but write immediately to tell you of it. Major Howes permitted us to take part in the distribution of sanitary articles, as they are given out at the "College Green Barracks." First in order comes the long line of men, 1,400 in all; each man with his new cup, plate, knife, fork and spoon; they march on to the kitchen window, where each in turn has his cup filled with soup, and receives one-half loaf of bread, and a mess of cabbage. Some few would stop to taste the savory dinner before they wished to move; but the guard or attendants in the kitchen would call out, "Hurry up men, double-quick!" and the loiterer would be reminded that other men wanted dinner; and so they passed on in the same orderly manner coming up in the line to the Sanitary storehouse, where was given to them thread, needles, combs, envelope, with sheet of paper nicely folded in it; towels, soap and water in abundance to be found at the bathing house. They all looked, and I have no doubt, were pleased. Many "thank you's" were said heartily, blended often with more soldier-like phrases, such as "that's bully, just what I was looking for;" and several remarked, "Boys, wouldn't we like the rebs to see this?" "The folks do care for us at home," "Good dessert this!" and so, a hurried, ofttimes merry conversation was kept up with the moving line, such as "Where do you come from, State and corps?" "Old 2d of Pennsylvania." "Ah! all right, that's mine;" or, "Where do you belong, cavalry?" from a lady on my right; if the answer came "Michigan," which it often did, the response would be, "The 1st or 5th is a brave regiment, is it not, and your General (Custer) just as brave?" "That he is lady," from the soldier. And then the lady on my left would enquire, "You are a Yankee boy, I know?" "Yes, Boston, ma'am." Two stalwart looking fellows answered to the query, "California;" a goodly specimen of the country, though now showing rebel care and treatment. One of our valued agents found a few that replied "England," whom he saw in the ranks from his island home. In about two hours, the crowd had all been supplied, and were scattered. As an ending to such a pleasant day's work, I must give you an extract from a note which I have just received from the wife of the Assistant Adjutant General, Mrs. G——, who was one of our party. She says: "Accept my thanks for the agreeable manner in which I spent yesterday morning, and believe me more devotedly the friend of the Sanitary Commission than ever. Heaven prosper the noble work and all who are engaged in it. Its deeds of charity are among the few rays of light which pierce the dark shadows of war. They will ever be a beloved memory, both to recipients and donors."

Mrs. G.'s husband came here a prisoner, wearing some Sanitary clothing, which had reached him in his far-off prison; so she feels the value of this noble work. * * *

A Maryland infantry boy, belonging to the 9th corps, was a prisoner eight months, had had a furlough, and was now back again ready for duty—had asked to be sent front, saying, "The rebels had boarded him eight months, and he was anxious to go back to settle his bill of fare."

ANNAPOLIS, *March* 29.

The arrival of a boat with returned prisoners, is the signal for every one to rush to the landing; following the crowd, we came to the wharf just in time to see the unsteady column begin to move from the vessel. On board, the Hospital Band is playing cheerful strains of welcome, and they come ashore to the sound of music.

> "Back to the North where the air is free,
> Back from the land of pain."

Tottering and feeble, bronzed and smoke-blackened, tangled hair and matted beards, some in rebel garb, many barefooted and bareheaded, the majority clothed in shirt and drawers furnished by the Sanitary Commission in Wilmington, a few fortunate possessors of a blanket; this is the walking party, but such walking. It was more than some of them could do to move, and so they gave it up, and as the line of stretcher-bearers followed in their wake, were added to the list.

Sorry plight, for 300 brave men to come from Southern care. They are martyrs for

the nation—patient and uncomplaining. They do not blame the Government. They censure no one. In all the precious lives lost to friends and home, and the wrecks of noble soldiers yet remaining, is not the hand of God seen? The costly offering was asked for and given, that the nation might be saved, and that distant lands might learn to what refinements of cruelty, SLAVERY had educated a people.

In a previous arrival, a man was noticed straining his eyes towards the shore, and as they neared the wharf was among the first to press forward to leave the vessel. He walked along the plank, eagerly looking in the distance, a few feeble steps upon our soil, and then fell dead; his wish gratified—he died at home. When taken to the Hospital they are bathed, hair and beard trimmed, have clean clothes put on them, and are laid on good comfortable beds. When, a few hours later, we saw them, we could not recognize the squalid crowd we had so lately seen. The Sanitary Commission has no nobler, better work carried on than this "Home." From this quiet place will go out an influence to be felt in States, near and remote. Whoever has been here cannot but be a worker for the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

ANDERSONVILLE PRISONERS.

CAIRO, *April* 5, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY:

DEAR SIR—Enclosed please find copy of letter from Mr. Brown, giving some idea of the condition of our poor soldiers from Andersonville. I trust the shipments already made will relieve them until further shipments can be made.

I have notice of a shipment from Detroit, also from Milwaukee, on receipt of your telegrams to each.

I have, to-day, made shipment in addition to one made on the 2d inst. Since my last report to you, I have advices of two carloads, on the way from Chicago. Hope to be able to keep them supplied.

Very respectfully, yours,

C. N. SHIPMAN,
Agent U. S. San. Com.

VICKSBURG, *March* 30, 1865.

MR. C. N. SHIPMAN:

DEAR SIR—I have just received the supplies invoiced to us on the 24th inst. All right! Many thanks. I can assure you the goods are needed, and more, too. I doubt whether there has been a more distressed looking set of men since the war began, than those now coming in from Andersonville. Many are dying on the way, and others are just able to get into what they call "God's country" to die. Six were buried at Black River, last evening, and two more died on the cars, coming in from there. Out of a squad of a hundred and twenty-five that reached Black River yesterday morning, almost every man is suffering from scurvy. About five hundred came in from Black River this morning, making about forty-five hundred in all. Several thousand more are coming, so that there is no danger of our getting too many sanitary stores on hand here. I hope I shall get the goods invoiced on the 25th instant, soon. We need the crackers. Vegetables are needed very much.

The hospital boat, R. C. Wood, is here loading with sick for Northern hospitals. I will write again soon.

Very truly, yours,

J. G. BROWN.

From the Sanitary Reporter, March 15.

SUPPLIES.

The accompanying papers from some of the military and medical authorities, will show how eager the call for vegetables is in the Army of the Cumberland. The Commission has already sent forward large supplies of potatoes, kraut and pickles, and will continue to send all it can obtain from the contributions of auxiliary societies and by direct purchase. The branches at the West will, no doubt, respond generously to the appeal made to them.

So many new recruits are going to the army, that the hospitals are beginning to fill up again, and all sorts of supplies will be most acceptable. Word comes from the principal distributing depots, that the wants of the soldiers are large and pressing, and that the Commission must keep up a largely increased stock of articles to correspond to the increasing numbers of troops.

Let there be good preparation for the spring campaign, and *let what is to be done, be done at once.*

HEADQUARTERS DEP'T OF THE CUMBERLAND,
MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,
NASHVILLE, TENN., *Feb.* 28, 1865.

SIR—It is represented that the troops of the cavalry corps, stationed at and near Eastport, Miss., are in need of vegetables and sanitary supplies of that kind. Such

as were sent some time since were taken by Major General A. J. Smith's command, *en route* to New Orleans. Will you please see that supplies of the kind needed are sent as soon as possible?

Very resp'y, your obd't servant,

GEORGE E. COOPER,
Surgeon U. S. Army Medical Director.

Judge Root, Agent U. S. S. C., Nashville, Tennessee.

HEADQUARTERS CAV. CORPS, MIL. DIV. MISS., GRAVELLY SPRINGS, ALA., *Feb.* 16, 1865.

Special Orders No. 31.

EXTRACT.

Major Lusk, 10th Mo. cavalry, is hereby authorized to proceed to Louisville, Ky., on duty connected with the U. S. Sanitary Commission. Quartermaster General will furnish the necessary transportation on chartered transports.

On completion of his business he will return without delay to his command.

By command of Brevet Major General Wilson. E. B. BEAUMONT,
Major and A. A. G.

HEADQUARTERS CAV. CORPS, MIL. DIV. MISS., GRAVELLY SPRINGS, ALA., *Feb.* 17, 1865.

DEAR SIR—The bearer hereof is Major Lusk, of this corps, whom I desire to introduce to you. Major General Wilson has directed Major Lusk to proceed to Louisville for the purpose of procuring sanitary supplies of an anti-scorbutic character. The articles most required are potatoes, kraut and pickles; clothing and stimulants we do not need.

The number of troops in this region is about ——. If you can consistently give us a liberal supply of the articles mentioned, I believe much sickness will be prevented thereby.

I am, sir, very resp'y, your obd't serv't,

F. SALTER,
Surgeon U. S. V., and M. D. Cav. Corps, M. D. M.

Dr. Newberry, U. S. S. C., Louisville, Ky.

HEADQUARTERS DEP'T OF THE CUMBERLAND, MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE, NASHVILLE, TENN., *March* 1, 1865.

SIR—There are —— troops in and about Chattanooga, and in and about Knoxville, who are requiring sanitary supplies—*vegetables.* Can you make it convenient to furnish the same?

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE E. COOPER,
Surgeon U. S. V., Medical Director.

Judge Root, Agent U. S. S. C., Nashville, Tennessee.

HEADQUARTERS 1ST DIVISION CAVALRY CORPS, WATERLOO, ALA., *Feb.* 20, 1865.

DEAR SIR—I am compelled by the actual need of vegetables in this command, to ask you to send us a quantity of potatoes and onions, if you have the supply on hand. Our cavalry numbers in the neighborhood of —— men, that can be reached by sending a boat to Eastport. Our division numbers ——. If you could not ship for the whole corps, please ship what you can for this division, and I will see to their distribution. We are much in want of vegetable food, and while the command is lying in camp is the time to prepare our men for active operations, and good health is what is most needed.

Please ship to George E. Sloat, Surgeon in Chief 1st Division Cavalry Corps, Military Division, Mississippi.

Very respectfully, your obd't servant,

GEORGE E. SLOAT,
Surgeon in Chief 1st Division.

Dr. J. S. Newberry, Sec. S. C., Louisville, Ky.

From Sanitary Reporter, March 15.

DEPARTMENTS OF THE MISSISSIPPI AND ARKANSAS.

In looking over the Sanitary work in these departments for the past four months, though there have been no demands for the exigencies of great battles as in other departments, and therefore there is nothing to attract the public eye, nothing to create the intense interest which always concentrates about large numbers of wounded men; still to those who examine the real demands to be supplied, in order to *prevent* disease, to keep up the efficiency of the army, and to add to the comfort of the soldiers, the work assumes a magnitude and an importance which can hardly be estimated.

The field embraces the whole of the Mississippi River from Cairo to New Orleans, and the State of Arkansas, with all of the "homes" or "lodges" for soldiers, the hospitals, garrisons, camps, and troops in the field, and all the Naval vessels of the Mississippi, White, and Arkansas rivers.

There are in the department, including Cairo, but eight paid agents of the Commission, viz: One Inspector, two Superintendents of homes or lodges, one Hospital Visitor, and four General Relief Agents; at each station there are more or less detailed soldiers to assist in the work.

During the year ending Dec. 31st, 1864,

the issues from this depot, Memphis, alone amounted to one hundred and sixty thousand dollars, the value being estimated at the wholesale cost in northern markets. This does not include the thousands of little articles contributed by individuals for the comfort of the soldiers, and which, though it is impossible to estimate their value in money, add much to the real value of the work.

During the last four months the work has been more than in any of the four months of the year preceding, though at present the cash value cannot be estimated. From causes beyond the control of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, the interior Posts of Arkansas, such as Duvall's Bluff, Brownsville, Little Rock, Pine Bluff, and Fort Smith, have not received the attention which was demanded; but since Nov. 1, 1864, all these Posts, hospitals, garrisons, and camps have been supplied with vegetables, both fresh and pickled, clothing and hospital supplies as the means of the Commission would warrant, and it is most gratifying to know that now there is little real suffering for the want of anything the Commission can furnish.

The hospitals in this city, Vicksburg, Natchez, Helena, Duvall's Bluff, Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Brownsville, and Fort Smith are kept supplied, as far as transportation can be had. Every naval vessel in the river receives a generous supply. Thousands of troops *in transitu* call at Cairo, Memphis, Vicksburg, and other points, and get clothing, vegetables dried fruit, concentrated milk, stimulants, &c.

Within the past few months the whole field has been thoroughly explored and every hospital and garrison visited, and the exact wants of each are shown. The Inspector of the department is kept advised of the average number of troops at each station, both in the garrisons and hospitals, so that he can draw orders on the Commission for what is wanted; and now, a trusted and long-tried agent of the Commission, D. B. Carpenter, has gone with supplies with the army operating in the extreme South. The friends of the Commission may rest assured that, so far as their agents have the means at their disposal, no want shall go unsupplied; and it is thankfully acknowledged that the supplies on hand have often been greater than transportation could be had for; still, it is but just to say, that without one exception, the army Quartermasters have always afforded all the facilities in their power, and but one military commander has ever given the Commission the "cold shoulder." With this one exception the commanders have acknowledged the great good done by the Commission, and to Major-Generals Washburn, Steel, Hurlburt, and Buford, the Commission is deeply indebted for kindness sknown.

The opening of the Spring campaign admonishes us that we have a great work to do the present season; but we rejoice to feel that we can rely with confidence on *the people of the North.* The army is theirs, the work is theirs, and their whole heart is in it. Letters of cheer are constantly coming from Boston, from Buffalo, from Milwaukee, extreme points of our great country—the East calls to the West, asking, "What do you need?" One noble woman who has from the first been one of the most constant and indefatigable workers, and who has traveled from one end of the land to the other, writes, "How can we spend our money to the best advantage?" The least we can do is to tell them where these benefactions go, and assure them of the good accomplished.

BENJ. WOODWARD,
Supt. Dep't.

From the Cincinnati Gazette.

EXPLOSION OF STEAMER ECLIPSE.

PADUCAH, Ky., *Feb.* 8.

Eds. Gazette:—The undersigned having received invaluable assistance from the agents of the U. S. Sanitary Commission at this place, during the time that the unfortunate sufferers from the explosion of the steamer Eclipse were on our hands, would respectfully, through the medium of your paper, desire to return thanks to the said Commission and its agents, Messrs. E. D. Way, L. Owen, D. C. Petty, and T. E. Horton. These gentlemen labored with unremitting ardor from early morning to late at night, in cooking and distributing coffee, soups, &c., to the sick, and furnishing the surgeons with rags, bandages, towels, and such other necessaries in the shape of dressings as we required. Twenty minutes after the boat temporarily used as a hospital steamer arrived at our wharf, they were on board with their cauldron of boiling coffee and rich soup, ready to distribute it to the men, many of whom had not tasted food since the night before. Indiana owes these gentlemen a debt of gratitude for the exemplary way in which they acquitted themselves of their stewardship.

Requesting insertion for this, in order to show our appreciation of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, we are,

Very respectfully yours,

HENRY W. DAVIS,
Surgeon U. S. Vols., and Medical Director, Dist. of Western Kentucky.

SOL. B. WOLFF,
Surgeon 181st Ohio Vols., Post Surgeon.

KNOXVILLE, TENN., *March* 24, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY:
Sec'ry Western Department U. S. San. Com.

DEAR SIR:—As I have already notified you by letter and telegram, I left Chattanooga yesterday morning for a brief visit to this post. This seemed to be imperatively demanded from the fact that after starting two car loads of stores for Knoxville, I learned by letter from Mr. Gardner, Agent in charge here, that he had gone on to the front with Gen. Gillam's command, to make out lists of casualties, if an engagement should occur. He left a young man, William Lupendon, of Co. B, 103d O. V. I., in charge of the rooms, who was fully qualified for the work with the small supply of stores on hand; but it was evident that an authorized agent should be at the post to give directions in regard to the goods just shipped.

On reaching Knoxville, I found William also gone. Receiving notice of the shipment, he made preparations to receive it, and worked all day on the 22d to get the stores to the rooms. He labored hard, and too hard, but seemed well, and made no complaint. On the morning of the 23d, not appearing at breakfast, search was made for him, and he was found at his room on his cot insensible, in a moribund condition, and died in about thirty minutes after he was found. Dr. Curtiss, Medical Director, and other surgeons made every effort to save him, but without avail. They will report, after examination, on the cause of his death, which is yet uncertain.

I find by a letter from his mother, left upon his table, that he lived at Cleveland, Ohio; that his pay was carefully saved and deposited in bank to enable him to get an education when the time of his enlistment had expired. A well worn Greek Grammar and many other evidences of his studious habits are to be found on his table. I was not personally acquainted with him, but the surgeons and all who have met him at the rooms, speak in the highest terms of his noble and manly character.

Under the circumstances, though needed at Chattanooga, I shall feel compelled to remain here until Mr. Gardner returns, or the help from Louisville, for which I have telegraphed, is received.

This post has largely increased in importance. A large army is pushing its way Eastward, and a large supply of stores and at least three first class men are needed at once; one to stay here, receive stores, issue here and ship to the front; one to remain in the field, visiting the different commands, ascertaining their wants, and reporting to the office here; the third to pass backwards and forwards upon the railroad, taking charge of shipments, and, perhaps, keeping up a depot at the terminal station.

Although particularly interested in the post of Chattanooga, as it is specially under my charge, I feel constrained to report that this depot needs, and probably for some time will need, a larger supply of sanitary stores than that. It seems to me, also, that it is of more importance than ever before, that there should be some one man in the field, who can frequently visit all the posts from Louisville to Knoxville, and then to the East of Knoxville and to the South of Chattanooga, and report upon the comparative wants of each. I can see no other way in which an impartial distribution of the gifts of the people can be made.

The benefit which the armies in this department have received from the Commission through the special efforts which have been made from time to time to furnish vegetables in large quantities, so that they could be distributed to all, whether sick or well, can never be over-estimated; and at no time has there been, as I am well persuaded, more reason for such an effort than now. The army has had an unusually active winter campaign. The country through which it has moved and is likely to move, is stripped of supplies, detached and convalescent men have been gathered up from all quarters and sent to their commands. Large numbers of new troops unaccustomed to the hardships and privations of army life, have just taken the field. For a long time no antiscorbutics, or no adequate supply of them have been distributed, and cases of scurvy are by no means rare. I fear that the cheering prospect of an early peace is diminishing the zeal of the army of work-

ers at home, but hope it will rather increase their zeal. We may be disappointed in these hopes, but if fortunately we are not, I trust that the soldiers in the field will have occasion to feel that their friends at home have remembered and loved them unto the end, and that the last campaign will witness such an overflowing supply of sanitary stores as will demonstrate that the army and the people are one.

We have to-day made a large issue of stores to the Asylum Hospital, and I have been able to visit with Dr. Mencham, the Surgeon in charge, several of the wards, the kitchens, dining rooms, bakery, commissary rooms, &c. It has, in round numbers, —— patients, mostly in tents, who are evidently doing well, look cheerful, and are well provided for. The arrangements and condition of the hospital are excellent. The highest possible meed of praise is certainly due to the Surgeon in charge and to Dr. Curtiss, the Medical Director of the post, for their successful efforts in providing for the comfort of their sick. They have been left, with an inadequate medical force, to rely almost entirely on their own resources in providing for the sick. At this distant post, with communication frequently interrupted, the commissary and the Commission have been able to furnish but a meagre and fitful supply of hospital stores. Almost their sole reliance has been upon the country, and they have scoured it far and near for articles of diet. Apples, green and dried; potatoes, butter, milk, eggs (from 80 to 100 dozen a day), chickens, &c., have been thus obtained, not, perhaps, in as large quantities as have been needed, but in quantities as large as are often obtained for hospitals of the same capacity in the most favored locations. But the supply from this source cannot be kept up. The potatoes obtained are of an inferior quality, and it would be very ungenerous as well as unjust to practically say to those gentlemen, you are so faithful and energetic that you do not need our help.

This hospital has received the patients from the others which have been successively broken up, but there is a demand for more room, and another large hospital is to be immediately opened. For both of these and for the front, I cannot make too urgent an appeal, asking you, however, not to forget Chattanooga while sending bountiful supplies here. Yours very truly,

M. C. READ,
Agent at Chattanooga.

THE FAR WEST.

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, *April* 1, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Secretary U. S. Sanitary Commission West. Dep't.

SIR :—I have the honor to transmit herewith my report of receipts and disbursements for the month of March, and beg leave to call your attention to the remarks* made thereon. From the large number of hospitals depending on this post, and their great distance, you will see that it is impossible for me to make personal visits to them all. I enclose a letter from Andrew J. Willey, Surgeon in charge of Post Hospital at Cottonwood Springs, Nebraska Territory, which is but a sample of many I receive from those distant posts. I am often unable to fill requisitions for want of transportation. Frequently, when it is offered, my assortment is so broken that I am unable to send the articles most needed. My supply of clothing is sufficient for the present, but I greatly need antiscrobutics and dietary articles.

My health has been bad for the past month, and I respectfully request leave of absence for thirty days, to recuperate.

Respectfully, your ob't ser't,
J. R. BROWN.

* The following is a list of hospitals depending upon this post for sanitary supplies :—Lawrence, Olathe, Salina, Mound City, Paola, Humbolt, Fort Riley, Fort Zarah, Omaba, Dacotah, Cottonwood, Columbus, Fort Kearney, Plumb Creek, Junction Station, Fort Rankin, Denver City, Fort Scott, and Fort Leavenworth, with an aggregate of —— sick, as shown by last week's report to Medical Director Davis.

Up to this time all the transportation has been used in carrying supplies to the army, and several requisitions made upon me for sanitary supplies have not been filled. The Medical Director says that very soon transportation will be furnished for all supplies that I can send to these extreme western points, and that the necessary comfort for the sick can be procured in no other way.

As soon as transportation is furnished, my assortment of stores will be inadequate to the demand. You will see by the report the articles that I am most in need of.

I am also in receipt of a requisition from Salt Lake City for antiscrobutics, &c., which I would like to fill if they could be furnished in a compact form, and by the middle of May.

AID TO VICTIMS OF SOUTHERN BARBARITY.

VICKSBURG, MISS., *April* 2, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY.
Secretary U. S. Sanitary Commission.

I arrived here late last night, and find that our stores have not reached here any too soon. There are now in camp four miles from here about 4,000 prisoners, and more are coming in every day. Those who came in first were from Cahawba, and were in much better condition than those now coming in, who are from Andersonville. The latter are in a very feeble and distressing condition, every train containing more or less who have died upon the road. Yesterday an ambulance came in which started from Jackson with four sick men, and when it arrived they were all dead. Large trains of ambulances are running between Black River and Jackson, bringing those who are too feeble to walk. The city hospitals are being emptied to make room for them, and every thing is being done that can be done, but still many will die, for the succour has come too late.

It is expected that between ten and fifteen thousand men will be brought here, and they will be several weeks coming in. They are neither exchanged nor paroled, but are still under the control of a rebel officer, (Col. Henderson, I believe), who is at the camp.

I visited Gen. Morgan L. Smith this morning, and he promised me every facility and assistance, placing laborers, teams and a guard at my disposal. The supplies which I have will last for some days, but will need large additions, especially of kraut and onions if they can be procured. I would also urge that a large quantity of tobacco be sent, as it will be most gratefully received. The men have not been, and cannot be paid. They are greedy, ravenous for tobacco; and, famished as they are, are willing to trade a part of their rations for it. Several hundred pounds have already been donated by the citizens, but it hardly gave them a day's supply. I think no better expenditure could be made than to purchase three or four thousand pounds of tobacco, both chewing and smoking, and a few boxes of clay pipes. The camp is in the midst of a cane country, where plenty of stems can be procured. Mr. Brown tells me there is also a great call for suspenders. None are furnished by Government, and in their weak and emaciated condition the men cannot bear to have their pants buckled tightly about them.

I learn also that there is great need of a feeding station at Black River crossing, and shall make an effort to start one there to-morrow, as we have all the necessary appliances. Mr. Johnson is an experienced hand at that business, and will be just the man to take charge of it. I do not think we shall need any more clothing, unless it be socks, of which we have very few. Col. Noble, of the 17th Connecticut, delivered a lecture here last night, in which he stated that there were men on their way here who have not had a shirt on their backs for more than twelve months. Their only article of clothing is a piece of blanket tied about the loins, and their bodies are so dried and blackened by smoke that you cannot tell whether they were originally white or black.

I have not yet been to the camp, but shall go with a supply of stores to-morrow morning, and will keep you informed of anything I may see.

Hoping soon to hear from you in the way of a supply of kraut, onions, tobacco, &c., I remain, Very respectfully,

H. TONE.

P. S.—I find there is a great scarcity of *towels* here, and they are badly needed.

THE UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION AT CITY POINT, VA.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISISON,
WASHINGTON, *April* 6, 1865.

To the Standing Committee of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

GENTLEMEN:—The eventful week in the experience of the armies of the Potomac and James has found the Commission prepared to do its proper work with those armies.

On the 4th inst. the schooner *Baltimore* reached City Point with an assorted cargo of supplies, and another left New York on the 3d inst. As a measure of precaution, I have ordered another consignment of stores, similar to the last sent from New York. From City Point but one application for supplies has been received, and that but for two articles, bandages and arm-slings. The Journal of the 3d inst. states our losses in Sunday's fight to be comparatively slight. The wagons of the Commision with the Twenty-fifth Corps, accompanied it into Richmond; one of the Ninth Corps wagons entered Petersburg on the 3d with the hospital train of the 2d Division, and our agents under J. Warner Johnson, with wagons and stores, are with the moving column in pursuit of Lee.

There has been no call for additional assistance. Not less than fifty well qualified persons, selected with care for this work, await a call to the field.

It is believed that City Point will remain a base of supplies to the armies, and that the depot hospitals will be maintained there.

I have just received a letter from Mr. Harris, written yesterday, which says: "The demand on us for stores has been large, but with the ample stock on hand we have been able to meet all necessities."

Dr. McDonald accompanied the President's party to Richmond on the 4th inst., by boat to Varina, thence by horse.

The number of persons in the service of the Commission with the armies operating against Richmond was on April 1,100, and has not yet been materially increased.

The accompanying list of articles sent to City Point since Feb. 1, will indicate the character of the provision made for the present emergency.

Very respectfully,

J. FOSTER JENKINS,
General Secretary.

Blankets	1100	Ink, bottles	3608
Candles, lbs	1400	Writing-paper, reams	510
Cushions	2000	Ale, bottles	1832
Dippers	236	Dried apples, bbls	35
Head-rests	100	Blackberry cord'l, bots	1632
Knives and forks, doz.	120	Canned meat, lbs	6336
Pails	360	Condensed egg, lbs	200
Lanterns	120	Cond'sed lemonade, pgs	2280
Pillows	800	Small dried fruit, lbs.	1000
Pipes, boxes	39	Chocolate, lbs	2900
Quilts	500	Ground coffee, bbls	2
Towels	24000	Condensed milk, lbs	9600
Tin cups	6000	Crackers, bbls	350
Tin plates, gross	21	Corn starch, lbs	4400
Spoons, doz	360	Jamaica ginger, bots	14400
Drawers, cotton, pairs.	2000	Farina, lbs	5950
Drawers, woolen, pairs	18000	Lemons, boxes	25
Handkerchiefs	22000	Maizena, lbs	2000
Mittens, pairs	14200	Pickles, kegs	75
Shirts, cotton, hospital	2684	Sugar, white, bbls	25
Shirts, woolen	19000	Spices, lbs	125
Slippers, pairs	30000	Tea, chests	5
Socks, woolen, pairs	22000	Canned tomatoes, lbs.	24240
Suspenders, pairs	1800	Tobacco, lbs	5160
Yarn, lbs	95	Bay rum, bottles	672
Cologne, bottles	120	Books, spelling, vols	3000
Crutches, pairs	3000	Reading matter, boxes	25
Games	1000	Penholders, doz	660
Sponges, lbs	300	Thread, lbs	155
Pin-cushions, needle-books, &c	16925	Needles, papers	2500
		Pins, papers	1200
Soap, boxes	72	Pencils, doz	3720
Envelopes	275000	Pens, doz	2400

Bed-pans, combs, knives and forks, corn meal, jelly and preserves, mustard, sago, salt, tapioca, gin, buttons, lint, old linen, &c.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

It is meet that we add our humble testimony to the worth of our late Chief Magistrate.

Among the earliest acts of his administration, was to approve with his signature, as with his heart and influence, the U. S. Sanitary Commission. The Constitutional Commander of the Army of the United States, he was nevertheless its friend; and as he called the people to arms in the spring of '61, and felt the inadequacy of the Government to meet all the wants of the soldiers, and remembered his own, and the peoples' inexperience in war, he was glad to give his moral and official support to an agency that promised so much good to the country. Among the *last* acts of his life was to visit the hospitals of City Point, and it is perhaps the most pleasing reminiscence of their hospital life, that our soldiers can recall the circumstances of his late visit.

The convalescents from the wards were ranged in files along the streets of the camp, and he passed from man to man, saluting each one with a friendly hand-shaking, and giving to many, kindly words of cheer and sympathy. But he did not forget those who, unable to leave their beds, could not enjoy the pleasure of receiving him publicly, and retiring from the crowd, he passed through all the wards, stopping at bed after bed, till every man had touched his hand, and the whole five thousand of the camp had been treated with his friendly salutation.

Imagine the gloom that fell upon these men on hearing the news of his terrible death. Every heart seemed touched not only with a solemn sadness, but a silent grief rested upon all. As we strolled away from the camp into the country, a soldier, sitting alone, with drooping head, beside a little stream, was, with apparent listlessness whittling a stick, as we stopped in front of him and arrested his attention by an ordinary remark. He looked up solemnly and said, "Bad news, sir—bad news! I was thinking, sir, that I never knew before how much I loved our President. I loved him, sir; the army loved him, and may God forgive the fiend who mur-

dered him." Such is doubtless the sentiment of the whole army.

Among the contrabands too, who gather in from the plantations and villages to Richmond and other places, there is apparently a deep and impressive solemnity at the mention of his name. Two old people of this neglected class were standing together in Richmond the other day, when the news of the assassination came in, and one was heard to use his name to the other thus:—"Did you know that President Lincoln was dead?" when the answer came quickly, "Oh, yes, but don't call him President, call him *Father*—he was Father Lincoln."

In the annals of American history no man has received a larger share of public confidence and affection, and it being the first time that an assassin has so convulsed the nation by the most diabolical deed in modern history, it is the saddest period that we have ever known. President Lincoln's great heart, full of tenderness and forgiveness, was what endeared him to the people. Politicians differed as to his administration. Statesmen may have sometimes doubted his wisdom. Extremists may have condemned him; but his honest, upright devotion to duty, his sympathy with the sick and suffering, his broad philanthropy towards all, gave him a place with the common people, and endeared him to the whole nation. For his qualities as a man, for his integrity as a ruler, for his benevolence as the Great Emancipator, his name and his memory will be honored by the lovers of right and freedom in all the world.

OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. H. Binney, Jr., on behalf of the committee appointed on the 18th instant, to report a plan of action to be taken by the Commission in expressing its sense upon the occasion of the death of the President of the United States, presented the following Preamble and Resolutions, which were, on motion, unanimously adopted by the Board:

The infamous and cruel hand of a conspirator and assassin has stricken down the beloved and honored head of the nation.

The members of the United States Sanitary Commission desire to relieve their own hearts in adding their tribute to that of the whole people to the memory of the man and the Chief Magistrate whom we have lost.

If it be possible for us to love and honor Abraham Lincoln, more than we did when living, we do so now.

We lose him when we need, more than ever, his wise head and true heart. Our loss is one which we cannot adequately measure, and our grief such as we feel unable to express.

The nation mourns as it has never mourned since the death of Washington, and the Inaugural of our twice-chosen President, of which the echoes still linger on our ears, becomes a second Farewell Address, which will hold its place forever with the first in the hearts of the American people.

In common with various associations of our fellow-citizens, the Sanitary Commission mourns a true friend and faithful protector. His sagacity at once adopted the scheme of the Commission when it was first planned, and he gave it his official approval—an act of inestimable value to us, and, as we think, of the greatest benefit to the country. His protection and countenance were continued to the close of his life, and his personal visit to the great Central Fair held for the benefit of the Commission in Philadelphia in June last is but one instance of his deep interest in its success.

Desiring to record an expression of our respect, affection, and gratitude for our friend, protector, and benefactor, we adopt the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That the members of the United States Sanitary Commission honor, and will ever honor and cherish, the name of Abraham Lincoln, the nation's twice-chosen President, as that of a true and unselfish patriot, a wise and sagacious administrator of the Government, and a loving friend and protector of the people, whose simplicity of character, soundness of judgment, firmness of purpose, and undoubting faith in God, deserve and will be held in everlasting remembrance.

Resolved, That the United States Sanitary Commission, called into existence under the official approval of President Lincoln at the outbreak of the Rebellion, to supplement the military power of the nation by organ-

izing the intelligence and sympathy of the country in its behalf, hereby records its deep gratitude for the approval and aid which he gave and continued to the hour of his death.

He encouraged the Commission in its first appeal "to the Loyal Women of America," and the following words which he then used will be recalled as the most valuable praise the Commission has ever received:

"The Sanitary Commission is doing a work of great humanity, and of direct practical value to the nation in this time of its trial. It is entitled to the gratitude and the confidence of the people, and I trust it will be generously supported. There is no agency through which voluntary offerings of patriotism can be more effectively made.

"A. LINCOLN."

This great and good President has now passed beyond the reach of our praise, but we give thanks to God for the good example of one who, in his high office, never forgot the sick and suffering soldier of the Union, and we rejoice that he was permitted to see the dawn of the nation's triumphs before he was called to his reward. Our earnest prayer and hope will be that his mantle may have fallen upon his successor.

Resolved, That the foregoing resolutions be published in the *Sanitary Commission Bulletin*, the *Sanitary Reporter*, and the principal journals of the country.

VISIT OF THE COMMISSION TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

The President and a delegation of the Board, consisting of the Treasurer, Mr. G. T. Strong, Horace Binney, Jr., Esq., and C. J. Stille, Esq., by permission called on President Johnson at 4 P.M., April 20, and presented him the respects of the Board and their congratulations upon his accession to the office of the chief magistracy. They conveyed to him their condolence on the bereavement the country has sustained in the decease of the late lamented President, whose constant support and favor they had experienced during the whole of his administration, and asked the continuance of the Government's countenance of their labors under his presidency. The President avowed his deep sense of the usefulness of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, and the obligations of the Government to it for its long and faithful services; expressed his readiness to do all in his power to advance and sustain its good work, and begged the delegation to convey to each and every member of the Board his gratitude for their good will toward himself and the administration, and his warm expression of sympathy for their important labors. After some general conversation, leaving the most favorable impressions of the seriousness, good sense and patriotic zeal of the President, the delegation withdrew with profound satisfaction at the interview.

THE BULLETIN—A MONTHLY.

At the late meeting of the Commission, held at Washington, it was resolved that the *Bulletin* and *Reporter* should be issued but once a month for the future. Though this action will deprive our friends of a visit every fortnight, of their welcome messengers of tidings from the field, the wisdom of the arrangement will be admitted.

THE CRISIS.

What will the Commission do now? Will it wind up its affairs, make a final report of its proceedings and disband, or continue its work?

These are questions which come to us almost every day, and while we cannot answer them decisively, we will offer a few thoughts which they suggest.

The Commission's work is the people's work. It commenced with the war for purposes connected with the war, and cannot cease legitimately till all those purposes shall be accomplished.

Its proper work is to supplement the Government in the care of soldiers. So long as there are soldiers who need care, and so long as the Government needs aid in its care of soldiers, there will be a demand upon the sympathy and support of the people; and so long as the sympathy and support of the people are pledged to this service, so long will they sustain the organization that has so faithfully represented them till this time.

The return of soldiers to the common relation of citizenship again, will of necessity occasion some irregularity.

What is a soldier? He is always under orders—always the subject of military law and discipline. What he eats, and drinks, and wears, come to him through requisitions, which are dictated, signed, endorsed, drawn, and distributed by others. What he does in the way of duty, is done by orders through generals, colonels, captains and lieutenants, till they reach him; and no matter what he may think, or how he may feel, he is bound to act in obedience to orders. This is among the highest characteristics of a good soldier.

In becoming a citizen he is released from the restraints of military rule. He eats, and drinks, and wears according to his choice, what he buys with his own money—and not what another buys and orders for him. He thinks for himself, acts for himself, and *is himself again.*

But he is disabled—blind, or deaf,—has lost arms or legs—has shot about his person, or is somehow maimed for life. He went into the battle a whole man, and has come out of it a disabled man. Government gives him a pension for life; but it is not equal to his support; and if it was, the American soldier is too independent and thrifty to be a lounger in the community, if there is any honest employment that he is capable of pursuing.

Will the Government furnish him employment? If not, the supplementary power,—the good will of the people, must.

Here is one question to be met. The Sanitary Commission has anticipated it by the establishment already of a Bureau of Employment.

If he is disabled so that he cannot work, will the Government give him a support?

If not, the supplementary power,—the good people, will. Here is another question to be met. The Sanitary Commission is considering it now.

Resolved, That the President and General Secretary be requested to prepare an address to the Branches and Aid Societies, stating in substance, that although there is reason to hope for the speedy termination of the present war, such termination, even if immediate, would leave much to be done for the relief of the national forces in garrisons, and before they could be safely disbanded and the men re-established in the pursuits of civil life; that such garrisons, as a general rule, require more aid from the Commission than forces in the field, because more readily accessible, and that said Societies should therefore, in the opinion of this Commission, not abandon their work, but continue the same, with additional activity, in view of the prospect that it may soon gradually cease to be necessary.

RESIGNATION OF DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS AS GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION.

Of Dr. Jenkins we need say no more than that his self-sacrificing industry in the service of the Commission, and his high qualities as a Christian gentleman, have won for him the regard of all his co-workers in the cause, whose good wishes will follow him into whatever field he may enter.

The following resolution is expressive of the feeling of the Commission. It was unanimously adopted at the late meeting in Washington:

Resolved, That in accepting the resignation of Dr. J. Foster Jenkins, the General Secretary of the Commission, the Sanitary Commission desire to express their perfect appreciation of his personal worth, and of his integrity, truthfulness of character, and devotion to the interests of the Commission.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. John S. Blatchford was unanimously elected General Secretary.

From the Soldier's Journal.

WORKINGS OF THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION AT CAMP PAROLE, VA.

We have long desired to give a brief history of the workings of the Special Relief Agent of the U. S. Sanitary Commission at this post; but have been unable to get at the data until now, and, even now, are compelled to omit much of interest in order to make thearticle suitable to our limited space, as well as from the reason that no regular record of items not deemed important at the time has been kept. The present

agent, Miss Amy M. Bradley, has held the position of Special Relief Agent of this great Commission ever since the re-organization of Convalescent Camp, Dec. 17, 1862. During all this time she has given the utmost satisfaction to the various commanders of camp and hospital, and to the thousands of soldiers to whose wants it has been her daily and unceasing task to administer. Her labors here have been of the most extensive, and in many cases, the most complicated class; and a glance at the imperfect record which we are enabled to present will strike with surprise even those familiar with the grand system of the Commission which she represents, and others with incredulity that so much work could be accomplished by a single woman in a life-time, much less in a little over two years, as has been the case. These figures show more the result of the labor performed, than the amount of the labor itself. To properly show the latter we would have to give the number of letters written, the number of trips to Washington required, and many other items which none but the most practiced statistic compiler would think of. All this required labor, however; and the exertions must have been indeed indefatigable when we reflect that she never had a clerk or assistant, but did all the writing and traveling herself. Few have a correct idea of the amount of trouble and writing requisite to the prompt collection of a claim for back pay. Men generally, having any considerable amount of back pay due them, have been absent from their regiments from sickness or wounds, for a long time, and frequently are not properly accounted for on the rolls. All this time must be accounted for by obtaining certificates from commanders of companies and hospitals, which are carried personally to the proper departments, filed, and a certificate for the pay drawn. This is the ordinary routine of collecting back pay, and when erroneous charges of desertion are made, the task is much more difficult and laborious. The success with which our Sanitary agent has attended to such cases, is shown by the figures presented; and in that branch alone, is a conclusive argument in favor of the great utility and usefulness of the U. S. Sanitary Commisson. We do not know how many such agents represent the Commission, but if the labors of any of them equal those of the agent at this post, the good accomplished must be far beyond what even the warmest friends of the society believe. No society has ever approximated it in goodness and usefulness. It is the growth of the most gigantic war known to modern history, but the magnitude of its charities seem fully equal to the emergency which has called them forth. However, we must not now speak of the Sanitary Commission generally, but of one of its agents.

The following briefly shows the workings of the Special Relief Agent at this post, from the re-organization of the Convalescent Camp, Dec. 17, 1862, to Feb. 28, 1865, the time of the close of Rendezvous of Distribution.

CONVALESCENT CAMP.

Number of men received from Dec. 17, 1862, to Dec. 31, 1863, 60,934

Number discharged from Dec. 17, 1862, to Dec. 31, 1863, 8,778

Number assisted in settling their accounts (whose names, companies and regiments we find recorded in her books) from May 1, 1863, to Dec. 31, 1863, 1,830

Average amount of money collected on these cases, ($100 per man,) $183,000

[Prior to May 1, 1863, no record was kept of the number assisted, though very many of the feeblest ones were accompanied to Washington, and their accounts settled.]

Number of statements taken for arrears of pay from Oct. 19, 1863, to Dec. 31, 1863, 93

Amount of money collected on these cases, $7,185 50

The following is the amount of stores distributed among the soldiers of Convalescent Camp and Hospital (numbering 60,934 men) from Dec. 17, 1863, to Dec. 31, 1863:

Bed Ticks	79	Corn Starch, lbs	109
Blankets	60	Corn Meal, lbs	75
Brushes, Hair	54	Dried Fruit, lbs	180
Combs	1,109	Farina, lbs	109
Flannel, yds	1	Jellies and Preserves, jars	160
Head Rests	8	Lemons, boxes	4
Mattresses	1	Oranges, boxes	½
Mosquitoe Nettings, prs	1	Pickles, gals	14
Pillows	84	Porter, bbls	1
Pillow Cases	337	Potatoes, bbls	1
Quilts	165	Rum, bottles	9
Sheets	190	Syrup, bottles	6
Spittoons	12	Tamarinds, gals	6
Towels	10,592	Tobacco, lbs	½
Tin Cups	12	Vinegar, Raspberry, bottles	28
Tin Basins	6	Wine Foreign, bottles	12
Thread, lbs	16½	Wine Domestic, bottles	17
Coats	135	Whisky, bottles	2
Drawers	1,476	Alcohol, bottles	1
Eye Shades	159	Bay Rum, bottles	31
Handkerchiefs	11,171	Cologne, bottles	18
Hats and Caps	6	Bandages, bbls	1½
Mittens, prs	875	Books, vols	137
Neckties	107		
Pants	149		

Shirts	4,892	Crutches, prs	36
Slippers	705	Fans	200
Socks	1,950	Flannel Bandages	7
Suspenders, prs	6	Hops, bbls	¼
Vests	161	Magazines	675
Wrappers	24	Needles, papers	120
Apples Green, bbls	1	Old Linen, bbls	½
" Dried "	½	Pins, papers	12
Beef Stock, &c., lbs	16	Pin-cushions and Needle Books	470
Brandy, bottles	76	Reading Matter, boxes	1
Condensed Milk, lbs	6	Soap, cakes	40
Cocoa, lbs	18	Note Paper, reams	57½
Crackers, lbs	750	Pens and Holders	24
Envelopes	30,700		

The Sanitary Agent also established a hospital of her own upon her arrival at the camp, which then consisted of tents and huts, and continued it from Dec. 23, 1862, until April 1, 1863, by which time the barracks were completed, when the patients were removed to them.

The mention of the above hospital were not properly complete without publishing a *verbatim* copy of the letter of Surgeon Hunt, then Surgeon in charge, to the Chief Special Relief Agent at Washington:

CONVALESCENT CAMP, VA.,
June 1, 1863.

To MR. FRED. N. KNAPP,

Special Relief Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission.

In reply to the suggestion that I would state my opinion of the services rendered in this camp by Miss Amy M. Bradley, of your Commission, I take pleasure in saying that since I reported for duty here in January last, Miss Bradley has been actively and unobtrusively useful. As a matter of *negative* merit, she has never interfered with duties belonging to others. *Positively*, she has been of great service in at first maintaining a neat and comfortable tent hospital; and since the erection of the permanent hospital, in caring for the interests of discharged soldiers, many of whom would have been subjected to serious hardships on leaving this camp, had it not been for her business tact and judicious friendly care. In various other ways she has been of great use to the soldiers, and I shall be gratified to have her remain in her present position.

SANFORD B. HUNT,
Surgeon U. S. V., in charge.

Approved,
SAM'L MCKELVY,
Lieut. Col. Commanding.

RENDEZVOUS OF DISTRIBUTION.

Number of men received from Feb. 8, 1864, to Feb. 8, 1865, 108,238

Number of men received at Augur Hospital, 9,322

Among these were distributed the following articles by the Sanitary Agent:

Bed Ticks	100	Corn Starch, lbs	74
Combs	4,184	Dried Fruit, lbs	10
Pillows	92	Farina, lbs	12
Pillow Cases	436	Jellies and Preserves, jars	85
Sheets	500	Lemons, boxes	1¼
Towels	9,631	Oranges, boxes	3¾
Thread, lbs	59	Tobacco, lbs	20
*Coats	303	Tomatoes, lbs	72
Drawers	486	Wine Domestic, bots	45
Handkerchiefs	13,171	Whisky, bottles	30
Hats and Caps	36	Bay Rum, bottles	42
Mittens	3,760	Cologne, bottles	30
Pants	272	Bandages, bbls	1¼
Shirts	1,170	Books, vols	13
Suspenders, prs	24	Needles, papers	500
Shoes, prs	96	Pins, papers	24
Slippers, prs	300	Old Linen, bbls	3
Socks, prs	1,373	Pin-cushions and Needle Books	1,600
Vests	203	Soap, cakes	76
Wrappers	36	Tracts	500
Apples Dried, bbls	½	Envelopes	22,300
Brandy, bottles	31	Note Paper, reams	84½
Brandy Bl'kb'ry, bots	66	Pencils	1,804
Canned Meats, lbs	174	Pen Holders	294
Canned Fruit, lbs	81	Pens	912
Canned Vegetables, lbs	60		
Crackers, lbs	60		

* The coats, pants, vests, shoes, hats, caps, drawers, shirts and socks were mostly distributed amongst the men in Deserter's Division of the Rendezvous, who had no opportunity of drawing these articles from government.

Number of statements taken for arrears of pay, ending Dec. 31, 1864, 131

Amount collected, $11,039 13

[During the months of January and February, 1864, the agent was confined to her bed by a serious illness, and no work was done other than distributing clothing by an orderly detailed for that purpose. During these two months 750 men were discharged the service, and were sent in ambulances to the Sanitary Lodge, 389 H street, Washington, where they were assisted by Mr. W. K. Neal, of the Commission, in settling their accounts.]

No. of statements taken for arrears of pay for the months of January and February, 1865, 86

Amount collected, $8,677 43

Amount of monies received from soldiers and delivered to J. B. Abbott, Chief Ass't Special Relief Dep't, to be forwarded to their friends, during the two years ending Dec. 31, 1864, $4,146 50

Amounts received and fowarded during the months of January and February, 1865, $779 00

The plan and system of her work was organized under ten heads, which she has persistently followed from the commencement of her labor to the present time. They are as follows:

1. Distributing clothing among the needy.

2. Procuring dainties for the sick, and administering to their comfort by furnishing gruel, stimulants, etc.

3. Accompanying discharged soldiers to Washington, and assisting them in obtaining their pay, etc.

4. Distributing note paper and envelopes, and writing letters for the sick in hospital.

5. Receiving and forwarding money for soldiers to their friends at home. This done by draft without cost to the soldier.

6. Answering letters of Inquiry to Hospital Directory.

7. Obtaining certificates for arrears of pay for soldiers, and getting erroneous charges of desertion removed.

8. Distributing reading matter, such as newspapers and periodicals throughout the camp.

9. Telegraphing to the friends of soldiers very ill in hospital.

10. Furnishing meals to feeble soldiers in barracks, who could not eat the food prepared for stronger ones.

During the summer of 1864, the agent had charge of the low diet of Augur Hospital, and much of her attention was given to the sick. In September she received a furlough, and visited her home in Maine, being the only respite she has had from her labors for three years.

The above, as we have already stated, briefly show the work done by a *single agent* of the U. S. Sanitary Commission. They seem like mere dry facts and statistics; but they will live as long as goodness and industry are honored, and will always form a bright record to a life that has been given almost wholly to the benefit of the soldier.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTER BY DR J. FOSTER JENKINS, GENERAL SECRETARY.

JAMES RIVER, *April* 10, 1865.

To the Standing Committee of the U. S. Sanitary Commission:

GENTLEMEN—I am on my return to Washington, from a visit to City Point. I reached that station at 1 P.M. yesterday, and have given our work thence westerly, as thorough scrutiny as could be accomplished by interrogation of our officers and others possessing opportunities of observing it. You will be glad to hear that our supplies are, and have been, abundant from the beginning of the late active movements. No embarrassment has been felt from this cause. There is, of essential articles, a good supply now on hand, and the goods about to arrive will make the stock complete probably for all this month.

The number of our agents is ample. Their better organization than ever before, the improved degree of preparation of the Medical Department, and the comparatively moderate number of wounded in the recent engagements, render the present force sufficient to do what falls to our hands to do. I saw the surgeon in charge of the Depot Hospitals, near City Point yesterday, and spent an hour with him. His resources seemed to be very large. He had despatched, the day before, the material for a hospital of 2,500 beds, to Burkesville, although there was a probability of finding not more than 1,000 patients, and with the hospital had sent up 26 surgeons, and was ready to repeat the consignment, if called upon. The hospital accommodation at City Point is 15,000 beds, and there are in hospital only 6,000. He seems to be a genuine friend of the Commission, and thinks that it is doing its work well. He accepts its services gratefully where they are necessary.

We have a storehouse at Richmond, in the same building with the Medical Purveyor, and are doing a solid work, though as usual not a showy one. The sick are all rebels. At Petersburg we also have a strong force for the necessity, which is not urgent. In the field we are strong, and Johnson at Burkesville asks that no more stores be sent until further call from him. The performance of our proper work at and about Richmond is successful and creditable. Mr. Knapp, who had gone with Dr. McDonald on Thursday to Richmond, returned last night, and is on the way with me now to Washington. He reports our work as having been very well done at Wilmington. He left there on the 4th inst.

We are just at Fortress Monroe, 4 P.M. I expect to be in Washington at 10 A.M. to-morrow—Tuesday.

Respectfully yours,

J. FOSTER JENKINS.

THE COMMISSIONS.

We clip the following from a Buffalo paper:

THE SANITARY COMMISSION.—Mrs. Horatio Seymour has just received the following telegram from Dr. Jenkins, the

General Secretary of the U. S. Sanitary Commission:

"WASHINGTON, *April* 7, 1865.

"Agents and supplies had been placed at the disposal of our Inspector at City Point, anticipating the movement of the armies. Our wagons entered Richmond and Petersburg with the hospital trains of our military forces. We have most ample supply of men and material at Richmond, City Point and Petersburg, and with the army in pursuit of Lee. These supplies are being constantly reinforced. Every report made to us indicates that our work is being fully and efficiently carried on.

"J. FOSTER JENKINS."

The above shows that the Sanitary Commission work is now so thoroughly systematized that it may almost be regarded as a part of our military organization. It must be highly gratifying to the generous people who made this Society the almoners of their bounty, to know that the work is done so well. The constant and regular offerings of the people have placed this Society upon so satisfactory a basis that it is now able to anticipate the wants of our soldiers. Continued generosity on the part of its patrons will enable it to maintain this desirable position, without the necessity of making any special appeal when an emergency arises.

AN APPEAL FROM THE CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.—The following dispatch was received yesterday. In response, the Branch of the Christian Commission in this city send to-day $3,000. Will not our churches and communities in the city and country respond nobly to this last appeal?

"PHILADELPHIA, *April* 3, 1865.

"REV. S. HUNT, SECRETARY:—The battle is raging—our delegates in the field—minute men starting by every train—Treasury empty. New York and Boston merchants moving to-day on 'Change. Will not yours do likewise? For how much may we draw on you? Telegraph immediately. Minutes are lives to-day.

"GEO. H. STUART, Chairman."

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CITY POINT.

April 14, 1865.

The Sanitary Commission at City Point is still the Sanitary Commission. I find the agents at work with earnestness and devotion. The hospitals are not crowded, as they have sometimes been, but they are well kept and the men are cheerful. Our distributors are known every where, and treated with respect and consideration.

Besides many goods things that they have done in the ordinary line of their legitimate service, they have established schools for soldiers, which have been very successful. Many of our men have come into the service without the knowledge of letters, and others with but very limited knowledge. The Commission has been engaged in the work of instruction, and with the most satisfactory results. They have also furnished books for "the contraband schools," as they are called, which are connected with the contraband camp and are objects of unusual interest.

The work among refugees is also considerable. Last evening there were housed in "our old barge" several families of women and children who were seeking friends and freedom among Northern Unionists. Some of them were intelligent people, and excited much interest; others, equally deserving of sympathy and care, were not so well trained and educated, but as appreciative of attention and kindness.

At Petersburg and Richmond the work is under way. Homes are being established and much solid comfort afforded. Burkesville station is supplied by our train, and active agencies are established there.

The flag of the Commission waves where the flag of our country is, and where our soldiers are, there are our stores and agents.

It is to be hoped that our people will continue their organizations and their efforts. Troops are coming in from the North by the transport load, and tens of thousands of rebels, wounded and sick, are dependent and thrown upon the care of Government, and swelling the list of those who claim the benefactions of our people.

We go to Richmond to-morrow, and will write you from there. I hope to obtain a knowledge of its true situation, of which I will advise you. We shall also visit Petersburg and other important points along the line.

J. PARRISH

IN AID OF THE CHICAGO FAIR TO BE HELD MAY 30TH.

WOMEN'S PENN. BRANCH, *April* 17, 1865.

It has been suggested to the Philadelphia Committee in aid of the Chicago Fair, by one of the country auxiliary societies of this State, that these associates of the Sanitary Commission would be stimulated to aid the Fair if some slight premium were offered to encourage exertion.

We therefore propose to give to every society sending articles or money amounting to one hundred dollars ($100), the elegant bronze medal commemorative of the Chicago Fair, now being struck at the mint.

To the society in each county sending the largest contribution beyond the above sum, an American flag will be given in size and value proportionate to the amount contributed.

Boxes can be directed to the rooms of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, 1307 Chestnut street, marked "For the Chicago Fair."

In all cases an invoice marked at the selling prices must accompany each package. All communications on the subject can be addressed to

MRS. THOMAS P. JAMES,
President,
Or 400 S. 9th street, Phila.
MISS ANNA P. STEVENSON,
Secretary and Treasurer,
1006 Clinton street.

PETROLEUM FOR THE SANITARY.

NEW YORK, *April* 8, 1865.

TO THE REV. DR. BELLOWS:
President of U. S. Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR:—For the purpose of answering the great number of inquiries made daily at our office, as to the "*modus operandi*" of obtaining Petroleum, we have thought it worth while to cause to be constructed a full sized working model of an oil well, with engine, derrick, tank, drills, and indeed all the accompaniments complete, a counterpart of which was contributed by our office to the National Celebration of March 6, and now on exhibition at No. 518 West 22nd street, near Tenth avenue, between the hours of one and four, P. M. To the majority of men the subject is of sufficient interest to render a visit, with their families, to the "Oil Well" profitable.

We have issued tickets of admission at 25 cents each, obtainable at our office, and beg your acceptance of the proceeds for the benefit of the "Sanitary Commission;" an association, that by its noble care of our sick and suffering soldiers, has earned the gratitude of every Union man.

Sincerely congratulating you upon our recent glorious victories,

We remain, Sir, yours very respectfully,
W. W. CLARKE & Co.

NEW YORK, *April* 12, 1865.

W. W. CLARKE & CO.:

GENTLEMEN—I accept very gratefully on behalf of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, your humane and patriotic offer, to turn over to our treasury the proceeds of the exhibition of your model of an Oil Well and all its accompaniments, complete.

We have "struck ile" in a good many places without "boring" the public overmuch. The domain from which our oil has flowed, the national sympathy and gratitude, has not proved a very rocky soil, and our machinery has been comparatively cheap and simple. Yet the wells have thrown, if not "a hundred feet in height and 1,600 barrels daily," as high as the wounds and sorrows of our stricken soldiers, and sometimes at the rate of 1,600 boxes (a much more astonishing feat) per month.

They threw in one week 700 tons of stores into Fredericksburg, $70,000 of stores into Gettysburg in four weeks, and have thus far furnished the army and navy with about ten millions of dollars worth of extra comfort. They are throwing this minute into Richmond, City Point, Newbern, Wilmington, Goldsboro', the Shenandoah, Nashville, Knoxville, New Orleans, and fifty other stations; whatever the knowledge and humanity of our medical corps ask from us, and there is no immediate prospect that the "Oil" will give out. We have not recently found it necessary to "bull" our stock, nor force it on the market. Sober purchasers seem to understand its value, and invest without noise.

Meanwhile we rejoice that Petroleum wishes to sanctify itself by pouring some percentage of its flow, into the wounds of our noble army of martyrs. It has made fortunes, lighted cottages and cities, cooked dinners and run steamships, lubricated mills and trains, contended with mining stocks, cotton and railroad shares in city roads, for the mastery on the exchange. It now offers itself as a medicine for army wounds and hospital gangrene. We shall be glad to try it. May your oil well go into immediate and most popular operation.

If all who have invested in Oil Stocks and expect to leave fortunes to their children, will only go and take their offspring just to see how those fortunes are *made*, I cannot doubt that your receipts and ours will be sufficient to reward your utmost expectations, and to meet our largest requirements.

With grateful respect,
I remain, gentlemen, yours, truly,
HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT. CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF NINETEEN

PLACES.	Alabama.	Arkansas.	California.	Connecticut.	Delaware.	District of Columbia.	Florida.	Georgia.	Illinois.	Indiana.	Iowa.	Kansas.	Kentucky.	Louisiana.	Maine.	Maryland.	Massachusetts.	Michigan.	Minnesota.	Mississippi.	Missouri.	New Hampshire.	New Jersey.	New York.	North Carolina.	Ohio.
Baltimore. "The Home,".....	..	..	..	6	2	..	..	..	5	5	7	..	1	..	3	2	13	10	....	..	1	2	1	55	....	16
Boston. "Soldiers' Home,"....	..	..	..	22	..	25	..	..	2	.....	....	1	.....	..	841	1	657	3	....	..	....	201	4	14	....	.....
Buffalo, N. Y. "Soldiers' Rest,".	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	12	1	4	..	.....	..	1	..	3	7	3		2	2	2	110	....	8
Camp Nelson, Ky. "Soldiers' Home,"....	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	104	55	....	..	288	..	....	..	....	183	....	..	....	....	..	31	....	131
Cairo, Ill. "Soldiers' Home,"....	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	6	664	73	171	20	22	2	21	3	25	80	34	1	174	10	4	108	8	81
Columbus, O. "Soldiers' Home,"....	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	107	102	33	..	95	..	4	..	3	174	4	..	24	....	5	84	6	1,333
Detroit, Mich. "Soldiers' Home, '....	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	7	2	....	..	.....	..	.....	..	....	417	....	..	....	....	..	9	....	5
Jeffersonville, Ind. "Soldiers' Home,"....	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	85	126	71	..	18	..	4	12	2	101	16	..	....	....	2	22	....	185
Louisville, Ky. "Soldiers' Home,"....	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	350	2,959	18	2	804	..	2	1	1	1,227	175	..	228	....	3	138	2	2,860
Memphis, Tenn. "Soldiers' Home,"....	..	6	..	....	..	..	..	..	294	37	78	38	.....	..	.....	..	5	72	27	..	77	....	9	33	....	47
Nashville. "Soldiers' Home,"....	2	:	..	9	..	..	..	1	1,168	910	86	22	231	..	3	2	6	680	77	..	301	....	8	115	9	1,519
New Orleans, La. "Soldiers' Home,"....	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	62	76	48	3	41	6	13	9	22	12	26	..	44	....	5	49	....	19
Paducah, Ky. "Soldiers' Home,"....	1	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	163	74	67	1	76	..	.....	..	....	32	3	..	67	....	..	.....	....	23
Portsmouth, Va. "Soldiers' Home,"....	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	5	.....	....	..	1	..	3	..	38	1	....	..	....	4	2	136	....	2
Washington, D. C. "The Home,".....	..	..	..	35	5	..	1	1	16	35	1	1	14	..	54	12	39	51	....	..	4	69	19	247	1	50
Lodge No 4.....	..	..	8	49	9	..	..	..	40	27	10	..	18	..	68	11	107	60	5	..	3	28	17	225	....	71
Lodge No. 6.....	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	.....	.....	....	..	.....	..	.....	..	....	.....	....	..	....	....	..	.....	....	.....
Home for Soldiers' wives and mothers..	..	..	..	3	2	..	..	..	4	3	....	..	.....	..	6	9	5	3	....	..	....	3	10	19	....	6
Total.....	3	6	8	147	18	56	2	8	3,088	4,545	594	58	1,609	8	1,023	62	986	3,122	370	2	925	319	91	1,354	26	6,306

Soldiers' Lodge, Alexandria, Va. District of Columbia, 31: Michigan, 1: New York, 9: Pennsylvania, 107: Wisconsin, 2: U. S. Regulars, 2: Soldiers, 152: Relatives of Soldiers, 7. Whole number, 159. Lodgings, 344; Meals, 1,036. (Included in above totals.)

THE WORK OF NINETEEN HOMES.

The above table presents the statistics of the Special Relief work done in nineteen Homes, Lodges, or Rests of the United States Sanitary Commission, situated in sixteen different places, during the month of March.

The returns from the Homes at Annapolis and Cincinnati, the Lodge at Harrisburg, and Lodge No. 5 at Washington, have not been received at this office in time for insertion; so that the table does not fully set forth the work of the Commission in this direction.

36,577 soldiers, from thirty-four states, have been cared for free of charge; 266 relatives of soldiers, as a general rule nursing their sons or husbands sick in hospital, have found food and lodging; while 586 refugees, fleeing from their homes to escape the barbarity of their Southern friends, have found a home among strangers. The total number of persons entertained is 37,429. To these 38,144 nights lodgings and 149,801 meals have been given.

"HOMES," "LODGES," AND "RESTS," FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1865.

Pennsylvania.	Rhode Island.	Tennessee.	Texas.	Vermont.	Virginia.	West Virginia.	Wisconsin.	U. S. Regulars.	U. S. Navy.	Vet. Reserve Corps.	Q. M. Department.	Paroled Prisoners.	Colored Troops.	TOTAL. Soldiers.	TOTAL. Relatives of Soldiers.	TOTAL. Refugees.	Whole number entertained.	Lodgings furnished.	Meals furnished.	Furloughed.	Discharged.	Under Orders.
34	6	11	..	2	....	8	3	4	1	4	.....	130	2	334	65	42	441	390	1,651	156	18	76
6	2	.....	..	4	3	..	1	61	17	206	.....	333	....	2,404	7	....	2,411	1,683	4,304	1,634	310	143
5	..	.....	..	2	....	..	3	8	..	14	11	....	....	201	....	1	202	260	849	131	72	.....
.....	..	13	..	..	....	..	.....	.....	..	12	22	....	485	1,324	8	114	1,446	1,542	4,235	36	15	1,273
14	..	56	..	..	....	7	1,397	15	7	41	.....	....	9	3,005	....	....	3,005	1,729	8,201	253	402	10
51	..	60	..	..	122	..	51	.....	..	.....	.....	.....	..	2,270	....	....	2,270	2,270	5,884	1,474	34	.....
.....	..	.....	..	..	....	..	9	17	..	49	1	78	2	596	8	3	607	1,229	4,614	449	87	69
68	..	25	..	..	....	..	123	52	..	76	.....	39	....	1,036	....	....	1,036	148	3,356	426	122	396
744	..	637	..	..	....	..	370	235	..	134	1,622	60	2	12,581	....	35	12,616	6,975	40,343	716	330	11,594
1	..	21	..	1	....	..	290	1	..	2	3	....	....	1,042	3	8	1,053	977	3,124	168	164	695
224	..	1,233	..	..	....	..	575	761	..	.....	.....	89	....	8,040	47	....	8,087	7,519	24,291	2,164	4,211	1,685
1	5	.....	36	12	....	..	47	.....	..	2	.....	....	134	674	....	....	674	4,015	16,137	44	356	274
.....	..	.....	..	..	....	..	53	24	1	....	8	1	12	606	....	....	606	1,200	5,823	.....	.....	.....
12	..	.....	..	3	....	..	.....	.....	..	....	.....	....	....	207	7	51	265	504	1,481	33	18	156
173	3	5	..	10	19	..	34	.....	..	....	.....	....	....	959	....	....	959	3,599	8,397	558	189	212
188	10	3	..	23	4	15	27	.....	..	.....	.....	....	92	1,118	....	5	1,123	3,133	14,235	555	568	.....
.....	..	.....	..	..	....	..	.....	.....	..	25	3	....	....	28	....	260	288	.....	600	.....	.....	.....
32	2	1	..	2	....	..	4	.....	..	.....	.....	....	....	.....	114	67	181	627	1,231	.....	.....	.....
1,660	28	2,065	36	59	148	36	2,989	1,180	26	565	1,676	730	738	36,577	266	586	37,429	38,144	149,801	8,797	7,211	16,583

It is not easy for the mind to realize all that is meant by these figures. Thirty-eight thousand men is a very respectable corps; many of the armies which have fought and won splendid battles, have not greatly exceeded this number. And it must be remembered that this relief has come to men who *needed it*—at the right time, in the right place, and in the right way.

RELATION OF SANITARY COMMISSION TO REBEL CIVILIANS.

Extract from minutes of Board, Washington, April 27, 1865.

Resolved, That the rendering of aid and the issuing of supplies to the inhabitants of rebel towns and cities when occupied by the National Army, is no part of the legitimate work of the Commission, and that such relief is to be extended only to loyal citizens, or to such as shall have taken the oath of allegiance to the United States, and then in cases of absolute necessity or for the preservation of life, during such short period as may elapse between the occupation of such town or city and the establishment of the Government system of supply, and only when such relief can be extended without prejudice to the National Army hospitals.

LIST OF SPECIAL RELIEF STATIONS.—We call the attention of Special Relief

Agents, to the new list of "Soldiers' Homes and Lodges," and "Special Relief Officers," page 1182, for the purpose of having them forward to this office notifications of such facts as will keep the list up to the times.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

The eventful week in the experience of the armies of the James and the Potomac has found the Sanitary Commission prepared for its proper work. For a month past agents and supplies have been quietly but steadily accumulating at convenient points, in anticipation of the movement that has resulted so gloriously to our arms. The wagon trains of the Commission entered both Richmond and Petersburg in company with our victorious troops, and advices are received that the section of the army now in pursuit of Lee is fully attended by both relief agents and supplies. Over one hundred experienced and well trained men are now at work in this department; and when we consider that this organized band had its disposal on the 4th instant a supply of stores "sufficient to meet all necessary demands," and that such supply has been since increased by the arrival at City Point of two schooners loaded with the proper material, it will readily appear that the well earned reputation of the Sanitary Commission for timely preparation and efficiency in the field is being now fully justified.—*Washington Chronicle.*

ACCOUNT OF "LITTLE ACORN FAIR," YIELDING $4,000.

In compliance with your request that I should furnish you with some particulars of the Fair of "The Little Acorns," I proceed to do so as briefly as possible. The project was started "in aid of the Sanitary," by six little girls, all under eleven years of age. These children evinced so much energy and perseverance that their older friends became interested, and came to their aid with liberality and kindness. A few of the Cuban merchants in Havana and Matanzas responded handsomely to the appeal made to them for money, &c.

After two months of industry the children's Fair was held in the last week in June, and lasted three days. "The Little Acorns" were successful beyond their hopes, being able to feel that they had cleared $5,000 for the Sanitary, $4,000 of which was immediately paid over to the Ladies' Sanitary Committee of Portland, and $80 subsequently.

The residue of the amount raised by their efforts was retained by one of the ladies of the Advisory Committee, and by her distributed to other objects in the city. Hoping that these facts may be what you required,

I remain, very respectfully yours,

MARY NEAL SHERWOOD.

Portland, January, 1865.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CONFERENCES.

Rev. Andrew Cather, one of our agents, has just returned from visiting the Providence, New England, Troy, and New York Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church, lately holding their annual sessions. At each one of them he was very kindly received, and his representations of the six principal departments of the Sanitary Commission's work were heard with marked attention. Each one of the Conferences passed resolutions commending the Commission to the liberality of the people, and expressing their purpose to co-operate with it in its noble efforts.

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PROTECTIVE

War Claim and Pension Agency

OF THE

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

Office: No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

All the papers and correspondence required to procure Pensions, Bounty and Back Pay, and Prize Money for discharged soldiers and sailors, and for the relatives of soldiers and sailors dying in the service of the United States, prepared and forwarded, and the proceeds of all claims, when collected, remitted to the parties entitled, *free of charge.*

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PROTECTIVE

War-Claim Association

OF THE

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

OFFICE, 35 CHAMBERS STREET, NEW YORK.

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Lieut.-Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT.

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Apply in person or by letter, to
HENRY GREENFIELD, *Secretary,*
35 Chambers Street, New York.

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., Cambridge, Mass.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clark, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, jr., Philadelphia, Penna.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Charles J. Stillé, Philadelphia, Penna.
Ezra B. McCagg, Chicago, Ill.

OFFICERS.

H. W. Bellows, D.D., President.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Vice-President.
George T. Strong, Treasurer.
J. Foster Jenkins, M.D., General Secretary.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Associate Secretary.

STANDING COMMITTEE.

Henry W. Bellows, D.D.	George T. Strong.
Wm. H. Van Buren, M.D.	Wolcott Gibbs, M.D.
C. R. Agnew, M.D.	Charles J. Stillé.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. San. Com., No. 18 West St., Boston, Mass.
U. S. San. Com., Nos. 10 & 11 Cooper Union, New York.
U. S. San. Com., State House, New Haven, Conn.
U. S. San. Com., 1307 Chestnut St., Philada.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

U. S. San. Com., 244 F St., Washington, D. C.
U. S. San. Com. Camp Distribution, Va.
U. S. San. Com., 46 Sharp St., Baltimore, Md.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Harper's Ferry, Va.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Parole, Md.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, City Point, Va.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Newberne, N. C.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Beaufort, S. C.
U. S. Sanitary Commission, New Orleans, La

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U. S. San. Com., No. 95 Bank St., Cleveland, O.
U. S. San. Com., No. 66 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.
U. S. San. Com., No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, N. Y.
U. S. San. Com., No. 59 Fourth St., Pittsburgh, Penna.
U. S. San. Com., No. 32 Larned St., Detroit, Mich.
U. S. San. Com., Columbus, O.
U. S. San. Com., Fifth St., Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

F. N. KNAPP, Supt., Washington, D. C.
J. B. ABBOTT, Chief Assistant, Washington, D. C.

"SOLDIERS' HOMES" AND "LODGES."

[OBJECTS. Temporary aid and protection,—food, lodging, care, &c.,—for soldiers in transitu, chiefly the discharged, disabled, and furloughed.]

Alexandria, Va. "ALEXANDRIA LODGE." Orange and Alexandria Railroad Station. J. B. Holt, Superintendent.

Annapolis, Md. "HOME FOR SOLDIERS' WIVES AND MOTHERS." Mrs. Hopes Sayres, Matron.

Baltimore, Md. "SOLDIERS' HOME." No. 62 Conway Street. A. E. Hastings, Supt.

"SOLDIERS' LODGE." Opposite Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad Station. ——, Superintendent.

Boston, Mass. "SOLDIERS' HOME." No. 76 Kingston Street. Charles F. Mudge, Supt., near Boston and Worcester Railroad Depot.

Buffalo, N. Y. "SOLDIERS' REST." Exchange Street, opposite Central Railroad Depot. Mrs. H. Indevine, Matron.

Cairo, Ill. "SOLDIERS' HOME." C. N. Shipman, Superintendent.

Camp Nelson, Ky. "SOLDIERS' HOME." Thomas Butler, Superintendent.

Cincinnati, O. SOLDIERS' HOME." Third Street. Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Superintendent.

Cleveland, Ohio. "SOLDIERS' HOME." Joseph Jerome, Superintendent.

Columbus, Ohio. "SOLDIERS' HOME." T. E. Botsford, Superintendent.

Detroit, Michigan. "SOLDIERS' HOME." No. 81 Jefferson Avenue.

Harrisburg, Pa. Near the Railroad Depot. "SOLDIERS' LODGE." W. H. Hadley, Supt.

Jeffersonville, Indiana. "SOLDIERS' HOME." New Market Street, near the Depot. E. T. Smith, Superintendent.

Louisville, Ky. "SOLDIERS' HOME." V. Scott, Superintendent.

Memphis, Tenn. "SOLDIERS' LODGE." Near landing, C. W. Christy, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Nashville, Tenn. "SOLDIERS' HOME." Captain I. Brayton, Superintendent.

New Orleans, La. "SOLDIERS' HOME." Corner Magazine and Julia Streets. Sumner Bullard, Superintendent.

New York City. "DISCHARGED SOLDIERS' HOME." No. 45 Grove Street, near Blecker. ——, Superintendent.

Paducah, Ky. "SOLDIERS' HOME." E. D. Way, Superintendent.

Portsmouth, Va. "SOLDIERS' HOME." John Alcooke, Superintendent.

Washington, D. C. "THE HOME." No. 374 North Capitol Street. J. B. Clark, Supt.

"HOME FOR SOLDIERS' WIVES AND MOTHERS. No. 380 North Capitol Street. J. B. Clark, Supt.

"LODGE No. 4. No. 389 H Street. ——, Supt.

"LODGE No. 5." Maryland Avenue, near Washington & Alexandria R. R. Station. ——, Supt.

"LODGE No. 6." Foot of Sixth Street. Howard McPherran, Superintendent.

SPECIAL RELIEF OFFICES.

[OBJECTS.—To give aid in procuring pay, pensions, bounty, prize money, arrears of pay and bounty, and other claims upon government. To

supply clothing, hospital delicacies, crutches, &c. To give transportation, information, &c.]

Alexandria, Va. Office in Soldiers' Lodge, Orange and Alexandria Railroad Station. J. B. Holt, Agent.

Annapolis, Md. Office of United States Sanitary Commission. Major F. C. Howes, Agent.

Baltimore, Md. United States Sanitary Commission, No. 46 South Sharpe Street. J. T. Pancoast, Agent.

Boston, Mass. United States Sanitary Commission, No. 76 Kingston Street.

Buffalo N. Y. Branch United States Sanitary Commission, Adams' Block, No. 209 Washington Street.

Cairo, Ill. Office in "Soldiers' Home." C. N. Shipman, Agent.

Camp Nelson, Ky. Office in "Soldiers' Home." Thomas Butler, Agent.

Chattanooga, Tenn. United States Sanitary Commission.

Chicago, Ill. United States Sanitary Commission.

Cincinnati, Ohio. United States Sanitary Commission, corner Vine and Sixth Streets.

Cleveland, Ohio. Branch United States Sanitary Commission

Detroit, Mich. United States Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street.

Dubuque, Ia. United States Sanitary Commission. Rev. E. S. Morris, Agent.

Harrisburg, Pa. Office in "Soldiers' Lodge." W. H. Hadley, Agent.

Jeffersonville, Ind. Office in "Soldiers' Home," New Market Street, near railroad depot, E. T. Smith, Agent.

Knoxville, Tenn. United States Sanitary Commission.

Leavenworth, Kansas. United States Sanitary Commission. J. R. Brown, Agent.

Louisville, Ky. United States Sanitary Commission, Fifth Street.

Memphis, Tenn. Office in "Soldiers' Lodge," near landing. C. W. Christy, Agent.

Milwaukie, Wis. Mrs. Colt.

Nashville, Tenn. United States Sanitary Commission. E. Root, Agent.

New Orleans, La. Special Relief Office, United States Sanitary Commission, No. 96 Julia Street. O. C. Bullard, Agent.

New York City, N. Y. "Special Relief Office," Cooper Union, No. 10 Third Avenue. Mrs. W. P. Griffin, Chairman Special Relief Committee.

Paducah, Ky. Office in "Soldiers' Home." E. D. Way, Agent.

Philadelphia, Pa. United States Sanitary Commission, 1307 Chestnut Street, third story, back. Colonel Soest, Agent.

Portsmouth, Va. Office in "Soldiers' Home." John Alcooke, Agent.

Vicksburg, Miss. United States Sanitary Commission. J. G. Brown.

Washington, D. C. "Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, between 13th and 14th Streets. J. B Abbott, Chief Assistant.

Wheeling, Va. United States Sanitary Commission.

BRANCH,
No. 744 Broadway,
NEW YORK.



BRANCH,
No. 19 Green Street,
BOSTON, Mass.

Important Information for Soldiers and Sailors who have lost Limbs.

The "PALMER" ARM and LEG are now furnished for the mutilated heroes of the Army and Navy, and I have the pleasure of presenting extracts from official letters from the Surgeon-General, which will gratify numerous applicants, who, in the past, have been led to believe that they must accept an inferior limb, or have no aid from Government.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * *

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.
C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

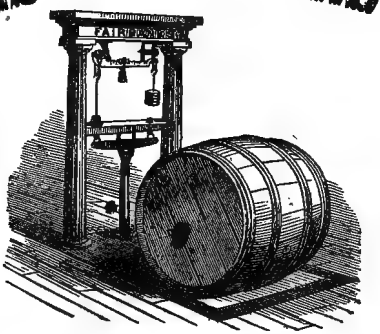
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The Best PALMER ARM, for a SMALL ADVANCE.
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Prices of the PALMER LIMBS not raised to OFFICERS and CIVILIANS.

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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

No. 38. PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 1, 1865. No. 38.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 15,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No.* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

GOOD WORDS OF GREAT MEN.

PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

The Sanitary Commission is doing a work of great humanity, and of direct practical value to the nation in this time of its trial. It is entitled to the gratitude and the confidence of the people, and I trust it will be generously supported. There is no agency through which voluntary offerings of patriotism can be more effectively made.

CHIEF JUSTICE SALMON P. CHASE.

What age before this age, and what country besides our country, ever witnessed such an organization as that of the Sanitary Commission? What needs have been supplied; what wants relieved; what wounds healed; what evils averted, by the activity, wisdom, and unflagging zeal of this admirable organization, fostered and sustained by the people, and recognized and aided by the Government.

THE LAST MARCH.

Bear him on! bear him on!
Peace and rest for him are won;
Let his requiem be sung!
Let his dirge be sadly rung!
Hearts so tenderly that clung,
Now with anguish sore are wrung.

Bear him on! bear him on!
In the greatness of his fame,
In the fullness of the same;
Handing down an honored name,
Mighty march of mighty frame,
Dead alike to praise or blame.

Bear him on! bear him on!
Let each sorrowing State receive him;
To their care his loved ones leave him;
Soon the grave for aye shall cleave him
From our sight, but hearts shall wreathe him
With the bays of loyal love.

Bear him on! bear him on!
Martial music sadly stealing,
Muffled bells with plaintive pealing,
Sobs the people's heart revealing,
'Neath the shock stout men are reeling,
Women with clasped hands are kneeling,
Prayers with earnest vows they're sealing,
With a stronger, deeper feeling,
From henceforth to serve the right.

Bear him on! bear him on!
Listen to the measured tread
Of the horses, slowly led,
As they bear our Nation's Head
On to final earthly bed.
Moon and stars from sight have fled,
Darkness takes the watch instead,
Hanging sable pall o'erhead,
Curtaining the noble dead.

Bear him on! bear him on!
Distant earth in distant West,
Lightly press your martyred guest!
Martyr for the truth confest,
Principles his life attest
And on that whole life imprest,
With true courage, force, and zest,
Grief is struggling in our breast,
Proud we are, yet sore distrest
Of his form to be possest,
As they guard him to his rest.
Christ receive him 'mid the blest!
Bear him on! bear him on!

DELTA.

Philadelphia, April 22, 1865.

THE WORK OF A GREAT PEOPLE.

(*Continued from Bulletin No.* 31.)

THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE ENTERPRISE.

While the men of the Northern and Southern States were preparing for war during the spring of 1861, the women of the North perceived already that in the great struggle which was then commencing there would be also something for them to do. They undertook at first to furnish to the medical corps of the army a supply of lint and bandages. Everywhere in the churches, in the schools, in the saloons of the rich, women and girls of every age and rank met together to prepare lint and bandages out of the linen which they bought. But they soon perceived that their activity and zeal were required in a more extensive field. They then organized the "Women's Central Association of Relief" of New York, and other societies were formed in different cities; and these courageous women resolved to consult men, who by their experience and position could open a suitable field for exertions. A pastor of New York, well known for the interest which he has taken in all works of charity and philanthropy, the Rev. Dr. Henry W. Bellows, gave them the following practical advice. "You want inquiry from the only correct sources. You must find out first what the Government *will* do, and *can* do, and then help it by working *with it*, and doing what it cannot. You must have advice derived from the Government."

This advice was immediately followed. The Rev. Dr. Bellows and three of the most eminent physicians of New York, Messrs. Van Buren, Harris and Harsen were authorized to go to Washington in order to consult the Secretary of War.

An exposé of their mission was presented by the delegates to the Secretary of War the 18th of May, 1861. Such was the commencement of the society now known under the name of the "Sanitary Commission of the United States," a society whose operations embrace a field almost as extensive as the whole of Europe, and whose voluntary contributions for the relief of the suffering soldiers have amounted in less than three years to the enormous sum of fifty millions of francs.

DIFFICULTIES.

It is certainly impossible for any person to have conducted himself towards a government with more moderation and respect than was done by the delegates of these patriotic societies of New York; nevertheless the authorities were not at first favorable to them. That regularity (or routine) which is so necessary in government affairs, is naturally opposed to innovations. We ought not then to be surprised that President Lincoln should call the proposed Commission a "fifth wheel in the military coach." The chiefs of the war department, and particularly those of the medical bureau, at first received the offers of service from the delegates in a manner which was anything but encouraging. But the women of the United States remained immovable in their resolution, and here again was verified the saying, "what woman wills, Heaven wills." Four days after the presentation of the expose by the delegates, Dr. R. C. Wood, surgeon in chief, *pro tem.*, of the armies of the United States, expressed the following opinion in a communication addressed to the Secretary of War.

"The Medical Bureau would, in my judgment, derive important and useful aid from the counsels and well directed efforts of an intelligent and scientific Commission, to be styled 'A Commission of Inquiry and Advice in respect of the Sanitary Interests of the United States Forces,' and acting in co-operation with the Bureau in elaborating and applying such facts as might be elicited from the experience and more extended observation of those connected with armies with reference to the diet and hygiene of troops and the organization of military hospitals."

Profiting by the encouragement which was thus given them, the four delegates did not lose a moment, and the very next morning they sent to the Secretary of War the following:

"The Medical Bureau of the United States Army having asked for the appointment of a Sanitary Commission in aid of its own overtasked energies, the committee of the New York delegation to the Government on Sanitary Affairs, beg leave, at the request of the Medical Bureau, and as explanatory of its wishes, to state what precise powers are sought by the proposed Commission and what specific objects are aimed at."

These proposals made to the Government seemed to show that the contemplated Sanitary Commission might after all be a harmless association, having none other than loyal and laudable intentions; yet the powers which its founders demanded, as will

be seen hereafter, were very extensive. But the delegates from New York proved themselves equal to the greatness of their mission by avoiding everything that could have the appearance of unreasonable importunity, and by submitting themselves in all things to the military and medical authorities. They recognized moreover, at the very outset, not merely the importance but the absolute necessity of administrative etiquette and routine in all that related to the army.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION IS ORGANIZED.

The Secretary of War at length gave his official approbation to the proposed Commission on the 9th of June, 1861, but with little sympathy for the enterprise, and with no confidence in its success. On the 13th of June the Commission obtained the official sanction of the President in this concise form: "I approve the above, A. LINCOLN," subjoined to the order of the Secretary of War. The last sentence of that order is remarkable.

"The Commission will exist until the Secretary of War shall otherwise direct, unless sooner dissolved by its own action."

This was as much as to say that he had no faith in its permanence.

The inquiries made by the four delegates since their arrival in Washington had not revealed a very encouraging state of affairs. The American army, at the voice of the President calling for 75,000 volunteers, had been suddenly raised from 20,000 men to 80,000, and it could not reasonably be expected that the military administration, organized on the basis of the first number, could prove itself all at once equal to the second. The North American Review for January, 1864, gives the following picture of the state of affairs at Washington at the period referred to.

"For the first year of the war there was not commercial industry enough in the country to supply the actual wants of the army. Clothing could not be manufactured fast enough to meet the rapidly recruited ranks. Cloths were imported by the Government as a protection against the enormous rates which holders of suitable stuffs were selfishly exacting. Besides, the ideas of the government bureaus did not and could not expand as fast as the unprecedented wants of the army did. Timidity and caution tied up even the boldest hands. The suffering which existed in the rank and file from want of blankets, stockings, overcoats and tents was very great. The regimental hospitals, under new and inexperienced surgeons, without acquaintance with bureau routine, were often desperately deficient both in what they might have had, if at the proper time they had known how to ask for it, and what no skill in asking at that time could secure. The general hospitals were just beginning to be established. Inconvenient and wholly unsuitable buidings were the only ones within reach, and the Government was not then aroused to the necessity of creating proper ones. The hospital fund, the usual adequate resource of the surgeon for all extra comforts and delicacies, now extensively, nay universally, in operation, could not at once be inaugurated, even by experts, and was utterly beyond the management of novices. It afforded no dependence for many months, and was of little use for the first year of the war."

It was at that moment of perplexity and need that this voluntary association, seeking to form itself into a Sanitary Commission, offered its services to the Government.

The delegates and their constituents, far from being alarmed at the difficulties which presented themselves to their view, felt only the more deeply the necessity of their enterprise; and having obtained from the Government all that they had asked—the right to exist, to labor and to counsel—they immediately set themselves to work in order to provide the necessary succor for the suffering soldiers.

THE COMMISSION BEGINS ITS WORK.

There had been already several societies organized for the purpose of assisting the soldiers, but they were all more or less deficient from not having an established system of operations. In the different States, districts and even towns, local committees had been formed, who received gifts in money or in kind for the benefit of the volunteers of their particular locality; but these committees were not long in discovering the difficulties necessary to be encountered when provision had to be made for soldiers who were distant hundreds of leagues, and were liable at any time to be sent from one end of a State to the other, that is to say to a distance equal to the length of France, without the public at large having any knowledge of their movements. The Sanitary Commission had at first some difficulty in making these local

associations understand that the interest of the troops, for whose advantage they had been formed, would be better promoted by one great national organization, than by mere municipal committees or local societies. One by one, however, they joined themselves to the Commission, and in a short time the women of the whole North had organized themselves into auxiliary societies in all the towns and villages, and were laboring faithfully and energetically for the benefit of the Commission. We shall be able to form some idea of the importance which this association has acquired, when we are informed that at the present time it comprises within its organization more than 32,000 of these auxiliary societies.

In order to supply the continually increasing wants of the army, and to provide for the proper distribution of the articles sent in abundance from all parts of the loyal States, the members of the Commission soon found that their number was insufficient, and they at once resolved to correct the deficiency by receiving new members into their association. Their standing committee was increased to twenty-one members, comprising several of the most distinguished physicians and philanthropists in the United States. Among these we cannot omit to mention Mr. Federick Law Olmstead, whose works on the agricultural and other resources of the Southern States have made his name celebrated in the learned world. He occupied a high position as municipal engineer of the city of New York, but at the first call of the Sanitary Commission, which already had all his sympathies, he resigned his highly advantageous and honorable position in order to accept the post of general secretary of the association under the direction of the committee.

Afterwards, associated members were added to the central committee. These were persons chosen on account of their position, and their willingness to use their influence for the good of the cause, without any other recompense than the consciousness of having performed their duty. The business of these members is to make known to those around them and to the public at large the wants as well as the objects of the Commission, and to induce those who desire to do anything for the soldiers, to put themselves in communication with the association. Thousands of printed circulars have been distributed in all directions, setting forth the wants of the army, and especially of the military hospitals. A proclamation has been sent to all the post-masters of the North, (*i. e.* of the loyal States), with the request that it may be circulated as much as possible, inviting the inhabitants, and particularly the women, to form themselves into auxiliary societies. The editors of the newspapers and other journals, (and in the United States there are 4,052 journals and reviews with an annual circulation of 927,951,548 copies*), have been invited to discuss the subject in their columns. The presidents and directors of the life insurance companies have been made to realize that they have an especial interest in the welfare and health of the soldiers. In short, an appeal has been made to all classes of society who were in any way interested in the movement, or who felt that it was their duty to labor for the soldiers while these were fighting for their country.

THE SUBJECT OF TRANSPORTS.

The women having at length found a practical method of manifesting their patriotism, and the sympathy which they felt for the hardships of the soldiers, and knowing also what things were immediately necessary to the army, set themselves to work with a zeal and energy rarely exhibited by men. But new difficulties rose before the Commission at every step. The private houses, stores, schools and even the churches were encumbered with bales and packages of clothing and other articles destined for the sick and wounded, awaiting the orders of the quartermaster general. The subject of transportation in a country so extensive as the United States, presents peculiar difficulties, not only on account of the proportionally small number of railroads and canals,† &c., but also on account of the rivalry existing at the commencement of the war between the different States. The theory of the individual sovereignty of the States, and a general desire to maintain the integrity and autonomy‡ of each, presented a serious obstacle to the efforts of the Commission. Nevertheless, this jealousy of State towards State, which the National Government had been unable to control,

* See "The United States of America," by John Bigelow, United States Consul at Paris.—Paris, 1863.

† The 60,000 kilometres of railroads and the 6,000 kilometres of canals possessed by the United States, are indeed a small affair compared with the extent of the country. [A *kilometre* is a little more than three-fifths of a mi

was at length overcome by the Sanitary Commission, inspired and directed by the spirit of philanthropy. It was resolved to treat the country, not as a confederacy of sovereign states, but as an indivisible whole; to efface, so to speak, the ancient lines of separation, and to form new sections, of which the navigable waters and lines of railroad constituted the different bases. General depots were established in the large cities in order to receive contributions of every kind from the neighboring towns and villages. Thus one hundred and twenty towns and villages became auxiliaries to the section of which Cleveland, in Ohio, formed the central depot; twelve hundred and thirty-six became auxiliary to New York, &c. The standing committee at Washington was from that time able to regulate and direct the beneficence of the whole country towards the points of greatest need; at the same time they were delivered from, perhaps, the most onerous part of their former labors, having now to correspond only with the general depots.—*L' Œuvre d'un Grand Peuple, par J. N. P., Paris*, 1864.

EXTRACTS FRON REPORT OF DR. ALEXANDER McDONLAD.

ARMIES OPPERATING BEFORE RICHMOND,
CITY POINT, *March* 31, 1865.

DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS,

General Secretary U. S. Sanitary Commission.

SIR:—Since the date of my last report these armies have been comparatively quiet, but until within a few days no movement of the entire armies has been made. Spite of all this seeming quiet a great amount of labor has been performed, and many changes in location of camps made, involving the erection of new quarters, re-arrangement of ground and removal of stores, in some cases several times during the winter; consequently our agents have been kept busy most of the time till the coming of warm weather in protecting themselves and others against the rigors of a Virginia winter, and supplying the wants of the army as completely as means for so doing were at hand.

Our stations at the right, Army of the James, remain in nearly the same location as at date of my last report. Many improvements have been made, and the quarters are very comfortable. One station with each, 24th and 25th Corps, and their base at Deep Bottom, are the points from which the Army of the James is supplied. This department includes all the territory from Point of Rocks to Four Mile Run, and the number of agents is sufficient to meet all present demands. It is under the charge of Mr. Geo. A. Williams, assisted by two agents in each corps and one at Deep Bottom. Another agent will be sent to work among the colored troops of the 25th Corps, as requested by Gen. Ord, so soon as the proper person can be found to undertake this work. These troops are employing their spare time in learning to read, and evince a great desire to improve as rapidly as possible. By the aid of books furnished by the Commission the agents and chaplains have succeeded in establishing a foundation for future education, and increased the desire for information among nearly all the troops.

Our stations with the army of the Potomac are located along the line of railroad to Humphrey's station. The position of these corps has been changed two or three times since January 1, and the work of building on one side would hardly be completed before a move would be ordered, and a new location chosen. This has been specially the case with the 5th Corps. Each station in both armies is furnished with two four horse teams and drivers, two agents, two loads of supplies, and a saddle horse for the agent in charge.

The Relief Corps in the Army of the Potomac is in charge of Mr. J. W. Johnson, and is in a most efficient condition. Stations in this army draw supplies directly from City Point, those in the Army of the James from Deep Bottom, to which place stores are sent from City Point by water.

The army of the James having occupied all the lines from Point of Rocks to Four Mile Run, includiug the 24th, 25th, and part of the 8th Corps, has demanded and received a due share of attention from the Commission. Including, as it has, all the colored troops in these armies, many of whom have previously been slaves, but now stand out as freemen, battling for the country, yet as children in their dependence on others for necessaries or comforts; many of them heedless regarding the future, looking only to present need, and requiring special instruction and special care, has created a want for the means of instructing men never previously so fully developed; has added to our list of supplies, books, slates, pencils and similar stores of small cost but great benefit, and demanded with the means for education competent instructors, which we

have endeavored to furnish so far as lay in our power. Spelling books and slates have been judiciously distributed, and our agents have exerted themselves to have chaplains and others aid in teaching their uses to the men, so that now it is no uncommon scene to find two or three colored soldiers gathered in some quiet place aiding each other in their studies. These troops have seemed to suffer from the extreme cold weather of the past winter much more than whites, and we have been compelled to issue for their use comparatively large quantities of woolen clothing, socks, mittens, &c.

While the agents of the 25th Corps have been thus engaged with colored troops, those of the 24th and 8th have been employed in ministering to the necessities of their men, and have done all they could to relieve or prevent suffering in any of its various forms.

The table of distribution will show that all in this departmnet have received a due share of attention, and that our agents have not been unmindful of their duty.

From this army was sent Jan. 4 an expedition which succeeded in capturing Fort Fisher. Two of our agents, Messrs. Foster and Adams, with a good supply of stores, accompanied it, and Mr. Foster has followed the troops to Wilmington. The service rendered at these points has proved of great benefit to men wounded in the attack on Fort Fisher, and also to men released from rebel prisons and sent to Wilmington, where many of them remain till sufficiently recuperated to resume their journey.

At both places our agents received the thanks and co-operation of government officers, and good evidence that their work was appreciated by the commanding generals and the troops. Messrs. Foster and Adams deserve special credit for their industry and persevering efforts during this campaign.

January 25 Mr. Foster arrived from Fort Fisher, and was supplied with a fresh lot of stores, with which he returned. He reports that the Sanitary Commission was the only benevolent association represented during the attack.

At Wilmington a quantity of liquors were turned over to the Commission to be used for men in hospital, and as the supply of milk was exhausted, our agent purchased a lot, and furnished milk-punch to the hospitals by directions of the surgeons.

The Wilmington station has since been transferred to the department of North Carolina, and future reports will doubtless be forwarded by the agent in charge at Newbern.

With the Army of the Potomac we have six agents in charge of Mr. J. W. Johnson. Their issues have been made mainly to men in the regiments, with a limited distribution to hospitals. They include the 2d, 5th, 6th, 9th and Cavalry Corps, Engineer and Artillery Brigade. Picket firing, attacks on the line, hard duty, raids and advances have kept the hospitals in this department filled with wounded and sick, making the duties of our agents constant and at times arduous.

The sanitary condition of this army during the past three months has equalled, if not surpassed, that of any previous season. Camps have been well chosen, regularly laid out, well policed, and the morale of the men has generally been excellent. Rations are well cooked, quarters, arms and equipments kept clean, daily drills and amusements of various kinds have given a pleasant and healthy stimulus to the men, and enabled them better to endure the duties and fatigues of service.

Particular attention has been paid to men sick in quarters, who may be kept from hospitals and returned to duty. The call for small stores had been great previous to the advent of paymasters. "Uncle John," as he is familiarly called by the men, (John Vasser), reports having distributed from Feb. 21 to 25, 1,000 Soldier's Friend, 2,120 sheets of paper, 1,000 envelopes, 42 combs, 50 pens, 50 handkerchiefs, 25 needles, ¾ lb. of thread, 30 papers of tobacco, 2,090 newspapers, and 9 pairs of mittens. These are personal distributions. Besides these corn starch, farina, milk, crackers, &c., &c., are furnished to the sick, who are thereby enabled, with a few days of rest, to resume their duties.

Feb. 1 and 2 the work of clearing hospitals of 2d, 5th and 6th Corps commenced, and the morning of the 3d found these troops ready for a move. Feb. 4, marching orders were issued, and the troops moved on the 5th, 2d Corps skirmishing all the afternoon. A fight on the 6th was succeeded by an intensely cold night, with hail and rain, during which the wounded suffered much from exposure. Punch, crackers, &c., were at hand, also Jamaica ginger and blankets. Our work continued through the night, and

till noon of the 7th. Each ambulance was provided with Jamaica ginger instead of whisky for a stimulant. Over 1,000 wounded were sent from Patrick station, to whom 100 gallons milk punch, 1 gross Jamaica ginger, 2 bbls. crackers and a quantity of blankets were furnished as they lay on the platform waiting for transportation to the hospitals.

The recent battles at Hatcher's and Gravelly Run have increased our labors in all departments. The wounded cavalrymen especially demand a large issue of clothing, as they were prisoners in rebel hands some twenty-four hours, during which time they were robbed of almost everything, even to shoes, stockings and blankets. The 2d, 5th, 9th, 24th and Cavalry Corps hospitals have all had large accessions of wounded.

Schools, libraries, reading, writing and smoking rooms have been established in some of the hospitals, and are meeting with success. Schools are taught by agents after regular duties of the day have been performed, and are well attended. Libraries are established in connection with the schools, from which books are loaned to men who are unable to leave the wards; reading, writing and smoking rooms are for those who are convalescing. These accommodations are a source of much benefit, well arranged for their several purposes, and kept in good order by the application of a proper code of regulations conspicuously posted in each tent.

Washing of clothing was commenced in some of the hospitals and resulted in a great saving to the Commission: also in the establishment of laundries by hospitals, which have for the present superceded the necessity for our doing such work, and it has consequently been temporarily abandoned, yet can easily be resumed if the present arrangement of hospital laundries should not work better than it now promises.

Issues of clothing by quartermasters to men in hospitals reach only those cases where the applicant will probably be compelled to remain several weeks, as officers are not disposed to become responsible for stock to be kept on hand, and will therefore only draw for the amount ordered; consequently men who will go to general hospitals, or be returned to their regiments in a short time, must remain without clothing or be furnished by the Commission.

Refugees, in addition to their lodgings, are furnished with food, but the number of this class has been gradually diminishing, much to our satisfaction, as most of them arrive in an almost destitute condition, and we cannot relieve them without the risk of so depleting our stock as to detract from the proper application at times of necessity.

Stations at Fort Monroe and Portsmouth are continued; their supplies are drawn from the storehouse at Norfolk. This branch is in charge of Mr. H. P. Sherman, and the work of individual relief is being ably conducted; adjacent hospitals also are supplied from the Norfolk store. Disabled men from the front are received and taken care of by Mr. Alcooke, Superintendent of the Soldier's Lodge, at Portsmouth. His reports show that since Jan. 1, 1865, he has given 4,320 meals and 1,422 lodgings, besides supplying necessary clothing and comforts to a very large number of men on their way to or from their regiments. His work has found favor with all who know him, and the facilities afforded by government officers at this point are such as can be expected only from the result of patient and persevering application to duty.

Until the arrival of army paymasters, (Feb. 25), we were continually receiving applications for stationery, buttons, needles, pins, thread, yarn, combs, soap, clothing, and especially tobacco, articles which men must have, but could obtain only by purchase or by application to the Sanitary, and having no money, not having been paid in several months, the Sanitary was their only and last resource. We have endeavored to meet these demands whenever made, well knowing that there was no other source of supply.

We always want clothing, vegetables, stationery, sewing material, dried fruit, sugar, tea, milk, stimulants, tobacco, rags and bandages; these are the standards; hospital food, flavoring extracts, slippers, &c., &c., are needed for special use.

All supplies should be carefully and securely packed; much loss arises from the want of a little care in the preparation of goods for shipment, and in legible marking. We have often received packages bearing a conspicuous mark of their contents, but a very diminutive and obscure address; reverse this order and the arrangement would be complete.

A little work called "*The Soldier's Friend*," has been largely distributed in these armies, is gladly received, read and preserved. About forty thousand copies

have been distributed by our agents, and the work is well appreciated by men and officers. Mr. Sperry suggests the addition of a few simple rules for the preservation of health, to include some instructions regarding the proper preparation and cooking of soldiers' rations.

This little book will be found carefully preserved in the pockets of a great majority of the soldiers who have received a copy. It contains just the information needed by every soldier, so arranged and condensed as to be of practical value to him. Give us more of them.

During the recent exchange of prisoners it has been our good fortune to minister to some of the wants of those who have suffered so much and so long for the cause. The distribution of comforts to a part of these men, although in our regular line of business, was deemed a gratifying though sad opportunity for doing good; and the spirit of thankfulness with which any little attention was received, more than repaid the exertions necessary for such deeds. We have supplied all that could be reached, both at Varina and Wilmington, with all we had that was needed, and our only regret has been that the supply was so limited.

Refugees, men, women and children have been arriving almost daily, many of them in a nearly destitute condition. Women, whose husbands have succeeded in reaching some free city, come through our lines, often traveling miles on foot, "flanking the pickets," and under the flag against which their nearest male relatives have been fighting, seeking protection for themselves and children.

The number of letters forwarded for soldiers since Jan. 1, has been 34,794, of newspapers 1,312.

A large number of letters are written at the several writing rooms and on board our boats, where the conveniences are always at hand, and open at all hours of each day for such as desire to make use of them.

IMPORTANT TESTIMONIAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C.,
March 30, 1865.

DOCTOR:—I deem it my duty to report to you as the General Secretary U. S. Sanitary Commission, the workings of this institution in this Department, particularly with that portion of the field occupied by Major-General Terry's command.

The last expedition to Fort Fisher was fitted out in a hurry, and but a few medical stores prepared for the army. My assignment to the command as medical director, was on the night before its sailing from Bermuda Hundred, and no adequate arrangements could be made to supply the medical department of the expedition. Indeed I did not then know where we were going. I was informed, however, that "all things would be supplied from Army Headquarters." With this assurance I tried to rest satisfied. On landing at Fort Fisher I found that little or no arrangements had been made to supply the medical department with medicines, dressings or stores, and that we were even without cooking utensils or nourishment for sick and wounded, except such as could be borrowed from regiments composing the command. You may well judge my feelings at the prospect before us. Almost without food and stimulants, and entirely destitute of transportation, upon a bleak shore, in front of a strongly intrenched and confident enemy, with the certainty of a fight, and the prospect of a large number of wounded, I looked about me for help. At this juncture of affairs Mr. F. W. Foster, Agent of the Sanitary Commission, came to my relief. His goods were on shipboard, but he immediately set about getting them off, and through his exertions, and by his supplies we were able to make our sick and wounded comparatively comfortable. Beside the furnishing of supplies, Mr. Foster and his assistant, F. B. Adams, personally distributed food and nourishment to the wounded, acting as nurses, and even dressing wounds. For such efficiency and devotion and timely aid I desire to express to them, and through you to the Sanitary Commission, my most heartfelt thanks. Since the capture of Fort Fisher Mr. Foster has followed the fortunes of this command. At this place, (Wilmington), he, as well as every one with a heart and means, has found abundant for hands and head to do. The Sanitary Commission contributing, under the charge of Mr. F., largely to the care and safety of the returned prisoners.

I have not called your attention to the above case, or facts, as the first instance of relief or occasion I have had to acknowledge the importance and timely aid of this Commission. During a service of four years I have had many opportunities to witness the great good of this Commission under such officers as Mr. Foster.

Mr. F. is now at Wilmington, and proceeding in all respects as he began in January, systematically to feed the sick of this city.

At present we have here about 3,000 of the returned prisoners, most of them too sick to be transported North. The average number of deaths among these people has been about twenty per day. Three of my best medical officers have sickened and died of fever contracted in the discharge of their duties among these sick. Several others are sick, and will probably die. We are endeavoring to remove the sick to hospitals out of town, and by thorough police regulations, place the city in a more healthy condition. To do this we require at least 500 barrels of lime and other disenfectments. If the Sanitary Commission can furnish any part of this they will greatly oblige.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

NORMAN S. BARNES,
Surgeon U. S. Vols.,
Medical Director Major-General Terry's Command.

DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS,
Gen. Sec'ry U. S. San. Com. Washington, D. C.

AID TO PRISONERS.

SHERMAN HOSPITAL, WILMINGTON, N. C.,
April 8, 1865.

MR. FOSTER,
Agent of the Sanitary Commission.

SIR:—It gives me great pleasure to bear testimony to the very efficient manner in which yourself and associates with the means placed at your disposal, alleviated the suffering of a great number of paroled prisoners who recently came into our lines from Confederate prisons. I am certain that if your supplies had not arrived at a most opportune moment, many would have died from the want of the necessaries you so kindly furnished. To your energy and faithfulness much is due. I am sure, sir, that all who witnessed your exertions, in caring for the sick and wounded, gave you much deserved credit.

Allow me to thank you for what was done for the men under my charge. You clothed them; you fed them; and I do not doubt but that for your personal attention, many who are living would have died.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
W. E. DAY, 117th N. Y.,
Surgeon in charge Hospital.

NEWBERN AND WILMINGTON.

FROM DR. J. M. PAGE.

NEWBERN, N. C., *April* 23, 1865.

DR. C. R. AGNEW,

MY DEAR DOCTOR:—Your favor of the 17th is just received. I sent the *Uncas* to Wilmington with twenty-five barrels of lime and seventy-five barrels of chloride of lime. Those barrels of lime and chloride of lime I retained here have been of infinite value to us. The desire to avoid pestilence here the coming season is intense, and the lime and chloride which the Commission has just sent us have inspired the first ray of confidence for the authorities and citizens and service for any chance of immunity from the plague this summer. I have given it and applied it in the proper quarters, which my recent connection with the Board of Health enabled me to do with judicious discrimination. I sent Mr. Bowman to Wilmington, and he has just returned with his report. Dr. Hand, Medical Director of this department, just from Wilmington, reports a great improvement in the condition of things there, with regard to sanitary and to military police. * * *

We have now nearly three thousand occupied beds in our general hospital here, and are constantly sending off loads of the convalescents to make room for the new installments from Sherman's army. In the exigencies of the transportation of such numbers some most happy opportunities have occurred for the timely relief of the Sanitary Commission, and these opportunities have been fully occupied and appreciated, thanks to the abundant and timely supplies forwarded to this department. My brother has already established a Sanitary depot at Raleigh, and I yesterday sent him a car-load of stores—nine to eleven tons weight—with Mr. Hoblit to assist in their disbursement. The depot at Kinston I have broken up, and withdrawn Mr. Perry to assist me here. Mr. Tope is conducting affairs at our depot in Goldsborough. Since the day you left Newbern, when Sherman's barefooted and brave soldiers began to make their appearance, an army—literally an army—has besieged the doors of the Commission, and no less an army has blessed, and been blessed, by the streams of relief which have poured from our doors and windows. There seems now to be such an affinity between want in the army and the great centers of supply for that want among

the friends of the army at the North, as to insure the timely transmission of the supplies through our established channels. The large installments of vegetables—over two thousand barrels—invoiced to me arrived just when a boat arrived, and a half-rationed army could obtain fresh vegetables from no other source. The sixty thousand pounds of tomatoes just now received are equally opportune, and eagerly accepted. I forwarded to the front, six thousand pounds of them by last night's train.

OUR WORK AT NEW ORLEANS AND MOBILE.

BY GEO. A. BLAKE.

With this I forward you Special Relief Report from O. C. Bullard, Pension Report from Chas. W. Seaton, and Report of Soldiers' Home by W. S. Bullard; also several letters received within the past week from our agents in the field, and others occasioned by our good work, being written on both sides, all sides, and crossed; I must forward few of them unfastened. I can hardly hope to add anything to the information I have given you in my weekly letters.

Since my last report larger demands have been made upon us than ever before. The arrival of Major-General A. J. Smith's command and the fitting out of an expedition against Mobile has occasioned a severe drain on our stock, as our weekly account will show. Knowing that the larger portion of our troops would be congregated in the region of Mobile, either at Fort Gaines on Dauphin Island, or at Barrancas, I have forwarded to these posts a good supply of stores, knowing they were more needed there than here. I have sent as follows:

Memorandum of stores fowarded to Dauphin Island and Barrancas since Jan. 15, 1865.

Potatoes, bush.	90	Pepper, papers	72
Pickles and kraut, gals	10,400	Ginger, papers	72
Crackers, bbls	64	Socks, pairs	320
Corn meal, bbls	20	Shoes, pairs	60
Dried fruit, bbls	10	Slippers, pairs	355
Tomatoes, lbs	656	Cotton drawers, pairs.	568
Beef stock, lbs	1,475	Woolen drawers, pairs	167
Farina, lbs	595	Cotton Shirts	2,941
Corn-starch, lbs	661	Woolen shirts	357
Condensed milk, lbs.	1,258	Wrappers	107
Chocolate, lbs	175	Handkerchiefs	995
Tea, lbs	17	Towels	1,310
Sugar, lbs	250	Abdominal bandages.	150
Cod fish, lbs	350	Combs	500
Canned fruit, cans	98	Suspenders	20
Mustard, cans	72	Rags & bandages, bbls	7
Brandy, bots	48	Writing paper, reams.	19
Whisky, bots	534	Envelopes	8,500
Foreign wine, bots	312	Pens	432
Domestic wines, bots.	192	Pen-holders	144
Lime juice, bots	413	Pencils	100
Extract ginger, bots	48	Housewives	300
Catsup, bots	36	Cushions	162
Ink, bots	144	Pillows	200
Reading matter, bbls.	2	Pillow-cases	180
Chloroform, lbs	2	Sheets	166
Blankets	108	Soap, lbs	30
Bed sacks	200	Eye shades	6
Musquito bars	74	Arm slings	156
Tin cups	124	Linen thread, lbs	3
Tin basins	18		

The above is an account of the stock that I have sent forward; it does not include what was delivered to forces of the Expeditionary Corps while at rest in the neighborhood of this city. As I wrote you before, every regiment of 16th Corps, Major-General Smith's, were furnished with more or less kraut or pickles on arrival in this city.

The demand for writing material has been constant, and more than equal to my supply on hand, which will account for my considerable purchases. The soldiers are all anxious to write to their friends, and having no money at their command, they are obliged to call on the Commission. I will venture to say that we have distributed more writing paper and envelopes during the past three months, *directly to the soldier*, than has been done in this city by any other organization during the war.

We are well represented at the front both in men and stores, and I intend to go forward the first of next week, or as soon as Mobile is occupied. You will hear many reports of "Mobile fallen," but up to this time our forces do not occupy Mobile.

Thus far about one thousand will cover the number of killed and wounded. Most of the wounded have been brought to this city, and we have been able to meet emergencies. Occasionally I have purchased to do so, feeling that the work of the Commission demanded it.

From New Orleans Delta, April 13.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

The following letter explains itself. It is another evidence of the excellent management of the Sanitary Commission agency in this Department:

NEW ORLEANS, *April* 7, 1865.

Agent of the U. S. San. Com.

DEAR SIR:—The following resolution was adopted unanimously at the meeting of the Union Ministerial Association, held in this city on the 3d inst.:

Resolved, That as ministers resident of New Orleans, and chaplains resident in this Department, feeling a deep and abiding interest in the Government of the United States, and the welfare of its soldiers, we are profoundly thankful, on behalf of both, for the aid and comfort afforded to the sick

and wounded in the army, by the United States Sanitary Commission, and from personal knowledge of the manner in which the New Orleans agency has been managed by Dr. Geo. A. Blake, we most cordially commend it to the confidence of those who love the Union and seek the good of the soldier. Respectfully yours,

E. ANDREWS,
Recording Scribe of the Association.

HOME AT NEW ORLEANS.

NEW ORLEANS, *Jan.* 11, 1865.

SIR:—The accompanying statement relative to the Soldiers' Home, was made at the request of Captain Browne, who was sent to inspect the Home by Gen Sherman, commanding defences of New Orleans.

He handed me a paper, of which the following is s copy, as indicating the information sought.

"The number of men on detailed service boarding at the Home, the number in transition on the morning of the 10th inst., and a condensed history of the manner in which the institution is conducted, what Government furnishes, and what is done by the Commission."

The statistics desired were given him on a separate paper. My statement may be of some interest to you, and, I think, has added somewhat to the confidence manifested by the military authorities in our work.

The Home is inspected by different officers, sent by Gen. Sherman, very frequently, so far without the first word of complaint, and with frequent commendation.

Very respectfully,
O. C. BULLARD.

F. N. KNAPP,
Superintendent Special Relief.

NEW ORLEANS, *Dec.* 10, 1864.

CAPT. BROWN, A. D. C.

SIR:—I have the honor herewith to furnish you a brief history of the "Soldiers' Home" in this city, its workings and other data that may be of value to meet the object you have in view.

The Home was established under Special Order 272, Headquarters Department of the Gulf, in October, 1863. Chaplain E. Nute, of the First Kansas Volunteers, was appointed Superintendent by Major-General Banks under that order. Mr. Nute was at the time acting as an Agent of the Western Sanitary Commission, having been detailed by General Grant to the service of that Commission in organizing similar work along the Mississippi River.

The Western Commission were in a degree responsible for the management of the Home at first.

During the winter, a transfer of the patronage or care of the Home, was made to the U. S. Sanitary Commission. In February, 1864, Major-General Reynolds, of New Orleans, appointed an Agent of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, Superintendent under the supervision of O. C. Bullard, Special Relief Agent of Department of the Gulf, since which time the Home has been conducted by the Commission on the following general principles.

The Government furnishes for the use of the Home, the building known as the Planters' Hotel, corner of Magazine and Julia streets.

It also furnishes rations and fuel based upon the morning reports, daily returned to Headquarters of Defences.

These reports give the number at the Home, under the several classes of furloughed, discharged, for duty, (or those *in transitu*, including all the men received on orders from the proper officers), paroled prisoners, detailed soldiers, *i. e.* orderlies, &c., who are regular boarders at the Home, (received only on orders from Headquarters of Defences), and civil employees, *i. e.* those employed in the Home and paid by the Commission.

The Sanitary Commission hires three adjoining buildings and lots. No. 94 Julia street is used for a baggage room and lodgings for the detailed men; No. 96 Julia street contains the office of the Special Relief Agent and Pension Agent, the rear of the building being used as lodgings for colored soldiers and the colored help, with laundry arrangements on the lower floor; buildings and lots on Magazine street adjoining the Planters' Hotel are used for storeage, wood yard, &c.

The Sanitary Commission has also provided iron bedsteads, comfortably furnished with bedding; all the necessary kitchen, table and laundry utensils; and the fixtures for heating not belonging to the building.

It furnishes the gas, a surgeon for daily attendance on the sick, the services of superintendent, matron, two female nurses, a night watchman, and from twelve to fifteen male and female employees.

The working force is necessarily considerable. The cooking, washing, scrubbing,

chamber work, preparation of fuel, &c., incident to such an establishment, (if neatly and perfectly conducted) will explain this point.

The common table is furnished to a considerable extent with vegetables, dried fruit, pickles, &c., in addition to Government rations. There is a comfortable hospital ward for all that need medical attendance, or who are too feeble to go to the common table, or sit up through the day.

Food suitable for the respective cases is served to the inmates of the hospital in the ward by the nurses in attendance.

They are kindly cared for, and such medicines and stimulants administered as the Surgeon may direct.

A few days rest, with good nursing and change of diet, often saves the lives of feeble men, who have before them the long journey to their homes.

Seven men are daily detailed from the First New Orleans Regiment, who act as guard at the Home and at the Government buildings on the opposite corner.

Respectfully submitted,

O. C. BULLARD,
Special Relief Agent,
U. S. San. Com., New Orleans.

RELIEF TO PRISONERS.

BY H. TONE.

VICKSBURG, MISS., *April* 6, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY.
Secretary West. Dept., U. S. San. Com.

DEAR SIR:—I am happy to be able to report that we are making excellent progress in our work with the prisoners here. I am now issuing daily from forty to fifty barrels of potatoes to the men in camp, (numbering about 4,200), with an occasional additional issue of kraut. The men have all received new clothes, are drawing good rations, and if they could only hear from home and get plenty of tobacco they would be perfectly happy. They have been furnished with considerable quantities of paper and pens, both by private individuals and the various Commissions, but heretofore have had so little ink that much of the supply could not be used. To-day I procured material and manufactured about two gallons, which I carried to camp in pint bottles and divided so as to make it go as far as possible. To-morrow I shall prepare more, and I hope that hereafter no soldier will be prevented from writing home by want of ink.

The citizens here have done nobly. Several of them, foremost among whom were Capt. Greeley and Mr. Foster, have devoted almost their entire time to the matter, collecting funds, purchasing and distributing goods. They expended several thousand dollars for tobacco, towels, combs, shears, razors, paper and envelopes.

Here let me urge again the necessity of sending large quantities of tobacco. The number of people who use the weed, is as astonishing as the almost uncontrollable appetite they acquire for it. Men may be filthy, ragged, buttonless, and in a very miserable condition every way; and yet a "comfort bag" containing towel, soap, buttons, needle and thread and a comb, will not be half as warmly welcomed as a piece of tobacco. The few pounds that I had, (120), although cut into very small pieces, and made to go as far as possible, have brought more thanks and created a greater sensation than all the potatoes I have issued.

I have made arrangements to procure a list of all the men now here, and also, as far as possible, the names of those who died at Andersonville and Cahawba.

Enclosed please find a copy of a communication which I addressed to Gen. Morgan L. Smith, with reference to establishing a feeding station at Black River, with the endorsement thereon by Capt. Fisk, A. A. G.

He also gave me a note to Major Miller, commanding the camp, requesting him to do all in his power to assist in carrying out the object of my mission. The articles desired have been procured, and Mr. Johnston will be on the ground, ready to work, to-morrow. The remainder of the prisoners, being nearly all men who are unable to walk, will be greatly benefitted by such a station.

Two days ago the train took out a car-load of rebel prisoners and brought back a load of our men. The contrast in the physical condition of the two squads of men was very striking. The rebels were fat and hearty, well clothed, carrying large rolls of blankets, and loaded down with bread and meat. Our own men were so feeble that they had to be taken from the cars to the hospital in ambulances, were ragged beyond decency, had not a blanket or a crumb of food in the squad, and some were almost in a dying condition. To-day 190 more arrived, and these were in even a worse condition. While they were at the depot we

gave them milk-punch and crackers and wine, and it was enough to make one weep to hear the fervent expressions of "thanks, thanks," coming up from throats too weak to utter more. One died while we were feeding them. Poor fellow, he had lived to endure all the sufferings the rebels could impose upon him, only to die upon the threshold of his home at last.

VICKSBURG, *April* 3, 1865.

GEN. M. L. SMITH, Commanding.

The Sanitary Commission propose, with your consent and assistance, to establish a feeding station at Black River Bridge for the benefit of prisoners in transit. We have among our stores, extract of beef for making soup, milk, cups, dippers, &c.; and we have here a man who had two months' experience in feeding the wounded at Resaca, Ga. We have also ale, spirits, tea and soft crackers for the sick.

If this proposal meets with your approval, we would respectfully ask for the following articles, to be returned when no longer needed for this purpose, or paid for by the Sanitary Commission: Two tents and one fly, or one tarpaulin, one dozen large camp kettles, half dozen wooden buckets, and two axes. Also an order for procuring from the Commissary the necessary hard bread, coffee and sugar; and four detailed men.

Respectfully, H. TONE,
Agent U. S. San. Com.

This arrangement is most heartily approved.

By command of Brig. Gen. Smith.
A. C. FISK,
A. A. G.

VICKSBURG, MISS., *April* 9, 1865.

It is now pretty well settled that not more than a hundred more prisoners will be delivered here, communication between this place and Andersonville having been effectually severed.

I do not know the exact number already delivered, but think it will not exceed 5,000, so that in shipping goods for the prisoners here, calculation need be made for no more than that number. We are issuing daily one barrel of potatoes to each hundred men, and have enough on hand to continue at the same rate for two weeks. We have also made two issues of kraut since I came here, and have remaining enough for two or three more. Of hospital stores we have, I think, plenty of everything except fruits; of these we have none. The fifteen barrels sent on the *Atlantic* would be of great service here.

Sickness is on the increase among the prisoners. The change from starvation to luxurious diet, (for many of the soldiers say they have never fared so well before since they enlisted), has been more than their emaciated frames would bear.

I saw two ladies yesterday just from Selma. They report that Selma was captured and burned by 1,800 cavalry, one week ago to-day. The small number sent there would seem to imply that Gen. Wilson is sweeping over a wide space of country on his march.

A rebel surgeon here informs me that there were only about 2,500 men left at Andersonville, and these were men unable to march. He says the only way left the rebels to deliver them now, is to ship them at Fort Gaines, a little village on the Chattahoochie, and send them by water to the Gulf, or cross the break in the road made by Gen. Wilson, in ambulances, and deliver them here, and the latter he thinks entirely impracticable.

Exchange is going on slowly, probably fifty men having been exchanged since I came here.

The prisoners have all been supplied with new clothing, but as they have no change, and we have enough for this purpose, I intend to issue shirts and drawers to all the men in camp to-morrow or next day.

Besides doing our regular sanitary work, I have been trying to fill a niche which could not be reached in any other way. For instance, all the Commissions were issuing largely of paper and pens but very little ink. So we turned our attention to the manufacture of ink, of which we have issued several gallons. One hospital had a large cooking range but no boiler, so we had one made suitable for making coffee. Another had a large stove and plenty of pipe except a peculiarly shaped piece connecting the two. This also we procured. In this way I have expended some $30, but I am sure it was well invested.

Mrs. Harvey has just returned from New Orleans. Mrs. Monroe arrived here several days since, and is making herself useful at the Barracks Hospital. Dr. Woodward and his wife reached here last night.

The steamer *D. A. Janway* has just arrived, and will relieve us of quite a number of the sick.

VICKSBURG, *April* 12, 1865.

DEAR SIR:—Colonel Watts, the Confederate Commissioner of Exchange, told Mr. Johnston to-day that he was expecting an order from the rebel authorities declaring all the prisoners now here exchanged, and to deliver them to the Federal authorities. There are some still coming in, but they are from General Smith's army near Mobile, and from General Wilson's cavalry force, and have been prisoner's only ten or twelve days. They were started for Andersonville, but, finding that Selma was in our possession, their destination was changed to this place. There is a rumor that the remainder of the Andersonville prisoners are to be delivered at some place in Florida, Pensacola, I believe. As soon as General Wilson's cavalry force has gone beyond the line of road, they may resume delivering here, but it is hardly probable, if all accounts of the destruction which he has created on his march be true.

I have not issued shirts and drawers, as I proposed to do in my last letter, for the reason that, on going to camp on Monday to make necessary arrangements, I found the quartermaster already issuing a second suit of underclothing.

Mrs. Monroe is at the barracks hospital. At this place they are laboring under very great disadvantages. The famished patients eat their full ration and still have not enough, and not a dollar of fund can be saved. The buildings are old barracks without any conveniences for hospital accommodations; and, as the whole establishment was extemporized, they are working in a very primitive way. They have but one cooking-range for the three hundred patients and all the attendants. This is fully occupied in cooking the regular ration, so that there is no provision whatever for light diet. The Medical Purveyor has no stoves or ranges, and, as the case is so urgent, I have purchased a second-hand range for Mrs. Monroe, and am fitting her up a kind of light-diet department. This range will be returned to us when the hospital is broken up. * *

We have received four small shipments of goods since I arrived; one from Cincinnati, one from Memphis, and two from Cairo.

I think we have plenty of everything except tobacco, paper, and fruit for the hospitals. The Western Commission brought down upwards of a thousand pounds of tobacco, but even that will not last long. Still whatever reaches here in time must be very soon on the way, as it is not expected the prisoners will remain long.

The steamer *Janway* did not take a load here, but went on to New Orleans.

VICKSBURG, *April* 16, 1865.

General Smith has just issued an order recalling all the prisoners who had been detailed or received passes to remain in town, and the order states that they are to be immediately parolled and sent north. * *

The prisoners will not begin to leave here within three days, and it will be at least a week or ten days before the camp will be broken up. Whatever stores are now on the way will have ample time to reach here and be distributed; but there will not be time for anything more, nor do I think anything more will be needed. The men have been abundantly supplied with everything, and they are the most grateful men I ever saw. I never heard so much cheering for the Sanitary Commission before as I have heard here. The Agents have been to the camp so often that we are well known now, and our appearance on the platform of the cars is the signal for a crowd to gather about us and ask, "Well, what have you got for us to-day?" The answer is, "Paper and envelopes, tobacco and pipes, needles and thread, or combs, towels, razors, and scissors," as the case may be. And then comes the expression, "Bully for that! it is just what we want." In issuing such articles, we visit every tent, leaving at each one a certain quantity, so that the whole is equally divided. Potatoes and kraut we deliver to the Commissary and have issued with the rations. Since my last report, I have received and issued the goods sent on the steamer *Ruth*, and have received notice of still more on the way, which will be here to-morrow. There are two hospital boats here, the *Baltic* and the *R. C. Wood*. The *Baltic* has taken on board three hundred and fifty sick, and leaves for St. Louis to-night.

State Agents are beginning to come in with their little stocks of stores, sent to "our State" troops exclusively. I confess that it gives me great pleasure to state that *all* the men have been liberally supplied with the very things they are bringing.

A few prisoners are still coming in, but they are from General Wilson's command, and are not suffering, having been prisoners only a few days. I meet some of the same men to whom I issued, six weeks ago, at Eastport.

LETTER FROM NASHVILLE, TENN.

BY E. L. JONES.

NASHVILLE, *April* 15, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY, Sec'ry.

DEAR SIR:—I enclose my report for week ending this evening.

I have sent forward all my kraut and pickles, and need a supply for distribution here. We could use some canned fruit to excellent advantage. Have not had a can except tomatoes for nearly a month. We need all the articles of bedding mentioned in former letters. Rags too, and dried beef. We ought to have some good whisky right away. We have only one or two boxes left, and that is about the only stimulant we keep. The lemons received are good. Oranges are asked for, and cordials are very much wanted and wines.

Our issues have been much lighter this week than usual. I have contracted them with the view of more fully and promptly relieving the wants of the large army in the mountains beyond Knoxville, as advised by Medical Director Cooper.

I have shipped nothing this week except a small invoice by Medical Inspector Hamlin on his special train, as the bridges have not yet been repaired. I have 400 barrels of potatoes which I shall forward so soon as the road is open, say middle of next week, and some dry goods.

No receipts this week except from Louisville.

The dreadful news from Washington has taken the vim out of all of us here to-day.

Yours very truly, E. L. JONES.

Please send us half a dozen boxes more of *that brandy*. We have good places for some more of it.

KNOXVILLE, TENN.

BY CHARLES SEYMOUR.

KNOXVILLE, *April* 20, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Secretary West'n. Dept., U. S. San. Com.

DEAR SIR:—Though you are, doubtless, aware of the important changes now in progress in this department, I wish to inform you of the relation of the Sanitary Commission to them. I came here just after the departure of Stoneman's and Tillson's divisions, and just as the 4th Army Corps arrived. I found the troops in great need of supplies. Many of the men had not tasted vegetables of any description since the distribution of onions by the Sanitary Commission, last January. I had just time to arrange matters around Knoxville, when Dr. Starr arrived and took charge of the distribution of the supplies for the troops at the front. Owing to the difficulty of transporting vegetables to troops at a distance from the railroad, there were no stores of any consequence issued until last week, when more than a thousand bushels of potatoes and three thousand five hundred gallons of pickles and kraut were distributed to three divisions of the 4th Corps; in the opinion of their surgeons an ample supply for the present. Two hundred and fifty barrels of potatoes and forty of pickles were reserved for the division under General Tillson, whom we expect to reach in the course of three or four days. I have been afforded all the information that I could desire by the officers in command of the troops, and all that could be done has been done for us by the men in charge of the railroad.

The issues from the store have been as large as the supplies permitted. Troops specially unhealthy, and those about to leave for the front, have been supplied with vegetables for both sick and well. *All* the troops in this vicinity have been supplied with stores sufficient for the immediate use of the sick. The call for these stores was very urgent. Many men were sent to the crowded hospitals, whom a *single meal* of food different from that which their stomach loathed, would have returned to duty. Some large issues have been made to hospitals, but most of the surgeons in charge of hospitals have been very energetic in providing for themselves. It often happens, however, that I am able to supply some little but important want. I had this morning the pleasure of giving some lemons to a father, whose son, very ill in the officers' hospital, had an invalid's craving for a fresh lemon. While the supply of handkerchiefs and towels lasted, they were issued, at the rate of twenty-five a day. Shirts have been issued very sparingly, only to the needy and deserving, with an average issue of some half dozen a day. The calls for paper and envelopes, answered by a little package containing three sheets of paper and the same number of envelopes, average about forty a day. Before this reaches you most if not all of the 4th Corps will be at Nashville.

Aside from Stoneman's cavalry, which I presume will look out for itself, there will be left dependent upon this post only some —— men. The soldiers' gardens about

Knoxville will supply the troops here very soon, though I am sorry that the largest here is so far behind the others in the matter of an *early* supply.

RATHER REMARKABLE.

The following has been sent us for publication:

A QUESTION FOR THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

To the Editor of the Boston Journal:

A fact has just come to our notice, which suggests an inquiry. The fact is this: The son of Mr. Samuel Rankin of the adjoining town of Wells, Me., was a soldier in the army, and while sick in the hospital received a blanket from the Sanitary Commission. Not recovering, he was sent home a few weeks ago, and died shortly after of the disease contracted while in the service. Soon after his death there came to the father a bill from the Sanitary Commission for three or four dollars for the blanket which it had furnished to the dying soldier in the hospital, which bill the father paid. Now what we want to know is this: Are the sick and wounded soldiers and their afflicted friends charged for the shirts, blankets, socks, &c., which they receive through this organization? F. E. F.

Kennebunk, Me., March 30.

The above "Question" appeared in the Boston Journal of the date of April 5, 1865. It appeared without editorial note or comment, and the responsibility for its truth or falsity must fall upon the author, Rev. F. E. Fellows, pastor of the Second Congregational Church, Kennebunk, Maine.

The revered gentleman is very positive in his assertions. Avoiding the cloak of probabilities, he stands boldly forth and makes his libelous statements as facts. "*A fact* has come to our notice." "*The fact* is this, &c."

Now, Mr. Fellows might have easily ascertained, as we have, the truth of these statements had he been so inclined. Mr. Rankin, the father upon whom this alleged swindle was perpetrated, lives but a short distance from the reverend gentleman, as he himself states, "in the adjoining town of Wells, Maine;" and he would doubtless have been as ready to oblige the author as he was the subject of that libel by a plain statement of facts.

Mr. Rankin's own evidence as to the truth of the matters mentioned in the article of Mr. Fellows, as given in a "Reply" to the "Question," published in the Boston Transcript of November 11, is briefly as follows:

The son of Mr. Rankin, a soldier in the Union armies, was sick and in hospital at Point of Rocks, Va. While there, Wm. Newbert, another soldier, of Co. I, 8th Maine Vols., sold, as he claimed, to young Rankin a blanket. For this blanket the father, after the death of his son, was called upon to, and did pay, but to Mr. Newbert, the soldier who sold the article, and to him only. The Sanitary Commission is not alluded to in the whole transaction, except in a letter from Mr. Woodman, a friend of young Rankin, through whom the payment for the blanket was made, who says, "I have *wondered* that your son should buy a blanket of him, Newbert, when there were Christian and *Sanitary Commissions* at the hospitals, who are supposed to furnish such articles for the comfort of sick soldiers."

The whole transaction is simply one between two soldiers; the one, Newbert, selling his blanket to the other, Rankin.

Now if the "Question" of the Reverend F. E. Fellows, of Kennebunk, Maine, has been answered, we would like, as we are both Yankees, to ask him one in turn. It is this: Are Reverend and Christian gentlemen to be allowed deliberately to write and procure to be published, libelous articles such as this, and then screen themselves behind the veil of silence?

This Reverend and Christian gentleman has been called upon for his authority for the statements put forth as "facts," but he fails utterly to return a word of reply to that request. It has been well said that speech is silver, but silence golden. Are we not justified in considering this silence as a golden proof that not even the plea of ignorance remains to this Reverend and Christian gentleman.

We append the written proofs of the truth of our version of this rather remarkable story.

From Letters of A. WOODMAN *to* SAMUEL RANKIN.

"I have received a letter from Mr. Newbert respecting a blanket, which I send you. As I know nothing about the matter, I have not felt authorized to send him the money without orders from you. If you want me to pay Mr. Newbert, you can send the Government price, $3 60 to me, and I will see that it is forwarded."

In another letter he says: "A few days since Mr. Newbert came to my regiment to see me. He said, if you, (Mr. Rankin) were able, or in good circumstances, he would want his pay for the blanket, but if you were not in fair circumstances he did not wish for the money. He made some inquiries, but as Sargeant Larrabee informed me that you are both able and willing to pay the bill, I have settled the same with Mr. Newbert, and will send you receipt in this. He concluded to take three dollars, ($3 00). I cannot tell whether the bill is just or not, and have to take Mr. Newbert's word for it. I have wondered that your son should buy a blanket of him when there were Christian and Sanitary Commissions at the hospitals who are supposed to furnish such articles for the comfort of sick soldiers.

(Signed) "A. WOODMAN'."

RECEIPT.

CAMP 8TH MAINE VOLS.,
SPRING HILL, VA., *April* 24, 1865.

Received by the hand of Alexander Woodman three dollars in full on Daniel Rankin's account for one woolen blanket sold him while in hospital at Point of Rocks, Va.

WM. NEWBERT,
Co. I, 8th Maine Vols.

The above is a true copy.

SAMUEL RANKIN.

LETTER FROM DR. BELLOWS.

NEW YORK, *April* 26, 1865.

To the Editor of the S. C. Bulletin:

DEAR SIR:—I find that the precise language I used in acknowledging the receipt of the magnificent contribution paid by one check into our Treasury, by the Treasurer of the Great Central Fair, has been misunderstood. I stated that it ($1,035,398 $\frac{96}{100}$) was the largest ever made "*in one sum*" to our Treasury. This has been objected to, as if I had said it was the largest ever received *from one source;* a different proposition.

The contributions at various times forwarded from San Francisco and our California Branch, and which are credited to *one source,*—not including Oregon ($75,597 56), or Nevada ($99,512 46), or Washington Territory ($20,753 92),—reckon up, at this date, to $1,199,675 51.

The net product of the Metropolitan Fair (New York), of which the largest payment (May 17, 1864) was one million dollars, has, in nine separate installments, run up, at this date, to $1,184,146 72; so that the Metropolis is considerably ahead of the Quaker City in the total amount accruing from its great Fair.

Justice seemed to require this explanation of what was intended to be taken with *literal exactness,* but which is manifestly liable to be interpreted into a claim which was not set up for the Central Fair, *i. e.* a claim of having yielded a greater total result, and not merely of having made the largest payment *in one sum* ever made into our Treasury.

Very truly yours,
HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President.

WHAT REMAINS.

So earnest and faithful have the women of the country been since the commencement of the war, that now they begin to feel the reaction consequent upon its sudden cessation. But there still remains an important work, which nobody can do so easily or so well, as the thousands of earnest women who are still an organized power for good in the land.

The Confederacy is conquered, our army is coming home, and the prince of rebeldom (captured in skirts) has made his summer tour towards Washington.

The army that has conquered the rebellion, went away from our Northern and Western Homes, to do this noble work, with the prayers and sympathies of all loyal people. They were followed to camp, field, and hospital by the good wishes not only, but the active benevolence of the people.

As they return from camp, field, and hospital, it is meet that the people should welcome them with the same benevolent spirit which has animated all loyal hearts from the beginning.

As the hills of New England, the prairies of the great West, and the broad fields of the Middle States, have joined their products to the vast interests of all the mechanical industries and professions, as well as commercial and mercantile, in gifts of the people, to equip and sustain the army, so is it meet that, on the return of that army, every interest in society should be identified in the re-adjustment of our scores of thou-

sands of soldiers to their former civil relations, with as little delay and inconvenience to the men who have conquered our peace as may be possible. This is a great work. It is new to us all, but no more so than the war was in '61; and we shall find that we can render important aid on the homeward march, just as naturally and successfully as we did when our brave men left us.

The machinery of the Commission is still in good working order, and only needs to be contracted in some directions and extended in others. Our work belongs to the army. As the army leaves the field, so must we. As it marches homeward, we must march with it, establishing transient homes, temporary lodges, and such flying relief as circumstances and conditions demand.

In the field, we were always in the rear of the advancing army; as the army returns it finds us in the advance. The stations that were established, for example, at Richmond and Petersburg, as the army moved into those cities and occupied them, are still there with supplies for the needs of the vast forces that have since moved from farther south toward home. So also the ample provision established at Alexandria and Washington by the Commission for the great army that is encamped near that city, and is still gathering in "from near and from far," is another evidence of the foresight and care of the Commission. Extra arrangements have been made also in Philadelphia and New York in the east, and other centres in the west, from which the forces will scatter into smaller companies and groups, as they radiate to the remotest boundaries of our territory. What has been done by the Commission on a large scale in cities, to meet large numbers, will be done on a smaller scale in small places, to meet the few and even single individuals, who will return with their scars and trophies, to make their welcome all the more hearty. So far then as the Commission is represented in the towns, villages, and rural districts, by societies of earnest women, who have been meeting week after week to do something in this good cause, so far will these societies continue to represent the Commission in the extension of sympathy, advice and counsel to our home-coming troops.

So eager will they be to reach their homes that they will leave unadjusted their claims for pay, pensions, &c., confiding in the people to counsel and assist them. Anticipating the great amount of work to be done in this direction, the Commission is extending its claim offices all over the land. In all the important centres in the several states there will be agencies established for attention to these varied interests of the returned soldier, and of those families of soldiers who will never,—never return. Let the women of the country still retain their associations —meet together and talk over the cases of the men who shall come into their towns and neighborhoods, and see to it that they are kept out of the hands of sharpers who may otherwise defraud them of a good share of their dues, by charging heavy fees for collecting what the Commission will collect without charge. Let the widows and orphans of soldiers also occupy a large share of sympathy and aid. Find them out, lead them to the claim offices of the Sanitary Commission, where they will be instructed as to what is necessary in order to make their claims legal and valid, and then encourage them to trust their cases with the men who shall be selected to attend to these important interests for them.

Claims are not only to be collected, but employment is to be secured for many who will find themselves without sufficient means of support. Who so suitable to advise and assist, as women who have made it their life and joy for years past to sympathize with soldiers?

If every city, county, town, village and country society should constitute itself an Intelligence Association, and its rooms be opened as intelligence offices, with books for the registry of the names and qualifications

of applicants for situations as mechanics, or farmers or laborers, the re-institution of the army in peaceful pursuits would be facilitated not only, but established upon a basis that would do much toward securing permanent unity and fraternity throughout our borders.

This kind of sympathetic and yet practical relation of the soldiers and their families to the people among whom they may live, being the outgrowth of an interest which the labor of years in time of war has developed, seems to be so natural, that it scarcely needs more than a suggestion to secure its continuance. Let it claim consideration.

State agencies should also be enlisted in this unifying and federalizing process. While claim offices established by States are doing the same kind of work that the Commission agents are doing, it does not seem necessary that there should be any division of interest or clashing of work.

This terrible war, now brought to a conclusion so suddenly, and with such overwhelming victory for the right, has been a war for the establishment of unity and brotherhood. State lines have been, for the time forgotten. Geographical boundaries between larger sections have been obliterated, and our army comes back to us as the Army of the Union. Every soldier is a United States soldier; his pay comes to him from the United States Treasury; his name will be remembered by his children, after he shall have gone to his rest, not only as their father, but as a veteran in the cause of liberty under the flag of the Union. How fitting, then, that he should reach his civil and social status again through the channels by which he found his way to the field. The women of his town helped him to go from his home, and his state as a Union soldier; so they should help him, as he comes back again, to collect his claims upon the Government he has sustained, through a channel that runs as wide and deep as the Union itself.

THE SPIRIT OF THE COMMISSION.

We are glad to insert the following circular to the Branches and Aid Societies. It comes with peculiar force to us, as the embodiment of the very ideas and thoughts contained in the preceding article, and we have no doubt that the same feelings and impulses have moved in the minds and hearts of our friends all through the land.

The spirit of the Commission is surely not only alive, but enlivened with the fresh inspiration of a new field and a new work. A new mode of administration also seems to be called for in the exigency into which we have naturally fallen. Let it be encouraged and stimulated everywhere. In the former work of the Commission that is written so vividly on the successive pages of the last four years of war, there is an evident spirit of earnest Christian devotion to the cause of our country and our soldiers, which has come from a deep and pure fountain, so steady and unostentatious in its flow, that its strength has not been felt as it deserved, amid the mighty achievements of warriors, and the busy parade of self-seeking devotees at the shrine of fame. But now that the warrior is crowned with victory, and the little, yet tumultuous streams that have rippled along the surface are subsiding, the Sanitary Commission, still living in the hearts of the people, and deriving its strength from the source of All Might, is entering upon a new "campaign" for humanity, that shall add to the already accumulated testimonials of the expansive wisdom and benevolence of those who conceive its plans, and of the people who cherish and execute them. The stream must flow on.

BRANCHES AND AID SOCIETIES.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,
CENTRAL OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 15, 1865.

To the Branches and Soldiers' Aid Societies tributary to the United States Sanitary Commission:

At the late quarterly session of the Board of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, held at

Washington, April 18–21, the President and General Secretary were requested to prepare an address to the various Branches and Aid Societies co-operating with the Commission, and awaiting instructions from the Commission as to their present and future duty.

Since that period such rapid changes have occurred in the military situation, affecting so materially the work of the Commission, that it has been impossible, until now, to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion as to the probable demands to be made upon us.

While our work in the field is rapidly drawing to a close, there remains much to be done by the Commission within the approaching two months for the relief and comfort of our armies as they return from their long marches and exhausting service. New depots of supplies have already been established at the several points where these armies are to rendezvous and encamp preparatory to their discharge.

The abandonment of the Post and Base Hospitals must increase for the time the already large number of patients in General Hospital, while the necessary aid to be extended to the various garrisons during the interval preceding the more permanent adjustment of the new military status must make large drafts upon our resources. The supplies now available at our several depots are wholly insufficient to meet this final but urgent demand upon the Supply Service; and, deeming it important both for the actual relief of existing needs and for the consistent completion of this work of the people, continued now through four successive years of faithful co-operation, that our issues be not meagre or our care neglectful, we call upon our Branches and Aid Societies to maintain their usual system and activity up to the 4th July next, persevering in their work until that time with unabated energy, and with an intelligent appreciation of the necessity of the case.

It is confidently anticipated that their labors in contributing supplies to the hospitals and the field may properly terminate at that date, unless wholly improbable and unexpected events arise to make such conclusion of their work unpatriotic and inhumane. Timely notice will be given if any such necessity occur.

In the meantime the rapid disbanding of our armies and their immediate return to their relations in civil life will devolve upon our Branches and Aid Societies a new and important work, to be performed under their immediate supervision, and necessitating the maintenance of their organization for an indefinite period. The occasion for this continued effort grows out of the fact that these returning soldiers, by their military service, have become more or less detatched from their previous relations, associations, and pursuits, which are now to be re-established. Many of these men will be not only physically but morally disabled, and will exhibit the injurious effects of camp life in a weakened power of self-guidance and self-restraint, inducing a certain kind of indolence, and, for the time, indisposition to take hold of hard work. The possession of money in the majority of cases will increase the inducements to idleness and dissipation, as well as the exposure to imposition. To protect the soldier from these evils and temptations, naturally resulting from his previous military life, is a duty which is now owed to him by the people, as much as was the care extended to him, through the Commission, while in active service in the field; for we are to regard the future necessity that may exist for help and guidance to returned soldiers as no less a condition incident to the war than the wounds and sickness to which the supply agencies of the Commission have hitherto so generously ministered.

In submitting to our Aid Societies a practical plan of work adapted to these new conditions, our object is to suggest such methods as will aid the process by which these men are to resume their natural and proper relations in civil life.

The first and most important means in the accomplishment of this object will be found in a systematic provision for securing suitable occupation to all these returned men, adapted, where necessary, to the condition of those partially disabled, thus constituting each Branch and Aid Society a "Bureau of Information and Employment," by which the light occupations in all towns, and whatever work can be as well done by invalid soldiers as by others, shall be religiously given to the men who may have incapacitated themselves for rivalry in more active and laborious fields of duty by giving their limbs, their health, and their blood to the nation.

To this end, and to guard against the possibility of imposition, the names of all men who have enlisted from each town and

city should be obtained and preserved, and a record kept that shall gather all facts material to the work in hand; which, while it will be the means of collecting most useful information, will, at the same time, constitute an invaluable contribution to the history of the war. Carefully prepared forms for this purpose will be furnished from the Central Office of the Commission, to which monthly returns will be made, and where they will be duly tabulated. These results will be promptly transmitted each month to the several Aid Societies, to furnish whatever guidance they may for the wise prosecution of the work.

The co-operation of our Aid Societies in extending information concerning the various agencies of the Commission for the relief and aid of discharged soldiers and their families will constitute another important service which they may render.

Some of these agencies are of a character which will not terminate with the disbanding of our armies, but will find their largest field of activity and usefulness during the year succeeding the close of the war.

The Commission is rapidly extending its system of Claim Agencies to all the principal cities and centres of population throughout the country. Through these agencies all claims of soldiers or sailors and their families are adjusted with the least possible delay and without charge, thus securing to the applicants the full amount of the claim as allowed, and exemption from the heavy tax, and often gross imposition and fraud, to which they are subjected by the ordinary methods. The evils to which the discharged soldier is exposed in the adjustment of claims against the Government are of so grave a nature that no effort should be spared to secure to him the benefits of this agency of the Commission's work. Regarding the Local Aid Societies as the natural guardians of the soldiers and the supervisors of the work of the Commission in their respective towns or cities, it is desired that they will exercise a careful superintendence of this work, promoting by every practicable means its efficiency, and making sure that every returned soldier in their vicinity and the family of every deceased soldier is actually informed of the aid gratuitously offered them by this agency of the Commission.

The maintenance of the organization of our Aid Societies will preserve to the Sanitary Commission the means of communicating with the people, from time to time, upon such topics as concern the continued welfare of returned soldiers, and especially in regard to the more permanent provision which it will be necessary to make for disabled soldiers, incapable of self-support. It is the profound conviction of the Sanitary Commission, that the peculiar genius and beauty of American institutions is to show itself in the power which the ordinary civil, social, and domestic life of the nation exhibits to absorb rapidly into itself our vast army, and restore to ordinary occupations those who have been fighting our battles; while the sick and wounded are distributed through the country, objects of love, care, and restoration, in the several communities where they belong, instead of being collected in great State and national asylums, objects of public ostentation, and subjected to the routine, the isolation, and the ennui of an exceptional, unfruitful, and unhappy existence. Public provision of this latter kind, as free from its evil as may be, must be made for a certain small class of the friendless and the totally disabled; but humanity and American feeling demand that this class should be reduced to the smallest possible number through the zeal and friendliness shown towards our returning invalid soldiers in the towns from which they originally came. The Sanitary Commission will soon lay before its Branches and the public, plans for such asylums for disabled and discharged soldiers as it may be necessary to establish.

Reserving the expression of our gratitude to our Branches and Soldiers' Aid Societies to a later period, we remain in behalf of the Board,

Yours, faithfully and truly,

H. W. BELLOWS,
President.

JNO. S. BLATCHFORD,
General Secretary.

WIVES AND MOTHERS.

We give below a little table exhibiting the work of one of the Commission's Homes for Wives and Mothers. This is a feature of the work that has grown as a necessity upon us, and has been met only as a necessity. It might have been extended almost without limit, had the Commission felt warranted in appropriating any very considerable amount of the people's contributions to such an object; but it could not fail to

help the soldiers by helping their wives and mothers, whenever they sought it under circumstrnces which seemed to demand their aid. The amount of special individual relief afforded to such, outside of the Homes by way of counsel and direction, cannot be estimated; but the feeding and lodging at one post may be seen in the following table, to which we invite special attention.

REPORTS OF DRS. C. R. AGNEW AND J. C. DALTON.

Preliminary Report of the Operations of the U. S. Sanitary Commission in North Carolina, March, 1865, *and upon the Physical Condition of Exchanged Prisoners lately received at Wilmington, N. C.*

NEW YORK, *April* 4, 1865.

DR. J. FOSTER JENKINS,
General Secretary U. S. Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR:—The accompanying report, marked "A," from J. C. Dalton, M.D., Professor of Physiology and Microscopic Anatomy, in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, will put you in possession of the leading facts connected with our voyage from New York to Wilmington, on the Commission's steamer *Chase*.

In obedience to the instructions from the Standing Committee of the Commission, we left New York on Saturday, March 11, at 9 P.M., for Beaufort, North Carolina. We arrived there on Tuesday, March 14, at 4.30 P.M. I immediately communicated, by telegraph, with Dr. Page at Newbern, and informed him of our arrival. After waiting some hours without reply from Dr. Page, who was absent at the front near Kinston, where General Schofield was pushing the enemy vigorously, I endeavored to secure a landing for such stores as we wished to send from the cargo of the *Chase* to Newbern. This I failed to do, from the fact that the only wharf at the terminus of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad was in possession of the Construction Corps, and used entirely for the landing of locomotives and other rolling stock. Accordingly, I chartered the *J. H. Maitland*, a schooner, intending to use her as a storeboat. The *J. H. Maitland*, at this time, had on board coal for the navy, which Captain West, in command of the fleet in Beaufort harbor, offered to remove as speedily as possible.

Consolidated Report of "Home for Soldier's Wives and Mothers," Washington, D. C. J. B. CLARK, *Superintendent.*

1864,		Connecticut.	Delaware.	Illinois.	Indiana.	Iowa.	Kansas.	Maine.	Maryland.	Massachusetts.	Michigan.	Minnesota.	Missouri.	N. Hampshire.	New Jersey.	New York.	Ohio.	Pennsylvania.	Rhode Island.	Tennessee.	Vermont.	Wisconsin.	Total Relatives.	Daily Average.	REFUGEES. Alabama.	Kentucky.	Lousiana.	Nor. Car.	Sou. Car.	Tenn.	Texas.	Virginia.	Total Refugees.	Daily Average.	Sum Total.	Daily Average.	Number Lodged.	Number Lodgings.	Nightly average Lodgings.	Number furnished with Meals.	Number meals furnished.	Daily Average of Meals.	Medical treatment.
January		4	4	1				2	1	3					2	34	2	26	1				80	2.6																			
February								2	1	5					2	17		11	12		1		55	1.9	3																				
March		1						4	2	1	1				2	69	2	23					112	3.6																			
April		4	6	2	1			12	2	1	3				6	46	3	18		1			106	3.5																			
May		6	3	1	4			1	1	10	8				4	32		27	1			1	90	2.9																			
June		4	1	1	2			7	1	21	10				1	45	4	40			1	1	159	5.3																			
July		10		1	1	1	3	8	5	10	2				7	50	3	43	4	2		2	163	5.2	3																		
August		2	3	3	1	2		8	6	9	11	2			2	117	3	39				3	159	5.3																			
September		1	3	1	1			11	9	12	7				2	159	5	30	3	1	4		100	3.2																			
October		4	2	1	1			3	1	13	3				2	112	3	30		2	2		112	3.7																			
November		1	1	4	4			2	1	6	4			2	4	31	4	40	1	3		1	94	3.0																			
December		4	1	1	1			1	3	17	4				6	20	5	25			1		76	2.4				8				17	25	.80	1,133	25.2	781	1,133	36.2	1,755	1,755	56.6	
1865, January			1	1	1			0	3	1	1				1	14	1	23	1	1	1		60	2.1																			
February			1	2	3		2	6	6	9	3				2	18	1	18	1	1	1	3	114	3.6																			
March		3	2	4				6	6	4	3			3	10	40	8	32	1	2	4		147	4.9																			
April		1						8	6	16	4				9	40	8	52	1		2		147	4.9	6		2	6	48	38	19	7	181	299	6.08	2040	4.2	1504	10,688	21.9	2010	24,641	50	24

Two o'clock, Thursday the 16th inst., we began to transfer a portion of our cargo to the *Maitland*, and on Saturday the 18th, at half-past eleven, having lightened the *Chase* so as to enable her to pass over Wilmington bar, we sailed for Wilmington.

On Sunday the 19th, at one o'clock, we reached the dock at Wilmington. I immediately requested Dr. Dalton to make a thorough visitation of the hospitals, ascertain the number of returned prisoners needing our services, and also the number of sick and wounded from Generals Sherman's, Schofield's, and Terry's commands.

During his absence I waited upon General J. C. Abbott, the commandant of the post, to inform him of our arrival, and obtain from him facilities for the discharge of our cargo. He took a lively interest in our mission, and sent me to Captain Lamb, A. Q. M., who furnished a detail of fifty men, and placed at our disposal a large covered wharf, having ready access from the main river street and ample space for the storage of our entire cargo. Having secured these facilities, I went to the distributing rooms of the Commission in the town, and reported our arrival to Mr. Foster, the devoted and overworked agent of the Commission in charge of its affairs here. Mr. Foster had issued his last supplies the previous afternoon, and our arrival, was therefore, most opportune. I may mention, as an evidence of the work done by Mr. Foster, in attempting to meet the more pressing wants of the returned prisoners, previously to our arrival, that he had issued, among other supplies, two hundred and forty barrels of milk punch.

Early on Monday morning, March 20th, we began discharging our cargo, and Dr. Dalton returned from his visit of inspection, with the report that there were between twelve and thirteen hundred returned prisoners in the warehouses and hospitals of Wilmington, and about twenty-six hundred sick and wounded men from General Sherman's army and from the commands of Generals Schofield and Terry. The corrected returns, subsequently received, show that there were at that date actually twenty-four hundred and seventy-five (2475) returned prisoners.

Dr. Dalton reported that all these men would need woolen clothing and condensed food, stimulants, and esculents, and that the surgeons, including Dr. Buzzell, the ranking medical officer, hailed the advent of the Sanitary Commission with great joy. I refer you to Dr. Dalton's report for information as to the principles which regulated us in estimating the amount of food probably necessary to secure the largest benefit to the sufferers.

The surgeons in charge of the various hospitals began to send in their requisitions at an early hour on Monday morning, and the issues made upon their requisitions were sufficient to clothe and feed every individual in the various hospitals and warehouses, and to secure an ample reserve supply of food and clothing for two or three weeks to come.

In order to aid Mr. Foster in the performance of his duties, I instructed him to secure the services of two clerks, and I also requested Mr. Hoblit, our able Relief Agent, who had accompanied General Sherman from Atlanta to Savannah, to make a regular tour of the hospitals, and urge upon the surgeons the necessity of furnishing the patients as large a quantity of tomato soup made from beef-stock, of condensed milk, of chocolate, onions, and farinaceous food, as in their judgment the condition of their patients would require.

I found the surgeons in charge of the various hospitals working to the utmost of their ability in the care of these needy men. Many of them had carried their exertions far beyond the limits of prudence, forgetting themselves in their desire to do good. Many of them were sick, including Dr. Buzzell;* and Dr. Palmer, one of the ablest men in the volunteer corps, had worn himself out and died, while Dr. Jarvis and others who still survived were self-sacrificing in their professional ministrations. My experience here was in keeping with what I have heretofore seen in the conduct of the medical officers in hospitals and on the field; and I think that the people do not yet understand or appreciate what has been done, and what is now doing here and elsewhere every day, by the medical staff, to mitigate the sufferings that inevitably accompany war.

Having completed the arrangements for the discharge of the cargo of the *Chase*, I visited some of the warehouses and hospitals, to examine into the condition of the returned prisoners. I shall not attempt here to picture their fearful condition.

I congratulate the Commission upon the opportunity which was afforded by the presence of so distinguished a physiologist as Dr. Dalton, who could bring to bear his

* Has since died a martyr to the cause of humanity.

powers of analysis and diagnosis, in establishing the facts with reference to the causes which had reduced these men to their present lamentable condition. Dr. Dalton spent Sunday and Monday in visiting the hospitals containing the returned prisoners, with a view of determining whether their condition was due to disease, or the consequence of starvation and exposure, and for his calm and well-digested opinion upon this subject, I refer you to his report, heretofore alluded to, marked "A."

I had several interviews with citizens of Wilmington who had seen our prisoners as they were brought into the city for exchange, with a view of ascertaining what their impressions were, as to the motives which influenced the rebel officers in the management of squads in their respective commands. I found that some of the rebel officers in charge of our returned prisoners had permitted the citizens to furnish them food, while others had forbidden all access to the pens in which the men were quartered; and one, a rebel captain, having charge of about a thousand men, had gone with his drawn sword and knocked the food from the hands of the famished men, informing the citizens who had furnished it, "that the best thing that could happen to the Yankees was to be starved, and thus expiate the crime which they had committed in invading southern territory and destroying the peace of southern homes."

On Tuesday we sailed for Beaufort, taking as passengers David B. Adams, M. D., late Acting Assistant Surgeon U. S. A., sick with typhoid fever, and Henry Hiscocks, Captain Battalion G, 1st Missouri Light Artillery, who was in a state of confirmed phthisis, the consequence of exposure and privation during eight months in a Southern prison, and Colonel B. S. Pardee, Connecticut State Agent.

On Wednesday we reached Beaufort harbor, and discharged the balance of our freight upon the *Maitland*, making an issue of onions and potatoes to the fleet in the harbor, as many of the men in the fleet had been without any but the scantiest supply of vegetables for two or three months.

On Thursday we waited upon General L. V. Easton, obtained coal for the *Chase*, made through him an issue of pickles to the six hundred men in the quartermaster's squad, and started by rail for Newbern.

Dr. Page, Inspector of the Commission, on duty in North Carolina, joined us at Morehead City, and went with us to Newbern. At Newbern I examined into the working of our relief stations, visited Dr. Cowgill, surgeon in charge of the Foster Hospital, Dr. Hand the Medical Director, and General Palmer, the Commandant of the post. I found Dr. Page distributing potatoes and onions and other antiscorbutic food, with woolen clothing and other sanitary supplies to the needy soldiers in Newbern and to such as were sent to the rear from the command of General Schofield.

Messrs. Page and Bowman were absent from Newbern, having pushed forward with General Schofield in the advance to Kinston, carrying with them on the construction train two large feeding tents, to meet the wants of those who were wounded and sent to the rear, in the various skirmishes and fights for the possession of the line of the road between Newbern and Goldsboro'. Dr. Page will report to you in detail the operations of the relief corps in connection with General Schofield's advance. Suffice it to say that the abundant resources of the Commission had been used in such a manner as to give material aid and comfort to some thousands of needy men.

Dr. Cowgill's hospital, the Foster, was a model of successful organization and administration, and I was very much struck with the quarters appropriated to the use of the rebel wounded. These quarters were hospital tents raised above the ground, upon yellow pine underpinning and floors, bountifully supplied with bedding, attendants, food, and medicine, and in every way a credit to the professional skill and philanthropy of Dr. Cowgill, and the humanity of our Government. I could not avoid indulging the comparison between the condition of these men under the care of our medical officers, and that of our poor fellows who had suffered in rebel hospitals and rebel prison pens.

I found that Dr. Page was making preparations to cultivate his large hospital garden, amounting to over one hundred acres in the suburbs of Newbern, for the benefit of men in the hospitals, and the forces operating in this vicinity, while all the details of his work in other fields of usefulness were being attended to with admirable zeal, fidelity, and intelligence.

Leaving Newbern on Saturday, we passed through Pamlico, Croatan, and Albemarle Sounds, and the Albemarle and Chesapeake

Canal to Norfolk, where I visited Mr. Sherman, the gentleman in charge of the affairs of the Commission at this point, and examined his store-house, and method of transacting business, with satisfaction.

I then visited the lodge of the Commission at Portsmouth, opposite Norfolk, which is in charge of Mr. Alcock. I found this lodge in admirable order. As you are familiar with its condition and usefulness through the regular reports of Mr. Alcock, I shall not enter into details.

On Monday the 27th, I left Norfolk for New York, via Fortress Monroe and Baltimore. I cannot express too highly my obligations to Dr. Dalton for his able services, nor forget to mention those of Messrs. Cobb and W. A. Paton, who accompanied us from New York, and gave their assistance in many of the details of the work.

Very respectfully yours,

C. R. AGNEW.

A.

Report of J. C. DALTON, M. D., *Professor of Physiology and Microscopic Anatomy, College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York.*

The Steamer *Chase* left New York on Saturday evening, March 11, for Beaufort Harbor and Wilmington, N. C., laden with beef-stock, condensed milk, onions, potatoes, pickles, and other similar articles, together with an abundance of flannel underclothing and blankets. It was intended to discharge the cargo, in whole or in part, at either Beaufort Harbor or Wilmington, as the necessities of the case might make it desirable. It was anticipated that the wants of the sick and wounded from General Schofield's corps, and, possibly, also from General Sherman's army, then moving in a northeasterly direction on its way from Columbia, would be best relieved from the direction of Beaufort; while the necessities of our returned prisoners, recently delivered at Wilmington, would require supplies at the last-named point.

On entering Beaufort Harbor, where the steamer arrived on the afternoon of Tuesday the 14th, a large number of transports were found waiting, partly discharged and partly still laden with supplies and material. General Schofield's corps, which had been transferred by sea from Wilmington to Beaufort, had advanced to Newbern and thence, and along the line of the railroad, toward Goldsboro'. At the time of our arrival it had reached a point within a few miles of Kinston, where it had come in contact with the enemy, and repulsed him after a somewhat severe engagement on the 10th and 11th instants. The efficient agents of the Commission were accordingly then at the front, doing all in their power to aid in relieving the wounded from this engagement; and Dr. Agnew soon learned by communications from them that their supplies were already sufficient for that particular emergency. The railroad from Morehead City, in Beaufort Harbor, to Newbern and Kinston was then entirely in the hands of a construction corps, which was actively engaged in relaying the track and getting the road in running order to the rear of General Schofield's advancing columns, and it was impossible to obtain transportation over this road even to Newbern, except for material required for the construction of the road itself, and supplies absolutely essential for the subsistence of the army. The only other mode of sending to Newbern was to go round by way of Hatteras Inlet and the Neuse River, but this could only be done by vessels of much lighter draft than the *Chase*. It was decided, therefore, to discharge a part of the cargo upon a schooner, which could remain in Beaufort Harbor as a store-ship, and from which such supplies as were needed at Newbern could be sent round from time to time on lighters, by way of Hatteras Inlet. The remaining and larger portion of the cargo was to be taken immediately to Wilmington in the *Chase*, for the use of the returned prisoners. These arrangements were completed by the evening of Friday the 17th. By that time we learned that General Schofield had again advanced and had occupied Kinston without further opposition.

On Saturday, 18th inst., at noon the *Chase* left Beaufort Harbor, and arrived off the bar at the entrance of Cape Fear River before daylight on Sunday, the 19th. At 11 A. M. she crossed the bar, and came to her dock at Wilmington early in the afternoon of the same day.

At Wilmington, we found 3,940 sick and wounded men, including the returned prisoners, whose condition was such that they were all to be regarded as sick men, and urgently in need of comfort and relief. Of the whole number to be cared for there were about 2,000 sick belonging to the command of General Terry (who had moved directly north after the capture of Wilmington, on

the line of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad), and about 600 from General Sherman's army, who had been sent down the north-western branch of the Cape Fear River, a few days previously, from Fayetteville. The remainder consisted of our returned prisoners, 1250 in number. Corrected returns, subsequently received, show the number of returned prisoners to have been twenty-four hundred and seventy-five (2,475); making the grand total about 4,900, who had been delivered by the enemy a short distance above the city, at the north-eastern branch of the Cape Fear River, since our occupation of the town. Of these General Terry's sick and wounded were, of course, the best provided for, since they had occupied the town from the date of its capture, and felt, more than anything else, the want of ambulances and other means of transportation, which had been necessarily taken with the main column on its advance northward. Those arriving from General Sherman's command were, many of them, quite destitute, having been on the march through the enemy's country for about two months, ever since the date of General Sherman's leaving Savannah. They needed clothing and food as well as rest and medicines. But the greatest and most pitiful necessities were among our returned prisoners. No description can do justice to their miserable condition, because nothing but an actual inspection of them, in considerable numbers, can show that the wretched faces and figures that present themselves everywhere are not the isolated and exceptional effects of severe illness, but the general result of a uniform and long-continued process of starvation and misery. There were degrees, of course, in which this condition was more or less marked. The better cases were walking about the streets, perhaps barefooted, or with no other clothing than a pair of white cotton drawers and an old blanket or overcoat, both equally ragged. In these the slow, dragging gait, listless manner, and cavernous, inexpressive look of the face, together with the general emaciation, formed a peculiar aspect, by which they alone attracted the attention of the passer-by, and by which they were at once distinguished from the other convalescent soldiers. There was no occasion to inquire in Wilmington which were our returned prisoners; after half a day's experience, any one could distinguish them at a glance. Many of them, who had strength to crawl about in this manner, were prevented from doing so by the want of clothing. Major Randlete, the Provost Marshal of Wilmington, told me that on one day forty of these men came into our lines *absolutely as naked as they were born*. I inquired of a considerable number of them, whom I saw in the hospitals confined to their beds, naked or with only a shirt, and covered with a hospital blanket, what had become of their clothing, and was told that they had thrown away what remained as soon as they could obtain shelter, because it was so ragged, filthy, and full of vermin. One of them, on being told that the Sanitary Commission had sent them flannel shirts and drawers, caught at the word with a childish eagerness, and repeated the good news to his companions, with a faint half-imbecile smile, as long as I was within hearing. With the great majority of the feebler ones, personal cleanliness was a thing which they appeared to have entirely forgotten. They no longer retained sufficient strength, either of mind or body, to appreciate or correct the degradation to which months of unavoidable uncleanliness had reduced them. In the most extreme cases the condition of the mind, as well as the expression of the face, was absolutely *fatuous*, and the aspect of the patient was not that of a strong man reduced by illness, but that of an idiotic pauper, who had been such from his birth. Nevertheless, several of the surgeons informed me that the condition of the patients had visibly improved since their reception, and that I could not then form an adequate idea of what it was when they entered our lines. In that case it must have been lamentable beyond description.

The testimony of both men and officers was uniform as to the causes of their unnatural condition. These causes were, 1st, starvation, and, 2d, exposure. Only such officers and men as could procure money were able to obtain anything like sufficient nourishment. Some of them told me that during the entire winter they had received absolutely no meat; a pint of corn-meal, often with the cob ground in, sometimes with and sometimes without salt, a handful of "cow-peas," and sometimes sorghum molasses, constituted their usual ration. When in hospital, they had only very thin corn-meal gruel and a little corn-bread. To the debility occasioned by this insufficient food was added that resulting from exposure. It was a common thing for a prisoner, imme-

diately on being taken, to be stripped of his clothing—shoes, socks, pantaloons, shirts, and drawers—and to be left with only an old and worn-out pair of drawers and, perhaps, an equally worn-out shirt and blanket given him in exchange. This robbery of clothing was also practiced, more or less, upon officers. Even an assistant-surgeon, who was captured within four miles of Richmond, told me that he was robbed of his flannel shirt, while standing in front of the Libby Prison, and in presence of the rebel officer in charge of the squad. This was immediately after his arrival in the city, and when he had been, for the three days succeeding his capture, entirely without food. With the scanty clothing thus left them, the men were kept during the winter, often without any shelter, excepting such as they could contrive to provide by excavating a sort of rifle-pit in the ground, and covering it with old blankets or canvas, as their supply of fuel was insufficient, and sometimes entirely wanting. Even in the hospitals their suffering from cold was very great.

One of the most melancholy sights in Wilmington was that to be seen at the "Geer" hospitals. In these hospitals were collected all those patients who had lost their feet, either wholly or in part, by freezing, from their exposure during the past winter, and this in a well-wooded country. In some of them two or three toes only, on one or both feet, were gangrened, and in process of separating by ulceration; in others both feet had entirely separated, and and the patients were awaiting the time when their general strength and the condition of the stump would warrant a final amputation. In many cases the patients ascribed this gangrene directly to frostbites received on particular occasions; in others to their illness from which they were suffering—generally fever combined with exposure. My own impression, derived from the result of many inquiries, was that it was generally due to a continuous depression of the vital energies from starvation and neglect, resulting gradually in a destruction of the life of those parts most exposed to the cold and the weather. With all these cases awaiting relief, it was impossible that the stores brought by the *Chase* should have come at a more opportune period. From all the officers in Wilmington, of all grades and departments, there was but one expression of gratitude and relief at hearing of our arrival, and we could not have asked more ready and cordial co-operation than was given us at once by all upon whom we depended for information and assistance. A capacious covered dock was at once assigned for the discharge and storage of the supplies, and an abundant force of negro refugees assigned to the labor of unloading the steamer. So rapidly was this work effected that during the day, on Monday, supplies were already in process of distribution to the various hospitals, a complete list of which, with the number of patients in each, had been previously obtained. The covered dock was used as an issuing office, as well as a storehouse, and, being very capacious and well-lighted, it afforded admirable facilities for reaching the various articles as they were needed.

It was found that all the returned prisoners, without exception, and all the men recently arrived from General Sherman's army, needed flannel shirts, drawers, and blankets; that shirts and drawers were also required by all the other sick and wounded then in hospital, and blankets by about two-thirds of them. Tin plates, cups, knives, and forks were also much needed, all of which were at once supplied. In order to regulate the distribution of food and stimulus to the different hospitals, the following diet table was made out, to serve as the basis of calculation. It was thought that such a ration, with the interchanges between various articles which could be readily effected whenever desired, would be best suited to the greater portion of the cases:

Name of Article.	Daily Ration.
Beef-stock,	2 oz.
Canned tomatoes,	8 "
Condensed milk,	4 "
Onions,	4 "
Potatoes,	4 "
Soft crackers,	4 "
Chocolate,	1 "
Pickles,	4 "
Whiskey,	2 "

The various hospitals were requested to send down requisitions according to the above diet table, in quantities corresponding with the number of patients in each hospital; they were not restricted, however, absolutely to the above quantities, but the diet table was adopted as expressing a *minimum* ration, which could be increased, if desirable, in particular cases, and which could be supplemented, for those patients who were

able to bear it, with articles from the regular army ration.

Early on Tuesday morning a sufficient quantity of the above articles had been landed to supply the whole number of patients in Wilmington for at least fifteen days. A portion of the cargo, over and above this amount, which would be more probably required at Newbern at the next emergency, was retained for reconveyance to Beaufort harbor. On Tuesday afternoon the steamer left Wilmington, and proceeded down the river to Fort Fisher, but, owing to a south-easterly gale and consequent heavy sea on the bar, she was unable to go out until the following day, Wednesday, the 22d instant, at 2 o'clock, P.M. At that time she crossed the bar unhurt without difficulty, and again entered Beaufort harbor on the morning of Thursday, the 23d. At Beaufort harbor the remainder of her cargo was transferred to the storeship, and the steamer, after coaling, sent back to New York.

Very respectfully yours,
J. C. DALTON,

TESTIMONIAL.

CANNONSBURG, PA., *May* 18, 1865.

MR. STRONG.

DEAR SIR:—Please find enclosed $5 00 for the benefit of the noble Sanitary Commission.

Though we fondly hope the mission of this generous institution will soon terminate with a happy issue of our national troubles in a triumphant peace, no doubt you can yet spend thousands of dollars for the good of our unfortunate braves. Having received many kind offices from it while in the service and since, I feel bound to contribute something, hoping some poor soldier will be blessed by it as a thank offering to be disbursed by the agents of the grandest charitable association, in many respects, that was ever organized. The history of the United States Sanitary Commission, will brighten with age.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
SAMUEL B. MCBRIDE.

CORRECTION.

In Bulletin of May 1, 1865, page 1172, in heading of article "Workings of U. S. Sanitary Commission at Camp Parole, Va.," read Camp Distribution, instead of Camp Parole.

On page 1173, last line above the table of stores, read "from Dec. 17, 1862" not (63), to "Dec. 31, 1863."

The last error occurs in the copy from which this article was taken, and is no fault of ours, but as it is a misprint in the original, as we are informed by the Editor of the Journal, and will be corrected there, it should be also corrected here.

MARCHES.

Fifteen miles per day is considered a fair average for infantry; and upon long marches ten miles including all the necessary delays, is accounted good traveling. This will depend much however upon the nature of the country, the season of the year, as well as upon whether the troops are newly recruited, or old soldiers accustomed to hardships and to travel.

Some of the longest marches of infantry upon record have been made by American troops. During the first year of the Mexican war, General Kearney was placed in command of the *Army of the West*, with instructions to conquer New Mexico and California. He left Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in June, and after a journey of nine hundred miles over the great plains and mountain ranges, arrived at *Santa Fe*, the capital of New Mexico, on the 18th of August.

In the year 1860, a large portion of the Seventh Regiment marched from Camp Floyd, U. T., to Fort Buchanan, New Mexico, having travelled one thousand miles and spent one hundred and forty days on the road. But the most unprecedented march of infantry was made by the gallant old Sixth, in 1859, which left Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, for California, a distance of one thousand eight hundred miles, and was one hundred and ninety days on the road, of which one hundred and sixty-two were actually passed in marching; being at the rate of about eleven miles per day.

During the present war, our own armies and the armies of the Confederates, have furnished us with numerous examples of long and rapid marches; and in very many instances these marches have been made under an almost constant succession of engagements, demonstrating both the valor and endurance of the American troops.—*Hamilton's Military Surgery.*

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U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

OFFICE, 35 CHAMBERS STREET,

NEW YORK.

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Apply in person or by letter, to
HENRY GREENFIELD, *Secretary,*
35 CHAMBERS STREET, New York.

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from impostire and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., Cambridge, Mass.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clark, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, jr., Philadelphia, Penna.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Charles J. Stillé, Philadelphia, Penna.
Ezra B. McCagg, Chicago, Ill.

OFFICERS.

H. W. Bellows, D.D., President.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Vice-President.
George T. Strong, Treasurer.
J. Foster Jenkins, M.D., General Secretary.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Associate Secretary.

STANDING COMMITTEE.

Henry W. Bellows, D.D.	George T. Strong.
Wm. H. Van Buren, M.D.	Wolcott Gibbs, M.D.
C. R. Agnew, M.D.	Charles J. Stillé.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. San. Com., No. 18 West St., Boston, Mass.

U. S. San. Com., Nos. 10 & 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. San. Com., State House, New Haven, Conn.

U. S. San. Com., 1307 Chestnut St., Philada.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

U. S. San. Com., 244 F St., Washington, D. C.

U. S. San. Com. Camp Distribution, Va.

U. S. San. Com., 46 Sharp St., Baltimore, Md.

U S. Sanitary Commission, Harper's Ferry, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Parole, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, City Point, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Newberne, N. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Beaufort, S. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, New Orleans, La

Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. San. Com., corner Vine and Sixth Sts., Cincinnati, O.

U. S. San. Com., No. 95 Bank St., Cleveland, O.

U. S. San. Com., No. 66 Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

U. S. San. Com., No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, N. Y.

U. S. San. Com., No. 59 Fourth St., Pittsburgh, Penna.

U. S. San. Com., No. 32 Larned St., Detroit, Mich.

U. S. San. Com., Columbus, O.

U. S. San. Com., Fifth St., Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

F. N. KNAPP, Supt., Washington, D. C.

J. B. ABBOTT, Chief Assistant, Washington, D.C.

"SOLDIERS' HOMES" AND "LODGES."

[OBJECTS. Temporary aid and protection,—food, lodging, care, &c.,—for soldiers in transitu, chiefly the discharged, disabled, and furloughed.]

Alexandria, Va. "ALEXANDRIA LODGE." Orange and Alexandria Railroad Station. J. B. Holt, Superintendent.

Annapolis, Md. "HOME FOR SOLDIERS' WIVES AND MOTHERS." Mrs. Hopes Sayres, Matron.

Baltimore, Md. "SOLDIERS' HOME." No. 62 Conway Street. A. E. Hastings, Supt.

"SOLDIERS' LODGE." Opposite Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad Station. ——, Superintendent.

Boston, Mass. "SOLDIERS' HOME." No. 76 Kingston Street. Charles F. Mudge, Supt., near Boston and Worcester Railroad Depot.

Buffalo, N. Y. "SOLDIERS' REST." Exchange Street, opposite Central Railroad Depot. Mrs. H. Indevine, Matron.

Cairo, Ill. "SOLDIERS' HOME." C. N. Shipman, Superintendent.

Camp Nelson, Ky. "SOLDIERS' HOME." Thomas Butler, Superintendent.

Cincinnati, O. SOLDIERS' HOME." Third Street. Col. G. W. D. Andrews, Superintendent.

Cleveland, Ohio. "SOLDIERS' HOME." Joseph Jerome, Superintendent.

Columbus, Ohio. "SOLDIERS' HOME." T. E. Botsford, Superintendent.

Detroit, Michigan. "SOLDIERS' HOME." No. 81 Jefferson Avenue.

Harrisburg, Pa. Near the Railroad Depot. "SOLDIERS' LODGE." W. H. Hadley, Supt.

Jeffersonville, Indiana. "SOLDIERS' HOME." New Market Street, near the Depot. E. T. Smith, Superintendent.

Louisville, Ky. "SOLDIERS' HOME." V. Scott, Superintendent.

Memphis, Tenn. "SOLDIERS' LODGE." Near landing, C. W. Christy, Superintendent and Relief Agent.

Nashville, Tenn. "SOLDIERS' HOME." Captain I. Brayton, Superintendent.

New Orleans, La. "SOLDIERS' HOME." Corner Magazine and Julia Streets. Sumner Bullard, Superintendent.

New York City. "DISCHARGED SOLDIERS' HOME." No. 45 Grove Street, near Bleecker. ——, Superintendent.

Paducah, Ky. "SOLDIERS' HOME." E. D. Way, Superintendent.

Portsmouth, Va. "SOLDIERS' HOME." John Alcooke, Superintendent.

Washington, D. C. "THE HOME." No. 374 North Capitol Street. J. B. Clark, Supt.

"HOME FOR SOLDIERS' WIVES AND MOTHERS. No. 380 North Capitol Street. J. B. Clark, Supt.

"LODGE No. 4. No. 389 H Street. ——, Supt.

"LODGE No. 5." Maryland Avenue, near Washington & Alexandria R. R. Station. ——, Supt.

"LODGE No. 6." Foot of Sixth Street. Howard McPherran, Superintendent.

SPECIAL RELIEF OFFICES.

[OBJECTS.—To give aid in procuring pay, pensions, bounty, prize money, arrears of pay and bounty, and other claims upon government. To

supply clothing, hospital delicacies, crutches, &c. To give transportation, information, &c.]

Alexandria, Va. Office in Soldiers' Lodge, Orange and Alexandria Railroad Station. J. B. Holt, Agent.

Annapolis, Md. Office of United States Sanitary Commission. Major F. C. Howes, Agent.

Baltimore, Md. United States Sanitary Commission, No. 46 South Sharpe Street. J. T. Pancoast, Agent.

Boston, Mass. United States Sanitary Commission, No. 76 Kingston Street.

Buffalo N. Y. Branch United States Sanitary Commission, Adams' Block, No. 209 Washington Street.

Cairo, Ill. Office in "Soldiers' Home." C. N. Shipman, Agent.

Camp Nelson, Ky. Office in "Soldiers' Home." Thomas Butler, Agent.

Chattanooga, Tenn. United States Sanitary Commission.

Chicago, Ill. United States Sanitary Commission.

Cincinnati, Ohio. United States Sanitary Commission, corner Vine and Sixth Streets.

Cleveland, Ohio. Branch United States Sanitary Commission

Detroit, Mich. United States Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street.

Dubuque, Ia. United States Sanitary Commission. Rev. E. S. Morris, Agent.

Harrisburg, Pa. Office in "Soldiers' Lodge." W. H. Hadley, Agent.

Jeffersonville, Ind. Office in "Soldiers' Home," New Market Street, near railroad depot, E. T. Smith, Agent.

Knoxville, Tenn. United States Sanitary Commission.

Leavenworth, Kansas. United States Sanitary Commission. J. R. Brown, Agent.

Louisville, Ky. United States Sanitary Commission, Fifth Street.

Memphis, Tenn. Office in "Soldiers' Lodge," near landing. C. W. Christy, Agent.

Milwaukie, Wis. Mrs. Colt.

Nashville, Tenn. United States Sanitary Commission. E. Root, Agent.

New Orleans, La. Special Relief Office, United States Sanitary Commission, No. 96 Julia Street. O. C. Bullard, Agent.

New York City, N. Y. "Special Relief Office," Cooper Union, No. 10 Third Avenue. Mrs. W. P. Griffin, Chairman Special Relief Committee.

Paducah, Ky. Office in "Soldiers' Home." E. D. Way, Agent.

Philadelphia, Pa. United States Sanitary Commission, 1307 Chestnut Street, third story, back. Colonel Soest, Agent.

Portsmouth, Va. Office in "Soldiers' Home." John Alcooke, Agent.

Vicksburg, Miss. United States Sanitary Commission. J. G. Brown.

Washington, D. C. "Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, between 13th and 14th Streets. J. B Abbott, Chief Assistant.

Wheeling, Va. United States Sanitary Commission.

BRANCH,
No. 744 Broadway,
NEW YORK.



BRANCH,
No. 19 Green Street,
BOSTON, Mass.

Important Information for Soldiers and Sailors who have lost Limbs.

The "PALMER" ARM and LEG are now furnished for the mutilated heroes of the Army and Navy, and I have the pleasure of presenting extracts from official letters from the Surgeon-General, which will gratify numerous applicants, who, in the past, have been led to believe that they must accept an inferior limb, or have no aid from Government.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * *

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THE SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.
C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

To B. FRANK. PALMER, LL.D., 744 Broadway, New York.

The Best PALMER LEG is furnished THE SOLDIER FREE
The Best PALMER ARM, for a SMALL ADVANCE.
The Best LINCOLN "GOVERNMENT" ARM, FREE.
Prices of the PALMER LIMBS not raised to OFFICERS and CIVILIANS.

Apply in person, or by letter, at either of the offices. Address

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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

No. 39. WASHINGTON, D. C., JULY 1, 1865. No. 39.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 15,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the Central Office, 244 *F street, Washington, D. C., and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or* 244 *F street, Washington, D. C.,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

GOOD WORDS OF GREAT MEN.

PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

The Sanitary Commission is doing a work of great humanity, and of direct practical value to the nation in this time of its trial. It is entitled to the gratitude and the confidence of the people, and I trust it will be generously supported. There is no agency through which voluntary offerings of patriotism can be more effectively made.

CHIEF JUSTICE SALMON P CHASE.

What age before this age, and what country besides our country, ever witnessed such an organization as that of the Sanitary Commission? What needs have been supplied; what wants relieved; what wounds healed; what evils averted, by the activity, wisdom, and unflagging zeal of this admirable organization, fostered and sustained by the people, and recognized and aided by the Government.

THE FUTURE.

The following most able letter from the pen of Dr. Bellows is rich in thought and forecast:

NEW YORK, *May* 26, 1865.

Miss ABBY W. MAY,

Chr. Exec. Com., N. E. W. Aux. Assoc., Boston:

DEAR MADAM: In reply to your favor of the 23d instant, I can only give at present a very general answer.

We hope to make our Branches centres both for the diffusion and the collection of light on all that concerns the well-being of our disabled and discharged soldiers. We shall soon issue general instructions, with blanks and forms, bearing upon this subject, and must ask you to wait the careful preparation of these systematic formulas.

We suppose, however, that each considerable community will have its own special experiences, and its own peculiar sphere of necessary work, depending on its geographical position, and on the number and character of the State, municipal, and humane institutions, or other instrumentalities, already at work for the benefit of the soldier. We wish our Branches to assume no work which *others* are doing well; to do no superfluous, doubtful, or in any way needless labor; and we wish them to discourage all about them in works of supererogation. The soldiers must not be invited to lean, but to stand up; and only those be provided with public support who cannot take care of themselves, or be taken care of by their friends.

The chief work you can do, it seems to me, is to make your Branch a centre, *first*, for the collection of facts and observations respecting the actual needs of the soldiers returning to your State and city or the sphere of your late work. How many

need and deserve assistance of any kind? Make your office a place where soldiers and their friends can come to *register* their wants and complaints, and where you can obtain your share of facts, to contribute to our illumination in forming a correct theory of the course the nation ought to take for the next five years towards its invalids, its veterans, and the widows and orphans of the war.

Next, let it be a bureau of information to the soldiers and their friends, in respect to pensions, back pay, and bounty. As you have a claim agency in Boston, you will merely extend the knowledge of it and its privileges to the communities you correspond with, so as to secure for the soldiers' families all their rights.

Then, let your Branch be an office for collecting information in regard to the *kinds of labor* in which invalid soldiers can engage, and the market for their labor; becoming the agency between them and persons *willing*, or *to be made willing through your influence*, to give up to them all the light callings for which they are fitted In this way we hope through you and our Branches and Aid Societies to keep our invalid soldiers scattered—objects of neighborly and personal interest, thinly spread over the country—instead of regimenting them in asylums, to weary and demoralize each other, and to become burdens to the State, and permanent monuments of a civil war, whose painful features we wish as soon as possible to efface and forget.

We recommend you to impress on every Aid Society on your books the importance of making itself the local centre of all that concerns the welfare of returning soldiers in its own neighborhood; to recommend the notion that it is a disgrace to a town to allow its own soldiers or its widowed and orphaned families to look beyond its own limits for support; to make it a matter of holy pride and emulation to provide employment for its own disabled men, and in this way reduce the county and State and national asylums to the lowest possible figure.

We are inclined to think that the healthful tendencies of our American institutions will so largely favor our ideas as to make the number of absolute dependents much smaller than is now feared, and to render the labor put upon our branches far from burdensome. But the next three months, and certainly the next year, (another winter especially,) will test that point.

We already perceive a disposition of a certain set of low-spirited men, who count their wounds not so much an honor as a thrift—an advantage rather than a misfortune—to take up the business of mendicants, and deform the streets with their hat in hand begging. These wounded cowards must not be mistaken for our disabled soldiers, nor be allowed to misrepresent them. For the honor of the whole corps they ought to be discountenanced, and by arrangements with the police, compelled to go to work or to be put in charity asylums. Public, shameless beggary from door to door and in the street is every way corrupting, whether made by blind, lame, or sick men, whether civilians or soldiers; and if the public cannot be expected at once to understand this, it is a matter in which they must be protected from their own impulsive sympathies, by our Branches and Aid Societies co-operating with the municipal or State authorities.

There is, however, a class of persons made helpless by the war—some of them yet to develop the whole extent of their broken constitutions—who must be made comfortable for life in public institutions. How numerous this class will prove it is impossible even to conjecture. It does not include *all the helpless;* because a large proportion of them will receive the tenderest care of their own families, too happy to watch over and protect and solace them, as they should be, even though in very moderate circumstances. Let us do nothing to discourage this noble pride of domestic independence, this sacred bond of consanguinity. A large share of the invalidism of the war we shall never hear of. Our proud boys will hide their scars, and die in the sacred retirement of homes that will not parade their services or their sorrows, happy in having borne and rendered both. This, too, is every way to be admired and encouraged. But there are many foreigners who have fought for us and have all the claims of natives, since to mix their blood with ours on our battle-fields makes them our kindred, and "of one blood," in even a higher sense than usual. There are fatherless, motherless, homeless soldiers; blind, consumptive, limbless men, full of sorrows and of necessities, who require an absolute and perma-

nent asylum. How many they will prove nobody can guess at this moment; but some thousands in all. The States are already moving in their behalf. It would be much better if the nation could agree to make four conveniently situated homes for this class of men, independent of State lines and either Federal or State control or support, where the spontaneous charity or mercy of the nation could maintain them in memory of their service to the Union; where the State and sectional feeling should be steadily withstood in favor of a larger and more patriotic sentiment, and the guarantee of private intelligence, energy, and integrity, in their ordering, management, and continued improvement be offered in place of the official formalism, coldness, and fixity which sooner or later cankers all institutions of benevolence passing into Governmental hands. Such asylums, being tentative, require flexibility; should be started on a small scale, in a temporary way, feel their road, and gradually adapt themselves to their experience and the wants of the men. To erect great edifices, upon any present knowledge of what our American life and spirit requires, would be to stereotype our ignorance and petrify our dreams. The nation, through some Board it has learned to trust, should take some one or more of the cheap pavilion hospitals the war has erected, and which must soon be in the market, and having thoroughly purged it, open one or more wards at a time, testing the want and gradually developing the best system for the care and comfort and happiness of the men; making the institutions in all cases *mixed*, so as to destroy the horrid, deadening informality of classified asylums; putting the wholly disabled and the partially disabled together, the blind and the halt, and by the greatest diversity of industries, and light, even if useless employments, seek to keep up self-respect, drive off ennui, restore to society as many as possible, and make those who cannot be restored as little miserable as their wretched circumstances will allow The wan and woeful countenances of many blind soldiers, many lame and helpless ones, utter strangers to homes of their own, has already stamped an image on my mind of their long and weary future under the best care they can possibly secure, which is full of motive, and full of solicitude.

The Sanitary Commission, as soon as it sees how much money is likely to be left in its hands after its more legitimate work is done, proposes to open one or more asylums of this character, of a size proportioned to its purse, and the evidences of public interest in its undertaking. Should the nation desire to perpetuate its work in this form, and make the Commission a permanent guardian of this class of the victims of the war, it has only to say so by its generous support of the plan. It seems to us that the spontaneous, public, unofficial character of the ministry rendered to the sick and wounded through the war, has been one of its most marked *American* features, and that the perpetuation of this distinction is eminently desirable. That government is best which governs least. That state of society is freest and happiest which embodies least of its humanity, mercy, and philanthropy in governmental charities. Never was there a greater need of recalling this principle so gloriously illustrated in our national history, than now, when a habit of dependence on the Government machinery has not only centralized, but bureaucratized our motions. We are clearly in some danger of forgetting that while we astonished the world by the rapid and successful way in which we *condensed* the national life, will, and power, in the Government, discharging the extremities of their independence for the time, with a deliberate suspension of the personal and local rights of freemen—we have a still more wonderful feat to display in the ease with which we recall those rights, scatter and diffuse that lately concentrated power, and resume the unofficial and unbureaucratic life which is the proud prerogative of a self-governing nation. The fewer the monuments of our martial law, and our purely governmental régime, the better; the more the memorials of our popular, home-bred, and individual life, the better also.

The Sanitary Commission is not ambitious of any further services to the country, and would gladly retire from duty. It will cheerfully resign its care of disabled soldiers to any body of men deemed more capable or more worthy representatives of the national will, as soon as it has exhausted the means already entrusted to it, and for which it feels a deep responsibility. But, if the people wish it, or expect it, or call upon it, to go on with this work, on the general principles herein set forth, it will

not shrink from the task and responsibility of continuing to represent the national care and love towards the soldiers who have re-established our liberties and saved our country.

Excuse the length and the generality of my letter, which I certainly began with very little idea of extending beyond the demands of your local inquiries, but which has thus spontaneously grown under my pen into a short treatise.

With ever grateful regards to the Branch you so ably represent, for its readiness to go on with our work, and for its expressions of confidence and co-operation, I remain, dear madam, your friend and servant,

HENRY W. BELLOWS,
Pres't U. S. Sanitary Commission.

From the New York Independent.

WORK FOR THE SOLDIERS.

What are we going to do for the soldiers when they come home? What for those who have already come, leaving behind them a leg or an arm as pledge of their devotion to the Republic? This is what some men are going to do:

At a meeting held at the house of Theodore Roosevelt, on Thursday evening, the 18th instant, for the purpose of adopting some measures to promote the employment of disabled soldiers and sailors, it was resolved by the undersigned to co-operate with the "Bureau of Employment for Disabled and Discharged Soldiers and Sailors," 35 Chambers street, by employing in each of our places of business—as general messenger, or in other light work adapted for the disabled—at least one maimed discharged soldier or sailor.

It was also resolved to bring this matter to the notice of the business community by having agreements drawn up and presented to all business men for their signature, wherein they shall agree to give at least one man of the above class employment in some light capacity, which has been heretofore ordinarily performed by able-bodied men.

Roosevelt & Son, 94 Maiden Lane.
Brown, Brothers & Co., 56 Wall street.
Phelps, Dodge & Co., 21 Cliff street.
Grinnell, Minturn & Co., 78 South street.
Ward, Campbell & Co., 56 Wall street.
Schuyler, Hartley, Graham & Co., 19 Maiden Lane.
Henry Clews & Co., 32 Wall street.
Metropolitan National Bank, by J. E. Williams, President.
E. Williams, Cashier of American Exchange Bank.
R. H. Lowry, President of National Bank of Republic.

The Bureau at 35 Chambers street was established by the Sanitary Commission. Its object is to get employment for returning soldiers, and like all the work which the Commission has done, it is without money and without price to the soldier. To the employer also it makes no charge. It is an institution purely and generously benevolent. It is another channel into which the abundant stream that the Sanitary Commission, for three years, has poured out is now turned. It is a recognition of the fact that, although the war is ended, the claims which the war has made survive. It is a confession that the debt of the citizen to the soldier can never be paid. It is a demand that the claim of the latter shall always be listened to and respected. On all these grounds we present it to our readers.

With clearness and good sense the circular of the Commission sets forth what its new effort intends. There are a great many soldiers coming home from the war, and they will want work. There are a great many employers who need just the work which these soldiers are able and desirous to do. The Commission proposes to bring these classes together, to adjust the supply and demand, and to facilitate the process of change from a state of war to a state of peace. The interests of hundreds of thousands of men are concerned in that change, nay, the interests of the whole Republic depend largely for the next four years on its right management.

Be it understood, the Commission does not ask for charity to the soldiers whom it undertakes to supply with employment. Nobody is desired to offer places to these brave men from a sentiment of compassion. But, in the first place, they are entitled by their services to employment; in the second place they are competent to do the work which the Commission asks for them.

From a report recently issued, it appears that already there have been 1,546 applicants at this Bureau for work, and 830 of the applications have been filled. Yet the statistics show also that while there were 252 of the applicants who were mutilated in the service of their country by the loss of a leg or an arm, less than one fifth of this number have found employment—less than fifty out of two hundred and fifty-two.

It is to correct this state of things that the agreement above quoted has been drawn up, and it is especially in behalf of these maimed patriots that we urge upon our readers an application to the Bureau. For able-bodied men there is such a demand as will eventually insure the employment of most of the discharged soldiers, but for those partially disabled there is a lack of consideration. Yet they are the very first who ought to get places. For many places they are just as well adapted as their more fortunate comrades. In many branches of mechanics the loss of a leg is no disqualification or even hindrance. In many out-door and in-door occupations the loss of an arm does not hurt the man's usefulness. To show how wide is the opportunity for selection, we quote this statement:

"Of the 716 men still unemployed whose names are now on the books of the society, 198 are mechanics in different branches, of whom 135 are able-bodied and 63 disabled, more or less seriously; 112 are clerks and book-keepers, of whom 75 are able-bodied and 37 disabled; 69 wish to serve as watchmen and messengers, of whom 20 are disabled and 49 able-bodied; 16 desire to labor as coachmen and teamsters—these are all able-bodied; 321 are farmers and laborers, of whom 209 are able-bodied and 112 disabled, but not so as to incapacitate them from useful service."

Elsewhere than in New York we presume similar bureaux will be opened and similar opportunities offered. All over the land the claim of the soldier ought to be heeded—is heeded by the same benevolence which cared for him on the field of battle. If only the people will respond now as heartily as they did while the war still raged, no fear for the returning soldier. We will not affect to doubt that the country will always keep in mind its immeasurable obligation to the men who have preserved it from destruction.

From the Washington Chronicle, June 3, 1865.

AN EXAMPLE TO BE FOLLOWED.

SHERMAN'S ARMY ON ITS WAY HOME.

As soon as Sherman's army began to move west, some eight thousand men per day, the United States Sanitary Commission opened feeding stations at Harper's Ferry and at Martinsburg, where hot coffee and fresh bread are taken to the cars by a corps of relief agents, and served out to these returning soldiers. The work commences at Harper's Ferry, and is carried through as many cars as time will allow before the train starts, when the agent at Martinsburg is informed by telegraph of the number of the car last fed, and there the work is resumed and carried on till the train is again in motion. Time does not allow all to receive of this bounty, but still a number of thousands daily are thus refreshed. Why will not the people of the different towns and cities where these trains stop on their way to the West, take up this suggestion and form a continuous line of kind hands reached out to these soldiers?

WHAT THE COMMISSION FINDS TO DO.

The following private letter will show that though the rebel armies are disbanded, ours are not; and that there is yet a ministry of mercy to be rendered to the brave heroes:

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 29, 1865.

MY DEAR FRIEND: You ask me what the Sanitary Commission finds to do in the way of field relief which calls for and justifies the use of so much at a time when there is no active campaigning, and when a large part of the army is only waiting to be disbanded, and will then be comfortably cared for in their own homes. You say that besides the absence of wounded men, we are also relieved from the necessity which has heretofore existed of supplementing Government provision in anticipation of long marches, and of isolation from the usual base of supplies. Hence, as you assert, you cannot honestly understand the real necessity, on this occasion, for such large expenditure, (in addition to the outlay for the usual special relief service, and for the maintenance of the army and navy claim agency, whose value you fully recognize,) I will endeavor to answer your inquiry:

There is really a *great emergency* to be met just at this time, of a character which has never before presented itself, and which, from the nature of the case, cannot again present itself during the war; and the demands made upon the Commission by this emergency we are endeavoring to meet, not with a careless or prodigal hand, (on the ground that it may be one of our last large calls for aid,) but judiciously, humanely, and as the faithful trustees of those funds given by the people for speci-

fied ends. Three armies, consisting of 250,000 men, have been brought hurriedly (some by forced marches) into this vicinity—many of these men, not regiments only, but brigades, divisions, and whole army corps, have come here direct from their weeks and months of toilsome marchings, and even from recent battle-fields. They have been unable to obtain the change of clothing which not only comfort, but even ordinary regard for *sanitary laws* and common cleanliness required; and when they arrived here, though close by the Government storehouses, nothing can be drawn by these men "on account," for the very reason that all their accounts are necessarily closed, preparatory to making up the "muster-out" rolls. Hence the occasion for relief on the part of the Commission in the more urgent cases, which number in the aggregate very many. Moreover, our medical inspectors find that a very large number of the men in these armies have decided scorbutic tendencies, every day becoming more marked, some already fully developed—as in the case of one regiment from which fifteen cases of scurvy were sent to the general hospital in a single morning—which, unless speedily checked, will, even before these men can get home, lead to a very long sick list; and Government is naturally more tardy now than ever before in making the exertion which at this season of the year would be necessary, in order to furnish liberally of fresh vegetables to these soldiers. For the sake, therefore, of these men who are soon to be discharged, that they may not carry home the disease which they otherwise unavoidably would, and for the sake of rendering most valuable service to that part of these armies,—some 75,000 or 100,000 men who are still to remain under arms, and are really "in the field" as much as if located in Georgia—the Sanitary Commission is purchasing largely, and issuing liberally, potatoes, onions, pickles, sour-krout, and other anti-scorbutics. Thousands of these men thus supplied, have for months previous been almost entirely without this kind of food. In the opinion of experienced surgeons, the value of the service now rendered by the Commission is great indeed. Then, among all the regiments, there is a class to be cared for (in the aggregate some thousands) who, under ordinary circumstances, would be in general or regimental hospitals, but who are manfully struggling to keep up, so that they may have the satisfaction of going home with the regiment for muster-out. Just the aid which the Sanitary Commission renders these men, (chiefly through our efficient corps of women hospital visitors, who have temporarily been placed on the field relief corps to perform this kind of special service,) probably saves many hundreds, if not thousands, from the necessity of leaving the camp and going to the hospital. Add to this the fact that the occasion and the opportunity of extending this lengthened arm of the people at home to these soldiers, is limited to but a few weeks at the farthest, and that to 150,000 men, this is our last opportunity to make them feel the presence of the Sanitary Commission, which has followed them now for four whole years; connect with it also the other consideration, that here we have concentrated into a field of ten miles square, the work which formerly spread itself out over widely scattered armies, and you see where we find the conditions which, as we conceive, call for and justify this somewhat large expenditure at this time.

We should be untrue to the name and genius of the Commission, untrue to the people themselves, who have entrusted us with these funds to use for the benefit of the soldiers, if we allowed this opportunity, measured not by months, but by days, to slip from us unused.

Truly your friend.

THE GREAT GATHERING AT THE NORTH-WEST.

CHICAGO, ILL., *June* 9, 1865.

You cannot be much hotter in Washington than we are here in Chicago; and yet the people come from the East and West to make their offerings to our cause at the great Fair. This young city, you know, is the mother of Sanitary Fairs, and now in the days of promised peace, she has not forgotten her obligation to foster the remaining work of the Commission, by an effort as grand and generous as when she came forward in days of deeper trial and did so nobly for the soldier.

All trades are here, several States and churches, in their respective individualities, having booths inscribed with their own names, and each vieing with the other in efforts to do the most for the good cause.

Indians have contributed of their belts and bead work, children of their little

earnings, schools of their accumulated treasures, and foreign lands have recognized us by uniting in the work.

London, Liverpool, Paris, and the German States are liberally represented.

Among the little things from children, there has come to-day a small box, containing several bright butterflies, large and well preserved, with the following note:

"I am a little girl, eleven years old, living at Glenwood, Jefferson County, Kentucky, near Louisville. I want to send something to the Sanitary Fair, and the dried butterflies are all I have. Please accept them.

"KATY M. CAREY."

Now please send Katy the Bulletin, with this letter marked for her. "*All I have!*" Who has done *all* they could have done? who of us are doing *all* we can? but Katy has given *all* she has. She must be remembered for her good work.

In one of the booths I find a gold watch contributed by a soldier, who having served his country well, and being about to die, took the watch and said: "This is all I have to give to the good Commission, which has done so much for me and my comrades. Send it to the Sanitary Fair."

The display of articles is good, and the financial results will, I trust, be satisfactory.

The Christian Commission comes into the work with an alacrity and generosity that is commendable. The religious press and pulpit have both co-operated, and it is fitting that at the conclusion of the war we should at least approach a union of labor, as we certainly have had all along a community of interest.

Some of the churches have brought very valuable and expensive contributions, and as it is difficult to sell at very high prices, the question of raffling has excited considerable interest. As you know, the Commission has never approved this system of raising money, and the Executive Committee of this fair having resolved to discountenance it, posted cards all about the building, expressive of their disapprobation. Such splendid gifts, however, have come in from divers sources, too costly to be within the reach of the masses, that the question, How shall their value be realized to the Commission? has assumed a serious and practical form. The Executive Committee had declared its opinion—an opinion consistent with the uniform policy of the Commission, and it could not and ought not to recede from its position.

A meeting was therefore held this morning, of the chairmen of the different delegations, and those immediately interested in the sale of articles, which was full of interest. Mr. Bryan, the admirable chairman of the Executive Committee, made a statement of the views of the Committee, and asserted their intention not to swerve from their position, but he wished frankly to announce that, notwithstanding the published declaration of the Committee, raffling was being carried on to a considerable extent throughout the several departments of the Fair, and that a large majority of the representatives of churches had expressed their desire to adopt the system in order to dispose of their valuable articles without sacrifice, and as the Committee was immovable, this meeting was called to express its opinions.

Clergymen, and others immediately concerned, having spent nearly two hours in the discussion of the subject, with good feeling, and yet with much spirit and animation, adopted the following preamble and resolutions, with but few dissenting voices:

Whereas some of the representatives of the people who are here assembled, having come without knowledge as to the wishes of the Executive Committee of the Fair on the subject of raffling, action thereon having been taken after the issue of their circular; and,

Whereas the question of raffling being submitted to this meeting for an expression of its opinion: it is therefore

Resolved, That this is the people's Fair; that it contains the offerings of the people from all sections of the country; and that these contributions are here to sell; and that each party having charge of such contributions claims the right to dispose of their articles, according to their best judgment: *Provided*, that all sales within the building shall be rigidly confined to the limits of the respective departments, except for such goods as may be disposed of at the auction booth.

Resolved, That in the expression of this opinion, the abstract question of the morality of raffling is not involved.

At the close of the meeting Mr. Bryan exhorted all to go to work in good faith and fellowship, stating, in a peculiarly felicitous style, that while he did not express

any opinion on the abstract question of the morality of raffling in fairs, he was satisfied that there were some things quite as sinful as many supposed raffling to be, which he hoped would not be indulged by any, and these things were intolerance of opinion, and yielding to an unchristian temper.

Thus was the vexed question disposed of. The official action of the managers of the Fair discountenancing the practice, and yet the voice of the people demanding it.

Every booth is active, and all hands are earnestly engaged to make as large a division of money to the various interests embraced in the enterprise as possible.

The Christian Commission is to receive a liberal share of the proceeds; and in the bestowments of the people for distributing religious reading, building up homes, and providing for the thousand emergencies incident to reinstating the soldier to citizenship again, there will be a grand totality of benevolent effort hitherto unknown to this region. Yours, &c.,

JOSEPH PARRISH.

TOUCHING LETTER FROM A WISCONSIN SOLDIER.

HEADQUARTERS, POST OF CAIRO,
CAIRO, Ills., *May* 1, 1865.

MY DEAR LITTLE FRIEND LIZZIE: I am really glad to make the acquaintance of so dear a little girl. I will tell you how it came about. Going down to the "Sanitary Boat," the box containing your comfort bags was being opened, and I espied among the rest one that reminded me so much of my own dear little one, that I seized and claimed it as mine. Opening it, I found your little note addressed "My dear Soldier." I read it with much interest, and re-read it; and showed it to my commanding officer, who is in command of the post. It made him, too, think of his little one at home. So you see, dear one, that your note has at least been on one of its missions, and has rejoiced our hearts. Now for the contents of the bag. You see one of your own sheets of paper comes back to you, and one of your stamps. I used one of your needles, one of your buttons, and some of your thread. The Colonel smoked your tobacco, and wished me to tell you it was fine. In fact, we enjoyed the "Comfort Bag" hugely, talked over it, thought over it; and I must confess, soldier that I am, that I looked at it till a dimness came over my sight, occasioned by the tear it would start. For I thought of the precious jewel God gave me, of your own age, a thoughtful, lovely child; one like you who loved the Sabbath school, her Bible, her pa and ma, her sister, and her dear Saviour; who for years closed not her eyes in sleep till she had said her little prayer, but who, too good for earth, was transplanted by "Our Father" to bloom in eternal youth in the arms of him who said "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of Heaven." My dear Lizzie, that *her* God may be yours is the wish of your "dear soldier." I sit in my room here to-night buried almost in memories called up by your little note, and am happy to tell you they are of the *happiest* kind. My home is in Wisconsin, and far from the Mississippi river, in the town of Viroqua, Vernon county. See if you can find that on the map. But I am here in my country's service, trying to sustain our *nation's* life, and insure to you and others, who are growing up to manhood and womanhood, the privilege of living in a *free* country, never again to be disturbed by any such a war as this. Accept my thanks for your kind favor; and be assured that the memory of to-day, with your bag in sight, (which I shall take home with me,) will always be green. Please tell the ladies of the "Buffalo Aid Society," that if they could have seen the discharged prisoners from such prisons as Andersonville and Cahawba appropriate their little tokens of regard for the soldier's welfare, they would have felt amply repaid for any pains they have taken. Until this "cruel war is over" their efforts will be needed. But we hope that that day is not far distant. Then we hope to meet our little ones, and enjoy their sweet caresses, as I'm sure your own kind parents do yours. That you may regain your health and grow up a blessing to those around you, live in the fear of God, and enjoy his favor in this life and the one to come, is the wish and prayer of your "dear soldier,

JOSEPH D. BROTHERS,
Co. I, 42d Wis. Vol. Infantry.

FLAG QUILTS.

To the Editor of the Bulletin:

Perhaps your readers will be interested in the following items respecting two flag quilts. Some time in April, we received from a country town a quilt made in the form of a flag—red and white stripes and a blue

field with the white stars sewed on, all nicely quilted. It was sent to the Commission, with a note attached requesting the soldier who had the comfort of sleeping under this *Union* quilt to acknowledge it, that we might have some proof that the soldiers received the donations designed for them.

In less than three weeks, the following letter was received at our rooms. Knowing that the exact words of a soldier's letter are always more interesting and effective than any abstract account, I send a copy of it:

"HEADQUARTERS 202D REG'T. PA. VOLS.,
"FAIRFAX STATION, VA., *May* 10, 1865.

"FAIR SEX: I am a soldier in the above named regiment, and also am in receipt of a few lines pinned on one of your quilts; and feel heartily glad to know that we are not forgotten by the fair ones at home. You ask the question for me to inform you whether us soldiers receive such articles. I will answer by saying to the Society that we do. Also, my bed has on a very nice, clean white sheet and pillow, with white slip on. I need not tell you of the pleasant dreams I had, but the first night the flag quilt was spread over me, I did dream of the loved ones far away. But enough; your donations are received—small favors thankfully and larger ones in proportion. I will wait a speedy reply from the fair ones. I am a man twenty-six years of age, and belong to good society. J. B."

This letter was duly answered by the Society which had contributed the gift.

We have another flag quilt, which we shall send this week, around which cluster some touching associations. The lady who brought it told us that, when our national banner was first insulted at Fort Sumter, this flag was made by her mother and brother, and was one of the first that was raised in her town. On the death of the mother, not long after, her sorrowing son cut down the flag staff, and entered the army. He was killed at Chancellorsville, and this flag was never unfurled after his enlistment till the death of our murdered President, when it was draped in mourning for that sad event. Thus consecrated, the sister has now converted it into a quilt, and wishes it sent to some one of our released prisoners still in hospital.

We shall endeavor to comply with her wishes. NEW HAVEN, CONN.

CRUELTY TO UNION PRISONERS.

Extracts from the report of Frederick N. Knapp, Superintendent of Special Relief, read at the quarterly meeting of the Board of the United States Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C., April 20, 1865.

* * * On Sunday, April 2, I arrived at Wilmington, North Carolina, having left Washington in response to the call made by Dr. Agnew in his letter of March 20, describing the wretchedness and destitution of the 1,500 or 2,000 Union prisoners who had just been brought into Wilmington, exchanged or paroled from the rebel prisons. When I reached Wilmington, all but 300 of these Union prisoners had been sent North; and those who remained had been made in all respects clean and comfortable, as had been those who had gone on shipboard. And this had been done largely, almost exclusively, through the abundant supplies of clothing furnished by the Commission—some thousands of garments—which enabled these men to lay aside the filthy rags in which alone they had for months been clothed. I am convinced from what I myself saw, and from the testimony of the medical and the military officers at Wilmington, that the Sanitary Commission did one of its most blessed and beneficent works in the help it gave to the surgeons there, who, with utterly deficient means at hand, were trying to lift these returned prisoners out of a state of filth and starvation—a condition resulting directly from long confinement at the South and studied deprivations. And I may add that among the men who still remained at Wilmington, although they were surrounded by comforts, and their appearance had of course been entirely changed from what it was at first, there was, in the seventy gangrenous limbs (dry gangrene from frost or exposure) of men gathered in one hospital, the saddest and most striking evidence I have yet seen of the malignant cruelty practiced upon our Union prisoners by the enemy. * * * * * *

On Friday, April 7, I left City Point, upon the Sanitary tug boat, "Gov. Curtin," which was starting with stores for Richmond. We arrived at Richmond Friday evening, having been delayed on our way up two hours at "Deep Bottom," where we took on board the "Curtin" quite an amount of supplies from what had been the sanitary store-house of the 25th army corps; the sanitary wagons,—which you will recollect followed the troops into Richmond

the morning it was evacuated,—though well loaded, were able to take but a share of the supplies.

Saturday morning, after passing by the smoking ruins, and getting sight of "Libby Prison" and "Belle Isle,"—each bound in with its terrible history,—I went out to "Jackson Hospital," one of the principal hospitals of the place, a mile and a half or two miles from the city; and here I saw that which, by contrast, made me feel tenfold more fully than ever before how great had been the barbarity of that system of starvation and exposure by which the rebels, with slow and terrible death, had killed off our men, their prisoners of war.

I found at that rebel hospital the evidence of thorough organization and wise system—a large generosity in all the provisions for the comfort of their patients; and testimony proving the fact that, as a general thing, there had been no lack of supplies there, but usually an abundance of all needed stores. As I looked on these well-ordered methods, and the liberal provision which had long been made by the rebels at that hospital, located within less than cannon-shot distance of Belle Isle, I felt that the thin screen of "*ignorance*" or of "*inability*," with which some persons still seek to temper the barbarity of the rebels, must be at once and utterly swept away, leaving the inhuman cruelty of this slow murder to stand out clearly, and its true nature to be recognized, viz: a means systematically arranged and adopted, under a deliberate plan, *as an engine of war*, whereby to thin our ranks by death, precisely as the bayonet is used in battle—except that the bayonet is connected with bravery, while this instrument of death is the weapon of cowardice. For what could stand in stronger contrast with the boasted chivalry of the South, or with the undoubted valor of her soldiers in the field, than this resort to a process of starving defenceless men by thousands, showing that the spirit of slavery, which fomented and has guided this rebellion, is not only oppressive, but base; since bravery—that virtue which all men praise—dies out under a system that creates and thrives upon brutality and ungoverned passions? What, therefore, if not this meanest and most cruel method of getting rid of a dreaded foe, should forever be branded as *cowardice?*

Jackson Hospital, as established and conducted by the rebels, was excellent; in some respects, few military hospitals of our own surpass it. It was excellent in its general plan of organization; in its location and its arrangement of buildings; in its administration; in its thorough policing; in the exceeding cleanliness of its bedding, and in the very liberal provision made by the rebel government for the hospital fund.

Jackson Hospital comfortably accommodates 2,500 patients. Winder Hospital, which is near by, but which I did not visit, is said to be similar to Jackson Hospital in general arrangements and capacity, but inferior in its situation and its appointments. The buildings at Jackson Hospital are much like our usual wooden hospital barracks, well arranged and well warmed and lighted, the floors nicely scoured, and the walls, in many wards, covered with canvas, which was painted white. The bedsteads were only wood, but were kept very white, and on each was both a straw bed and a cotton mattrass, and two feather pillows with nice pillow cases. The sheets and blankets and bed-spreads were unusually clean, and bore marks of being carefully looked after. The cleanliness of the bed-linen was accounted for by the large laundry, where sixty (60) laundresses were constantly at work. The laundry was provided with a long row of fixed tubs, into which the water was brought by pipes, and ample provision was made for heating water, heating irons, &c., &c.

This laundry had its tenements near by for the women employed there, where they seemed comfortable in their quarters, and neat in personal appearance. At the hospital, beside the medical corps and nurses, and the two matrons to every ninety patients, there were in each section a chief linen matron and a chief culinary matron, with their two assistants. In each section was a kitchen for special diet, with four to six stoves—this besides the general kitchen attached to each section. The special diet list was posted in all the wards, and seemed liberal and aiming to secure variety. The dispensaries were well fitted up, and the persons in charge said, in answer to my inquiry, that, excepting a deficiency at times in some few articles, their supply had been good. The linen rooms were kept in the neatest order, and seemed to have been unusually well filled. The baggage rooms were like the rest, clean and well arranged. The dining rooms of each section, where the convalescents ate, were also kept well, and the tables neat, and bearing marks of care and comfort, and convalescents who had

been there some months assured me that their fare was, on the whole, excellent. There were no covered walks connecting the different buildings in the section with the dining rooms, nor were there any "tramways" from the kitchens to the wards; but the walks were hard and clean, and the drains deep and free. At the head of each section were neat buildings, one of which was occupied by surgeons, others by matrons and women assistants. These buildings, with their white-washed fronts and green blinds, and patches of grass, had a look of comfort. There was no general method of carrying water by pipes over the different buildings, consequently there was no provision for bath rooms in the several wards —a decided deficiency; but good water for ordinary use was furnished by wells. The water-closets for convalescents were located where a running stream carried off the deposits.

Within the hospital grounds and near by was an open grove of large trees, with grass beneath, neatly kept. At the further edge of this grove was one of the two large ice houses which supplied the hospital, each 30x30 feet, and 18 feet deep. They are both now filled solid with ice, well protected. A little way from the hospital on the other side are large sheds and a barn, also a dairy house, with the cold water of the melting ice of one of the ice houses flowing through it. At this dairy in summer they have had sixty cows, pastured near by, to furnish fresh milk, and at times fresh butter also, to the patients. The refuse from the barn yard goes to enrich the hospital garden of three or four acres, which the surgeon formerly in charge told me had become very productive.

Near the dairy house stands a large bakery, at present not used, with capacious ovens, where formerly, as the man in charge stated, they turned out sixty thousand pounds of bread per day.

To the above memoranda is to be added this most important fact, viz: that the rebel government, in making provision for the "Hospital Fund," added *one hundred per cent.* to the usual army ration. Thus was furnished large means for purchasing extra supplies.

Such, roughly sketched, is the record of Jackson Hospital, as it had been during the past year or more; while near by, all the time, was Belle Isle, with its shelterless and starving thousands. * * *

THE WORK OF A GREAT PEOPLE.

(*Continued from Bulletin No.* 38.)

INSPECTION OF THE CAMPS AND HOSPITALS.

While the Commission was thus organizing societies throughout the country for its future operations, it did not lose sight of the important object for which it had been created. From the first, inspectors had been sent to examine the camps and hospitals, not merely with respect to their sanitary condition, but in regard to everything that could enable the soldier more satisfactorily to perform his duties, apart from purely military considerations. The examination was generally made by two inspectors acting in concert: one of these was a physician of acknowledged ability; the other was usually a minister of the Gospel. It was enjoined upon them to present themselves to the general or commanding officer immediately on their arrival at the post which was assigned them, to seek at once to establish friendly relations with the medical corps, and to ask for the information specified in their instructions. After visiting the hospitals, the camps, and even the troops, they forwarded their reports, which were always confidential, to the central committee at Washington. More than two thousand reports have already been thus furnished, and there is great reason to believe that this voluntary benevolent association possesses more complete and more important information of all that relates to the sanitary condition of the troops in the field than can be found anywhere else. Every inspector, in his report, is bound to answer, in writing, to one hundred and twenty-five printed questions, respecting everything that can affect the welfare and health of the soldiers in the various latitudes, and at the different seasons of the year.

The medical department of the army had fallen into a state of inefficiency during the long period of peace which preceded the Southern rebellion. It was necessary to re-organize it. But the administration having been only recently installed, did not at first appreciate the greatness of the work before them. They were content with merely appointing a new Surgeon General, retaining, at the same time, the old organization. The officer thus chosen showed himself from the first hostile to the Commission; but as his opposition could not overpower the authorization granted by the

Secretary of War, and sanctioned by the President, he decided at length to allow the Commission to do what it wished in regard to the volunteers, on condition that it should not in any way concern itself with the regular troops.

The Sanitary Commission, authorized by the President and the Secretary of War to continue its work, had been enabled to dispense with the approbation of the Surgeon General, but on this, as on all other occasions, it acted only in concert with the medical and military authorities, a moderation before which all the jealous suspicions of which it had at first been the object were destined to disappear.

The Government, however, not considering the Surgeon General, of whom we have just spoken, equal to the demands of the time, resolved that another should be appointed. This appointment depended on the President, but it was known that the opinion of the Secretary of War would have great influence on his choice. In departing from the rule of seniority, there was great danger lest favoritism might prevail over merit; yet it was of the utmost importance that the position should be given to him who was best qualified to fill it, without respect to rank or age. Under these circumstances, the Commission resolved to choose a candidate, and respectfully to present the name of their choice to the President. While the proposed new medical act was under discussion in Congress, the standing committee, comprising several of the most eminent practitioners in the United States, began to look out for a person possessing the scientific acquirements and administrative abilities necessary for such a position. They made choice of Dr. W. A. Hammond, assistant surgeon of the medical staff. After some hesitation, Mr. Lincoln decided to present the name of the candidate of the Commission to Congress, and he was confirmed. From a simple First Lieutenant, director of a single hospital, Dr. Hammond rose at once to the rank of a Brigadier General, and had all the responsibility of the medical department of an army as numerous as that of any power in Europe. The results of his nomination have answered the hopes of his friends, and satisfied the wants of the country. The London "*Medical Times*," dated the 17th of October, 1863, says of Dr. Hammond: "Making allowance for the usual transatlantic exaggerations, he really seems to have performed his work well. Appointed by the President in spite of the old routine custom, over the heads of many seniors, he came to his task full of vigor, in the prime of life, and capable of great physical endurance. With a bold hand he surrounded himself with trustworthy subordinates, displacing many who he did not think equal to the crisis, and proceeded energetically with his work. Large armies had to be provided for, a system of military hospitals to be organized, the examining boards to be reconstructed, and an army medical school and museum to be founded. Well, in these vast and useful works, he seems to have succeeded beyond all expectation."

He recognized the importance of the labors of the Sanitary Commission, and after his election this body became what it was destined to be—an aid to the medical corps, and an ever present friend of the sick and wounded.

DISEASES IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

After Dr. Hammond had taken charge of the medical department of the army, the Sanitary Commission was enabled to give all its attention to its original object. In order to assail the rebellion to the best advantage, the theatre of the war had been divided by the government into military departments; these were generally determined by the basins of the great rivers, such as the Potomac, the Mississippi, the Cumberland, &c.; but there were also those of North and South Carolina, &c. These departments, in many respects, differ widely from each other; it may almost be said that all the latitudes and all the climates of Europe are therein represented. Diseases which cause great ravages in one of these departments are sometimes wholly unknown in another. It has been necessary to institute particular inquiry respecting the proper mode of treating certain miasmatic diseases to which the armies of Europe are strangers. The Commission has made great efforts to obtain in advance the necessary information concerning the destination or change of position of the different army corps; as soon as it has been obtained, physicians and surgeons have been sent with each army corps, that they might make particular inquiry respecting the principal diseases prevailing in that locality. The reports of these physicians

furnish the Commission with full information, not only with respect to the preventive measures necessary to be adopted, and the usual mode of treating the diseases in question, but also as to the best methods of forwarding supplies to the point desired.

HOSPITAL TRANSPORTS.

At the commencement of the war the military operations on both sides had for their bases the courses of navigable waters. To that, both Unionists and Secessionists were forced, by the nature of the country, there being in the South but few railways, and these having but a single track, while good roads of the ordinary kind are almost unknown, and those which do exist are impracticable during a considerable part of the year. In consequence of this state of things, the Sanitary Commission recommended that a system of transports should be organized, and setting the example, it obtained from the government several large river steamboats, and converted them into hospitals. In these it placed its own surgeons and competent attendants for the sick, together with medicines and provisions, and despatched them to the scene of military operations.

In order to give an illustration of the utility of these floating hospitals, we may refer to the campaign of the Peninsula in 1862. The base of Gen. McClellan's operations against Richmond was formed by the rivers York and Pamunkey. From the early part of the campaign until the insurgents had turned the right flank of the main army, (about the end of June,) thus compelling the latter to retreat from its position on the Chickahominy, the sick and wounded of the Federal army were conveyed to West Point, on the Pamunkey. There the general hospitals of the army were established, but they were soon full; the climate of this locality was excessively hot and unhealthy, and the medical corps insufficient in number for the proper discharge of their duties. As soon, therefore, as the floating hospitals arrived, the sick were conveyed by way of the Pamunkey and York to Fortress Monroe, at the entrance of the Chesapeake. There, having the benefit of the refreshing sea breeze, and only twelve hours distant from Baltimore by steam, they could readily obtain all needful assistance, and if occasion required, they could be directly transported to the North.

The steamers on the American rivers are particularly adapted for such a service. All their machinery is above the water line; they draw only a few feet of water, the cabins being arranged one above the other, the vessel sometimes having three tiers of them. The windows are large, the ceilings high, thus allowing a free supply of that element which is so essential to a hospital—pure air—even when there are on board from eight hundred to a thousand persons.

It may not be out of place to give here some idea of the work which has been accomplished on these floating hospitals of the Sanitary Commission. The women here, also, are the life and soul of these establishments, surpassing the men, even, in courage and energy. They belong nearly all to the most wealthy or most respectable families, for it is generally regarded as a great honor to be employed by the Commission in such service. This is the more surprising, because it could not be supposed that their former habits of comfort and luxury could prepare them for encountering the perils and privations which they must necessarily meet with in this field of labor.

From a work recently published, respecting the Sanitary Commission, by one of their female attendants, (*gorde malades,*) we extract the following:

"At midnight two steamers came alongside the *Elm City*, each with a hundred sick, bringing word that the *Daniel Webster* No. 2, (a side-wheel vessel, not a Commission boat,) was aground at a little distance, with two hundred more, having no one in charge of them, and nothing to eat. Of course they had to be attended to. So amidst the wildest and most beautiful storm of thunder and lightning, four of us pulled off to her in a little boat, with tea, bread, brandy, and beef essence. (No one can tell how it tries my nerves to go toppling round at night in little boats, and clambering up ships' sides on little ladders.) We fed them—the usual process. Poor fellows! they were so crazy! And then the *Wissahickon* came alongside to transfer them to the *Elm City*. Only a part of them could go in the first load. Dr. Ware, with his constant thoughtfulness, made me go in her to escape returning in the small boat. Just as we pushed off, the steam gave out, and we drifted end on to the shore. Then a boat had to put off from the *Elm City*, with a line to tow us up. All this time the thunder was incessant, the rain falling in

torrents, whilst every second the beautiful crimson lightning flashed the whole scene open to us."

Another episode presents traits of character truly heroic. We may here remark, in passing, that the Sanitary Commission does not keep in its service any one who manifests the slightest timidity under the fire of the enemy or in any other danger.

The following circumstances occurred after the retreat from the Chickahominy, when the army of the Potomac had just arrived at the James river:

"Reached Harrison's Bar at 11 A. M., July 1st, and were ordered to go up the James river as far as Carter's Landing. To do this we must pass the batteries at City Point. We were told there was no danger, if we should carry a yellow flag; *yellow flag* we had none, so we trusted to the *red* Sanitary Commission, and prepared to run it. The *Galena* hailed us to keep below as we passed the battery. Shortly after, we came up with The *Monitor*, and the little captain, with his East India hat, trumpet in hand, repeated the advice of The *Galena*, and added that if he heard firing he would follow us. Our cannon pointed its black muzzle at the shore, and on we went. As we left The *Monitor*, the captain came to me, with his grim smile, and said, 'I'll take those mattresses you spoke of.' We had joked, as people will, about our danger, and I had suggested mattresses around the wheel-house, never thinking that he would try it But the captain was in earnest; when was he anything else? So the 'contrabands'* brought up the mattresses and piled them against the wheel-house, and the pilot stood against the mast with a mattress slung in the rigging to protect him. In an hour we had passed the danger and reached Carter's Landing, and there was the army, 'all that was left of. it.'"

Honor to the women! They are the same in all parts of the world; kind, devoted, counting their personal comfort and safety as nothing if they can only relieve those who suffer.

*From the commencement of the war this name was given by the Union armies to the liberated negroes. Its origin was as follows: When General Butler commanded at Fortress Monroe, he wrote to the Secretary of War to ask what was to be done with the negroes who had not run away from their masters, but whose masters had run away from them, adding, that inasmuch as they might be made use of in war, they ought, as well as the other property of the rebels capable of being so used, to be considered as "contraband of war," and the term has since been universally applied to them.

MEDICAL PUBLICATIONS OF THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

The want of a certain kind of experience of the medical officers of the volunteer army had, from the first, attracted the attention of the Commission. Almost all the surgeons and assistant surgeons were ignorant of that particular branch of medical science which relates to armies during a campaign. On the other hand, the Government had too much to do to be able to give the necessary attention to this subject. The Sanitary Commission, therefore, nominated of its own members a special committee, charged with the preparation of a series of reports on military surgery, and the subjects thereto appertaining. The following list of pamphlets published by this committee will give some idea of this branch of labor:

A—Report on Military Hygiene and Therapeutics.

B—Instructions to Surgeons on Field of Battle.

C—Rules for preserving the Health of the Soldier.

D—Report on the use of Quinine as a Prophylactic.

E—Report on Vaccination in Armies.

F—Report on Amputations.

G—Report on Amputations through Foot and Ankle Joint.

H—Report on Venereal Diseases, &c.

I—Report on Pneumonia.

K—Report on continued Fevers.

L—Excision of Joints.

M—Dysentery.

N—Report on Scurvy.

O—Report on Treatment of Fractures in Military Surgery.

P—Report on Miasmatic Fevers.

Q—Report on Yellow Fever.

R—Hemorrhage from Wounds.

S—Infectious Diseases.

T—Plaster of Paris Splints.

All these documents are distributed gratuitously among the members of the medical corps of the army.

Had the Sanitary Commission done nothing else than publish these reports, and give circulation to this kind of information, it would have deserved the thanks of the army and the country, for the surgeons of the regiments, nearly all of whom had recently passed from civil life to their new position, were, for the most part, but imperfectly acquainted with the duties and demands of their office.

THE "CUISINE" OF THE CAMPS.

The proper cooking of the food destined for the soldiers is a subject of great importance, and it early attracted the attention of the Commission. There was a great deal to be done in this respect. The rations of the American soldiers greatly exceed, both in quantity and variety, those of any other nation. But the Americans (generally speaking) are rather poor cooks, so that even the quantity of food became, when it was badly prepared, a great cause of disease among the troops. As a general rule, the cooking during a campaign consisted in roasting (or rather in broiling) the meat which had been freshly killed over a fire built on the earth. In such a proceeding economy of fuel is usually a secondary consideration, and it sometimes happens that after a certain length of time they are reduced to short allowance. After an engagement the soldiers are not generally inclined to fatigue themselves much in search for wood, nevertheless there are hundreds, sometimes thousands, of the wounded and sick to be nourished. On such occasions the Commission made use of immense boilers mounted on wheels, and containing a soup well prepared and nourishing, which its agents distributed to the soldiers, who, on their part, were not long in imitating the example thus set them.

FLYING HOSPITALS.

Another proposition of the Commission, which the medical corps adopted at once, was that of a military hospital arranged on an improved plan. A structure destined to receive the sick, which can be quickly erected, which is sufficiently large, and at the same time easy of transportation, is a very great desideratum to every army; and it may be doubted whether these three essential conditions could be better fulfilled than by the arrangement referred to. It consisted of the trunks of trees placed at the desired distance from each other, the roof being formed of tarpaulin, and the walls of sail-cloth, which could be raised or lowered at pleasure, according as much or little air might be desired. The first hospital of this kind that was constructed contained 1,500 beds.

A FALSE CHARGE REFUTED.

How is This?

To the Editor of the N. Y. Tribune:

SIR: I have just seen a letter from the wife of a soldier belonging to Schofield's army. She says her husband has been in the hospital at Newbern three weeks, receiving good care. But he adds: "The Christian and Sanitary Commissions are represented here, but the poor sick soldiers have to pay for what they get of them. It is the officers that receive the benefit of their ministrations." This being the case, this poor woman has sent five dollars to assist her husband in putting himself in condition to resume his place in line to fight the battles of his country. Are not such women of more real value to the country than our Sanitary and Christian Commissions?

NEW YORK, *April* 10, 1865.

ROOMS OF THE U. S. SAN. COM.,
NEWBERN, N. C., *May* 29, 1865.

To JNO. S. BLATCHFORD, Esq.,
General Secretary U. S. S. C.:

DEAR SIR: I propose to make a brief statement of what the Sanitary Commission has done for the sick soldiers in this same hospital at Newbern, during the limited period from January 1 to May 1, leaving the manner of the disbursement to more disinterested evidence.

During the period referred to, we have issued to one hundred and forty-six requisitions of the Chief Surgeon and his assistants, to say nothing of individual relief to convalescents from this hospital calling at the rooms of the Commission. These requisitions embrace—

Arm Slings	12	Canned Mutton, lbs	240
Bandages, bbls	4	Condensed Milk, lbs	2,080
Beef Stock, lbs	300	Mittens, pr	1
Bitters, bot	1	Needle Books	5
Blackberry, cond'd, lbs.	17	Onions, bbls	30
Blackberry Cord., bots.	7	Overcoats, Infantry	35
Blankets	46	Pads	98
Brandy, qts	5	Pants, prs	138
Currants, boxes	2	Paper, note, ream	3½
Cushions	313	Penholders, doz	10
Chloride Lime, bbls	6	Pens, gross	1½
Drawers, woolen, prs	784	Pickles, bbls	3
Drawers, cotton, prs	37	Potatoes, buls	328
Dominoes, boxes	4	Prunes, pkges	2
Eye Shades	3	Pillow Cases	144
Gelatine, lbs	16	Pears, lbs	60
Ale, bbls	3	Rags, bbls	2½
Apple Butter, keg	1	Shirts, cotton	145
Bed Pans	20	Shirts, woolen	1,332
Blouses	90	Shoes, prs	39
Cabbage, bbls	2	Slippers	159
Chocolate & Cocoa, lbs.	144	Socks	600
Corn Starch, lbs	237	Sponges	6
Crackers, bbls	33	Sugar, white, lbs	80
Crutches, prs	62	Surgical Shirts, cotton.	10
Comfort Bags	51	Surgical Shirts, woolen.	7
Dried Apples, bbl	1	Tea, lbs	10
Dried Fruit, pkges	9	Testaments	12
Envelopes	1,000	Tin Cups	59
Farina, lbs	23	Tobacco, lbs	28
Ginger Extract, bot	1	Tomatoes, canned, lbs.	4,235
Handkerchiefs	163	Towels	3
Hats	34	Mutton, canned, lbs	240
Isinglass, lbs	2½	Whiskey, pts	22
Jellies, jars	21	Wine, bots	25
Krout, bbls	9	Wrappers	5
Lemons, boxes	2	Vaccine Crust	1
Lanterns	1		

The General Hospital, which is under the able management of Dr. Clayton Cowgill, Surg. U. S. V., has of its own a well-

regulated, extra-diet kitchen, supplied by a hospital fund, administered with liberality and judgment. The capacity of the hospital has ranged from 800 to 3,000 beds; and the fund has been abundant for supplying to the extra-diet kitchen everything attainable in this market, and for sending an occasional special agent to New York for such articles and quantities as were not attainable in this limited market. This hospital, through its whole history, from the capture of Newbern to the surrender of the Rebel armies, has grown up under the daily observation of the agents of the Commission at this post, and is regarded by me to be as perfect in its machinery and administration, and as justly and humanely administered, as the best regulated institution in the country; and this opinion is sustained by the testimony of every Government official whose duty has led them to inspect it.

I mention this not with the intention of drawing your attention from any malfeasance with which our agents are charged in the *Tribune*, but to give the proper credit to the management of the hospital, and account for the confidential relations between it and the Commission here. I have found no occasion to send an agent through the hospital to disburse special comforts, as every bedside, at all hours of my visits, showed all the appendages and comforts required in a well attended sick room and by every phase of disease. Yet, during the Carolina campaign of Schofield's and Sherman's armies, the additional strain upon our hospital attention was met by the valuable and voluntary services of one as refined and gentle as the most tender sensibilities could render her, and whose angelic ministrations were operating at the very time when this *Tribune* item was penned. When the rush of Sherman's sick and wounded poured in upon our overworked hospital and Sanitary corps, the matrons and female teachers employed in Newbern came to the rescue, with offers of help in their appropriate sphere. They formed Teachers' Associations of Relief, drew crude supplies generously from our Sanitary stores, and with gentle hand disbursed them, in the most tempting forms attainable by the culinary art, through all the wards of the hospital, under the professional supervision of the respective surgeons. This supervision was easily maintained, as the daily card of the surgeon for each patient indicated the general and extra diet most suitable for his case.

I record a list of some of the articles drawn by these ladies from the stores of the Sanitary Commission during six weeks of this period:

Milk, cans	215	Wine, bottles	68
Corn starch and maizena, lbs	127	Brandy, bottles	2
Gelatine and Isinglass, pkgs	90	Cordials and Syrups, bottles	20
Arrow-root, lbs	15	Farina, lbs	44
Sugar, lbs	206	Crackers, barrels	1
Tomatoes, lbs	459	Tea, lbs	9
Dried fruit, barrels	2	Cocoa and Chocolate, lbs	41
Coffee, lbs	65	Peas, canned, lbs	61
Bay rum, bottle	1	Ginger, extra, box	1
Preserves and Jellies, 8 gals. and jars	39	Pears, canned, lbs Peaches " " Quinces " "	161
Lemons, boxes	2		

These ministrations were made "without money and without price," and I deem it impossible that any such malfeasance as indicated in the *Tribune's* item could be carried on in this hospital.

Soldiers, in thousands of instances, eat drink, and wear, the choicest stores of the Sanitary Commission, without dreaming of the source from which they derive these comforts and luxuries, and in the very act of enjoyment, would be ready to aver unconsciously that they "never received anything from the Sanitary Commission." They do not always know what it is that softens the asperities of the service in this war, nor whence comes the relief that makes the soldier's life in our armies so much more tolerable than in any of the armies heretofore recorded in history.

It would be difficult to conceive in what way the "five dollars" were needed "to assist her husband to resume his place in line," &c., unless it was for clothes, and for these the hospital had two sources to draw from, viz: the Government stores and the Sanitary Commission. The surgeons in charge had a *carte blanche* on the Commission here for supplies to meet pressing wants, and the list shows that they made liberal use of it for their patients, as in the limited period alluded to, they drew over 800 pairs drawers, 90 blouses, 163 handkerchiefs, 35 overcoats, 138 pairs pants, 1,477 shirts, 39 pairs shoes, 159 pairs slippers, and 600 pairs socks.

I have prolonged this notice of the *Tribune's* item to show that a soldier in the General Hospital in Newbern need not suffer for comfort, nor buy Sanitary stores, nor seek from distant friends the relief necessary to enable him to place himself in line. No agent of the Sanitary Commis-

sion has, at any time, sold any article to any person in this department. Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

J. W. PAGE, M. D.,
Inspector U. S. San. Com.

DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., *May* 6, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Sec'y West'n Dep't U. S. San. Com.,
Louisville, Ky.:

DEAR SIR: According to your instructions, on the 13th of April I took charge of the steamer *J. T. McCombs*, at Louisville, chartered by the Sanitary Commission, and loaded with stores, principally for the paroled prisoners at Vicksburg, or, in case they were not wanted there, to be taken to New Orleans.

We left Louisville that night, and after stopping at several towns along the river to leave passengers, reached Paducah, Ky., before daylight on the 15th. I left a few packages for the agency of the Sanitary Commission there, and then went directly on to Cairo, where we arrived in a few hours. There were about two car-loads of our stores, some stores of the Indiana State Agent, and a number of articles for the Freedmen's Institute, which I took on here. The news of the death of President Lincoln reached us here, and it so occupied the minds of all that it was almost impossible to accomplish anything. We left at 7 p. m., reported that night at Columbus, and reached Memphis the next afternoon. I left here some tobacco, codfish, condensed milk, and concentrated beef. A large supply of stores had been received a few days before, so they needed but a few things from our cargo. We were detained here four hours. We coaled a short distance below Memphis, and then kept on to Vicksburg.

Monday afternoon we tied up at a military station, as the weather indicated a storm, but at 1 a. m., on Tuesday, we started again, and had not proceeded far when a sudden squall struck us, so that although the engine was reversed, we were driven with great force upon the bank, and then recoiling, were blown into the timber just below where we first struck. Here the boat was made fast. The extent of the damage was a leak, which, however, was not bad enough to prevent our continuing on our way in a few hours.

We arrived at Vicksburg at 10 a. m., on the 18th. I immediately found Mr. Tone, the agent for the relief of the paroled prisoners, and learned from him that there was need for but a few stores from our cargo. I therefore transferred to him ten boxes tobacco, one box pipes, one box pincushions and housewives, one box suspenders, one box buttons, thread, &c., one box stationery, one box miscellany, nine barrels dried fruit, two barrels green apples, three kegs butter, and reading matter, also the packages for the Indiana State Agent and the Christian Commission. That evening I started with the remaining cargo for New Orleans. The next morning we reached Natchez, and were detained a couple of hours in putting off the articles for the Freedmen's Institute.

In the evening, a few miles below Morganza, we went to the bank to wood. While there six guerrillas came up, and upon talking to them, they said there was a force of sixty more a short distance up the river, but they would send up a man to tell them *not* to come down. Nevertheless, we got up steam as quickly as possible, and sent one of the hands to let go our line, but the guerrillas threatened to shoot him if he touched it, so we let it go from the boat and backed off. Our man was not quick enough in getting on the boat, and was left. They fired at us once, but did not hit us. We afterwards learned from the man, whom they suffered to follow us on another steamer, that they were waiting for a larger force to come down to capture us.

We stopped at Port Hudson and Baton Rouge that night to report, and reached New Orleans on the afternoon of the 20th. Dr. Blake was very glad to receive the stores, as there was great need of them at Mobile. I delivered to him 1,375 barrels, 316 boxes, 20 bales, 8 kegs of stores. The stores were in very good condition on our arrival. Friday and Monday we discharged our cargo. On Saturday all business was stopped throughout the city. Tuesday morning we coaled, and then started on our return. I was unable to get any private freight to bring up, and had none of our own until we reached Vicksburg, where I took on a number of articles that were of no further use there, since all but a very few prisoners had left. I should have taken some prisoners on our boat, but there were ample hospital accommodations in Vicksburg, and a hospital boat was expected soon, which could make them (there being only about 150) much more comfortable than we could.

Nothing of any importance happened on

the journey up the river. The news of the terrible disaster to the *Sultana*, which left Vicksburg three days before us was communicated to us by a gunboat near White river. We stopped at places only long enough to report or coal, and reached Louisville on the 4th of May, three weeks from the day we started.

The steamer, though a small one, was quite fast, and under the charge of excellent officers.

Very respectfully yours,

RUSSELL HODGE.

THE CLOSE.

In the narrowing of the supply work of the Commission, and the consequent centralization of its records and laborers, the *Bulletin* office has been removed to Washington. This number makes its first visit to the Branches and Aid Societies from the Central Office. It will visit them once more—next month; and then, like the Aid Societies, of which it is the organ, will rest till Providence may indicate the necessity for further expression.

Words perish; but the ideas which lie behind and beneath them are immortal. Forms die; but the principles of which they are the visible expression—never.

The great idea of the Sanitary Commission is a living idea; it lives in the heart of the American people, and can never be obliterated. We may write its history and record the names and deeds of its workers—it may be preserved through generations and admired by all people; but the ideas, principles, and thoughts which it has infused throughout the entire system of our political and social life have made an impression upon human character and given shape to benevolent effort that can never lose its impression upon human society.

This seems to be saying a great deal, but it is saying no more than may be said of all truth and goodness.

The Aid Societies that exist through the country, though they may for a while cease their activity, can never cease to exist, in an ideal form, in the minds and hearts of the women who constitute them.

They have been the spongioles of the larger roots of our tree, which have gently and imperceptibly moved among the hidden springs of the heart of America, and drawn in the current of sympathy and love that has developed a fruitage such as the world has never seen before.

There must be no severance of any part of this great life machinery. If it should for a time cease to be active, it should be like the tree in winter, without leaves or visible life, but ready for the outcoming sun and falling rain of another season to revive and beautify it. If the season never comes, it may stand a bold and noble tree still, being its own record of past usefulness.

WOMAN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF.

CLOSE OF THE SUPPLY DEPARTMENT OF THE COMMISSION—No. XI.

To the Members of the Soldiers' Aid Societies, contributing through the Woman's Central Association of Relief:

DEAR FRIENDS: We promised you that the U. S. Sanitary Commission would let you know, at the earliest possible moment, when your work might conscientiously be brought to a close. The accompanying Circular (San. Com. Doc. No. 90) fixes the 4th of July next as that date.

The war is over! No more battle-fields, no more starving prisoners, no more wounded men, no more terrible lists of the missing and dead. The suffering and woe we have all tried to mitigate are at last passing away!

We will continue to furnish you with material as heretofore, only requesting you to take what you are sure you can return by July 4th. If your treasury contains money enough to buy all you can make up in that time, we will send you its full value in material, but without doubling the amount as usual. Thus all the funds in hand, collected for the use of the soldiers through our agency, may be immediately turned over to the Commission.

Although our work of furnishing supplies for our sick and wounded soldiers at a distance is nearly at an end, there still remains to us the duty and the privilege of cherishing the maimed and disabled veter-

ans who are returning to us. Every town and district will claim the opportunity of supporting and helping such of its own soldiers as may need this care. We beg you will keep alive your Soldiers' Aid organizations for this sacred duty.

Our usual Annual Report will be omitted, or rather deferred, until we can give you our final statement and farewell.

For a few weeks longer, then, we shall work together, as we have for the past four years. Should some new demand arise in the future, we shall rejoice to renew our connection with you.

I am, most affectionately yours, on behalf of the Association,

ELLEN COLLINS,
Ch'n Committee on Supplies.

NEW YORK, 11 COOPER UNION,
May 23, 1865.

BUREAU OF INFORMATION AND EMPLOYMENT.

CENTRAL OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., *June* 10, 1865.

In our circular of the 15th ultimo, addressed to the Branches and Aid Societies tributary to the U. S. Sanitary Commission, concerning future opportunities and methods of work, and more especially the procurement of employment for discharged soldiers, as far as may be necessary in consequence of physical disability, or as a means of aiding their return to former relations and occupations in civil life, it was proposed to furnish certain carefully prepared forms.

These forms are herewith transmitted.

Their use, while diminishing the labor, will also facilitate an intelligent and systematic prosecution of the work, and will enable the Central Office of the Commission eventually to tabulate the results gathered from all Aid Societies throughout the country.

Forms A, B, C, D, and E, relate exclusively to the procurement of employment, and sufficiently indicate the method and all necessary detail pertaining to the work.

It is important that the large and varied measure of good which may be secured to the soldier and to the community, by a thorough and generous application of the methods here presented, be kept clearly in view.

The Bureau of Information and Employment is designed to accomplish the following specific objects:

1. To aid those who have served honorably in the Army and Navy of the United States in obtaining employment, and to facilitate their return to former occupations and relations in civil life.

2. To prevent, as far as possible, the necessity for costly charitable institutions, by thus encouraging industry, and aiding the disabled soldier, who might otherwise seek an asylum, to strive for self-support.

3. To lessen the pauperism and crime, necessarily more or less a consequence of war, which surely attend on large numbers of unoccupied men left to themselves without employment or means of subsistence.

4. To save to the country a large amount of productive labor, at a time when it can least afford to maintain idle hands.

Form F embraces questions to be answered, not by the soldiers themselves, but by intelligent observers, upon certain general conditions incident to the war, and to the return of the soldiers to their homes.

This form may seem to some unnecessarily full, and demanding information not immediately tending to practical results. The purpose which has determined the selection of the questions embraced may, therefore, be distinctly stated. It is, First, to collect such information concerning our discharged soldiers as will enable us most judiciously and effectively to be prepared to render to those really needing it any form of aid or relief which may be demanded of the people, in behalf of the men, or the children of those men, who have fought our battles; Second, to seize upon the occasion which is now presented for gathering material which shall illustrate the manner in which, under republican institutions, these men, long aliens from home pursuits, are at once quietly reinstated in their former industrial relations, and become again vital parts of the living whole. The value of the facts which may be thus obtained, in answer to the questions of Form F, can scarcely be over-estimated in its bearing upon many important questions, which already begin to engage the attention of statesmen and philanthropists, and which, in their answers, are to have a direct influence, in most practical ways, upon the future of the race. Unless the people themselves, through these agencies of the people, answer these questions, this record will never be made with the completeness which the present opportunity alone affords.

The attention of our Aid Societies is again directed to the valuable service which they may render to the families of discharged soldiers, by securing to them, through some systematic method, a knowledge of the existence and work of the "Army and Navy Claim Agency" of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, which performs without charge the work which would otherwise fall into the hands of claim agents, thereby subjecting the soldier to a heavy tax, and often gross imposition and fraud.

It is suggested that in places where there may be no established Claim Agency of the Commission, the Aid Societies may render valuable service by applying to this Office for necessary blanks and instructions, that will enable them, in many instances, to transact all necessary details in the adjustment of claims.

In addition to the issue of cards and circulars, (according to accompanying forms,) to make known in your respective communities the work you are prepared to do, it is recommended, as an aid in your undertaking, that a liberal use be made of your local press for advertising your office and its facilities for giving help to the discharged soldiers and their families.

The necessary books and forms will be furnished by the Commission, upon application to the Branches or the Central Office; and will be finally returned to the Central Office of the Commission, for purposes of tabulation.

It is earnestly hoped that the work marked out in this supplement will be entered upon promptly. It is the demand of the present hour, as related to the welfare of our returning soldiers.

JNO. S. BLATCHFORD,
General Secretary.

Form A—*U. S. Sanitary Commission.*

BUREAU OF INFORMATION AND EMPLOYMENT.

APPLICANT'S REGISTER.

1. Number of Application						
2. Date						
3. Name						
4. Age						
5. Nationality						
6. Residence						
7. Regiment						
8. Term of Military Service						
9. Nature and Degree of Disability						
10. Occupation previous to Enlistment						
11. Occupation desired						
12. Qualifications						
13. Habits—Temperate or otherwise						
14. Means of Support						
15. Married						
16. Persons dependent on Applicant for Support						
17. References						
18. Opinion of Referee						
19. Kind of Employment secured						
20. Remarks						

Form B—*U. S. Sanitary Commission.*

BUREAU OF INFORMATION AND EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYER'S REGISTER.

1. Number						
2. Date						
3. Name						
4. Address						
5. Service required						
6. Hours of service required daily						
7. Skill or strength demanded						
8. Proposed Term of Engagement						
9. Compensation						
10. Remarks						

Form C—*U. S. Sanitary Commission.*

BUREAU OF INFORMATION AND EMPLOYMENT.

Central Office, 244 F street, Washington, D. C.

MONTHLY RETURN.

.....

(Insert name of Aid Society.)

.....186 .

Month of.....186 .

Number of applications for employment:

By Able-bodied men.....

By Disabled men.....

Total.....

Number of applications by Employers.....

Number furnished with Employment:

Able-bodied Men.....

Disabled Men.....

Total.....

Number who having been once furnished with employment have applied a second time.....

KIND OF EMPLOYMENT FURNISHED.

No.

Agricultural, ...

Mechanical, ...

Commercial, ...

Teaching, professional or fine arts, ...

Laborers, ...

Others, not included in above, ...

REMARKS.

Form D—*U. S. Sanitary Commission.*

BUREAU OF INFORMATION AND EMPLOYMENT.

.....

(Insert name of Aid Society.)

.....186 .

To

.....

.....

With the design of obtaining employment through this Bureau..... refers to you as to his character and qualifications.

You will oblige us by filling out and returning the annexed blanks with your signature. Your reply will be shown only to his employer.

Respectfully yours,

.....

Is he temperate?.....

Is he industrious?.....

Do you deem him honest?.....

How long have you known him?.....

State facts which may be of service to him, or of which his employer should be informed.....

No.....(Insert No. of application.)

Form E—*U. S. Sanitary Commission.*

BUREAU OF INFORMATION AND EMPLOYMENT.

.....

(Insert name of Aid Society.)

.....186 .

To

.....

.....

You are requested to call at our office respecting your application at.....o'clock..... on.....inst., and to bring this notice with you.

.....

No.....(Insert No. of Application.)

Form F—*U. S. Sanitary Commission.*

BUREAU OF INFORMATION AND EMPLOYMENT.

CENTRAL OFFICE 244 F ST., WASHINGTON, D. C.

Returns from.....

.....186 .

I. Population, according to census of 1860, included in the area embraced within the limits covered by this report	
II. Number of men who have enlisted from	
III. Number who are still in the service	
IV. Number who have died in the service	
V. Of those who have returned home, what proportion are able-bodied	
VI. Of those disabled, what proportion are seriously disabled?	
VII. What proportion are slightly disabled	
VIII. What proportion have come distinctly upon the charity of others for support	
IX. What agencies exist in your community for the relief of discharged soldiers or their families	
X. What has been the kind and amount of aid which these agencies have rendered	
XI. In your community how far is preference given by employers of labor to discharged soldiers	
XII. Number of widows of soldiers	
XIII. Number of these widows who are poor and partially dependent	
XIV. Number of children of deceased soldiers	
XV. What available provision has been made by the State or by other agencies by which these children, if poor, can be cared for and educated	
XVI. To what extent is aid of this kind, if any exists, sought and used for the advantage of these children	
XVII. What, upon the whole, has been the effect of this long term of military service upon the *moral tone* of the soldiers themselves	
XVIII. What has been the effect upon the *industrial habits* of these men	
XIX. Is there any marked effect upon the homes and upon the children of these soldiers, produced by this long absence of the father of the family? If there is, how, in general terms, does it show itself	
XX. Taking your community as a whole, what do you observe is *the influence of the war*, including, on the one side, the effect of these calls for generous sacrifices, the discipline of hopes and fears and sorrows, and, on the other hand, the demoralizing influences brought back from army life	

(Form of Circular to be printed and used by Aid Societies in their respective localities, the proper designation of each being inserted.)

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

BUREAU OF INFORMATION AND EMPLOYMENT.

.....

(Insert name of Society.)

This Bureau is established with the following objects:

1. To aid those who have served in the Army and Navy of the United States in obtaining employment.

2. To prevent, as far as possible, the necessity for costly charitable institutions, by thus encouraging industry, and aiding the disabled soldier, who might otherwise seek an asylum, to strive for self-support.

3. To lessen the pauperism and crime necessarily more or less a consequence of war, and which surely attend on large numbers of unoccupied men left to themselves without employment or means of subsistence.

4. To save to the country a large amount of productive labor, at a time when it can least afford to maintain idle hands.

The services of the Bureau are given gratuitously.

Information and suggestions are solicited relative to employments adapted to maimed and disabled men. Employers are earnestly requested to make application to this Bureau for every class of labor; and are reminded that our Army and Navy have contained many of the best and most trustworthy young men of the nation—skilled in every occupation.

It is demanded by both patriotism and humanity, that the light occupations of all towns, and whatever work can be as well done by invalid soldiers as by others, be given to the men who may have incapacitated themselves for rivalry in

more active and laborious fields of duty, by giving their limbs, their health, and their blood to the nation.

[Append names of Officers of Aid Society.]

JNO. S. BLATCHFORD,
General Secretary.

THE RECORD OF THE COMMISSION.

The years of thought and labor that have been given to the Commission are in the past. Their record is unseen of the people as yet, and hence it is not appreciated.

In all the societies that have been tributary to it, there is a history of toil, of prayer, and patriotism that should be developed as an example to the world, as well as a just tribute to those who have participated in the work.

Every agent upon the field, every visitor and inspector of camp and hospital, has a record of his work, if not in tangible form, in his memory and heart. And it should be brought to light, that the whole may be condensed, and a history which shall exceed the history of any other benevolent organization the world has ever known, be made the crowning glory of our age.

The churches have not done for missions, humanitarians for their peculiar plans of benevolence, politicians for their ministries of public charity, what has been done for the army of the Union by the Union-loving people of the country during the continuance of the war.

The reason why so much has been accomplished is found in the universality of the claim for aid, without reference to names or divisions. All classes of people went to war, as representatives of all classes at home, and the generous sacrifice of the soldier was only equalled by the response of the people at home to strengthen and supplement the resources of the Government, that it should not fail in its care of the soldier.

Let all these fragmentary histories be collected. Let every incident of striking value be taken from the private diary of every one who has labored for the Commission, and forwarded to the Historical Bureau.

In the armies of the East and West alike, noble women have ventured into camp and field, and done noble service. Let these make their record.

Volunteers who have not been sent out by the Commission, but who have labored with it, and drawn from its supplies, have a record. Let the facts of their experience be presented and make a part of the history of the times.

State agents have gone under appointment of governors and legislation, quartered with the Commission, and been a part of its practical machinery. These have a peculiar record that should be incorporated in history with that of the whole people.

Railroad, transportation, and telegraph companies have opened their cars, boats, and offices, and said to the people, "Use us and our appliances in the cause;" and the generosity and promptness with which they have acted is not only a matter of public interest, but one which is needful to make complete the testimony that will be seen of men in this behalf.

The work of children, in schools, alert clubs, and little social fairs, has been wonderful; and when these children shall grow to manhood they will be glad to find the truth written for them and theirs.

Let aid societies, churches, children, agents, visitors, observers, corporations, and individuals, who have aided the Sanitary Commission in any way, and who should be incorporated in its history, furnish their own record of facts and labors, and all such documents shall be filed and properly noticed.

Address, Historical Bureau, U. S. Sanitary Commission 244 F St., Washington, D. C.

REBEL BARBARITY.

STATE OF VIRGINIA, } *ss.*
County of Fairfax, }

Charles A. Watson, 1st sergeant Company "E;" Freeman D. Nason, sergeant, Company "G;" James Cusack, private, Company "A;" Benjamin Herrald, private,

Company "A;" Henry W. Howard, private, Company "D;" Henry Slate, private, Company "D," George Taylor, private, Company "D;" George Hurley, private, Company "D;" all of the 17th Regiment of Vermont State Volunteer Infantry, being severally duly sworn, each for himself deposes and says: That deponents were captured by the rebel forces on the 30th day of September, 1864, at Shady Grove Church, near the Weldon railroad, in the State of Virginia; that they were taken to prison first at Petersburg, next at Richmond, and finally at Salisbury, N. C., at which place they all, except deponent, Slate, remained imprisoned from October 5, 1864, until February the 24th, 1865; that upon deponents' arrival there were about 10,000 Union men in said prison at Salisbury; that immediately after their capture, and at Petersburg, Va., their blankets and all their valuables were taken from the persons of deponents by the rebels; that during their stay at Salisbury prison, of four months and over, no clothing whatever was issued by the rebel authorities, and until about the time of deponents' release, in February, 1865, no blankets were furnished to the prisoners at that place; that hardly any of said prisoners had blankets of their own; that during a large portion of the time of their imprisonment, viz., the months of December, 1864, and January and February, 1865, the weather was very cold, with heavy frosts and severe rains, and that said prisoners, during such period of time, had no shelter of any kind whatever from the inclemency of the weather, except as follows: about one-third of the prisoners dug holes or caves in the ground, into which they crept for protection. That the rations of food issued to the prisoners at Salisbury were as follows: daily to each man, either one-half pound of corn or sorghum bread, or one pint of corn meal ground with the cob, and one half pint of very thin soup, without any seasoning. About twice in each month beefs' heads and livers and tripe, raw and bloody, were served out in quantities sufficient to give each prisoner a piece about the size of a man's two fingers. Besides this no meat of any kind was ever served to the prisoners. Sometimes, but never in connection with the issue of meat as above, sorghum was given in the amount of two or three spoonsful to a man. This issue was made, perhaps, once in each week. No salt was ever furnished the Union prisoners, and no food was ever issued of any other kind or in any other quantities than as stated, during deponents' stay in said prison. On an average, at least one day in each week no ration or food whatever was given to the prisoners; and on thanksgiving and Christmas days of 1864, no food was given to said prisoners, and the reason assigned that these were feast days for their friends at home and should be made fast days to them. During the first two or three months of their confinement as above, deponents say that water was only given to them from reservoirs or cisterns in the prison yard, containing the drainings of the yard. A very great number of the prisoners were so feeble and sick as to be unable to reach the sinks to relieve the wants of nature, and the filth and excrement deposited by these men were washed by the rain, and that water drained into these wells and cisterns. After the first month the number of wells was increased, but the character of the water was unchanged. Water was not furnished in sufficient quantities for both washing and drinking, and consequently the great majority of the men were unable to wash at all, either their persons or clothing. Many became so blackened by dirt and smoke as not to be distinguishable from negroes except by the color or character of their hair.

That there were eight hospitals in the yard, containing in all about 550 patients, and always full, and that there were always more sick, and actually more men died in the open yard than in the hospitals. The sick were laid in these hospitals on the bare board floor, and in one hospital on the earthen floor, without bed, bedding, or covering of any kind whatsoever. To each sick man was issued daily rations of wheat bread ¼ of a pound, a little rice soup once each day, and a little meat about the size of a man's two fingers once a week. Deponent, Henry W. Howard, further says that he was employed in said hospitals as a nurse to the sick, and has known instances of sick prisoners being two whole days without food of an kind. Said Howard and deponent Watson further say, that they kept records of deaths in the prison during said four months of their stay, and from these records, and from information derived from the records of surgeons in said hospital, they state that of the 10,000 prisoners confined in said prison in Octo-

ber, 1864, over 5,100 died mainly from want, hunger, and exposure, between October, 5, 1864, and February 24, 1865.

Prisoners dying were commonly stripped of their clothing, if it was of any value whatever, thrown naked, and in a miscellaneous pile, into a wagon, carted out of the yard, and thrown, in layers three or four deep, into trenches five or six feet in depth, dug for the purpose of burial. Deponents further say, that they have and each of them has seen these wagons, full of the dead bodies of Union prisoners, when hindered by a rut or hole in the road, relieved by throwing out the bodies of our men like sticks of cord-wood.

Deponents further say, that about the middle of November, 1864, the rebel authorities began efforts to induce the prisoners to enlist in the rebel army. The process was this: For two or three days no food was issued except a pint of thin soup, without bread or other accompaniment. On the third day a large box of cooked meat and a box of white bread was placed at the gate, within full sight of the prisoners, and the offer was made by either General York, Brigadier General, C. S. A., or by Major Gee, in immediate command of the prison, or by some other authorized officer, that to each prisoner who would enlist in the rebel army one pound of the meat and one loaf of the bread would be given. Many men enlisted under this temptation, but deponents refused; and on such refusal deponent Watson on one occasion heard said Brig. Gen. York state with an oath that it was their intention to starve said prisoners until they did enlist; and on another occasion, deponent Taylor heard said Major Gee make the same statement. This process was put in force eight or ten times during the period of these deponents' imprisonment, and about 1,500 Union soldiers were driven by their sufferings so to enlist. That on one occasion, for two whole days no food or rations of any kind whatever were issued to the Union prisoners, and on the third day, which was, as deponents recollect, the 26th day of December, 1864, the boxes of meat and bread were again brought out, and the offer as above made. That under this great pressure, on that day five hundred or six hundred of the said Union prisoners did so enlist in the rebel army, and deponent, Henry Slate, says that, driven by famine and suffering, he did so enlist among them, and received the bounty of two loaves of bread and one pound of bacon. Said Slate further says, that he never bore arms in the rebel ranks, but was employed in digging in the trenches, and about April 10, 1865, escaped to the Union lines.

CHAS. A. WATSON, 1st Sergt. Co. E, 17th Vt.
FREEMAN D. NASON, Sergt. Co. G, 17th Vt.
JAMES CUSACK, Co. A, 17th Vt.
his
BENJAMIN x HERRALD, Co. A, 17th Vt.
mark.
Witness—GEO. J. SICARD.
his
GEORGE x TAYLOR, Co. D, 17th Vt.
mark.
Witness—GEO. J. SICARD.
GEORGE J. HURLEY, Co. D, 17th Vt.
HENRY W. HOWARD, Co. D, 17th Vt.
HENRY SLATE, Co. D, 17th Vt.

Subscribed and sworn before me this 24th day of June, A. D. 1865, at Headquarters, 17th Vermont Vols., near Alexandria, Va. JAMES S. PECK,
Adj't 17th Vt. Vols.

SPECIAL RELIEF WORK ON THE RAILROAD CARS.

During the past month the Sanitary Commission has been rendering a most valuable service through the agency of its Corps of Hospital Couriers, who go out upon the evening express trains from Washington to minister to the needs of the disabled soldiers who may be upon the several trains. In the process of rapidly discharging the inmates of the general hospitals there are many men quite feeble and helpless who start upon the railroad cars; there have been during the four weeks past from ten to forty such men in each express train. The Hospital Couriers of the Commission are at the railroad station before the cars leave to help these feeble men in obtaining tickets, (if not provided beforehand,) and in securing comfortable seats; and during the journey to New York, Harrisburg, Wheeling, or wherever it may be, these sick soldiers have this friend near them, marked by his badge, whom they can call upon for any help they need. At the end of each of the routes assigned to these Hospital Couriers respectively, the soldiers are transferred to such Relief Station or railroad train as is fit; and where the case calls for it, another Courier goes from this given point with any soldier who is too feeble to be left simply to the care of his companions. The Hospital Couriers who leave Washington daily start from "The Home" of the Sanitary Com-

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT---CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EIGHTEEN

PLACES.	Alabama.	Arkansas.	California.	Connecticut.	Delaware.	District of Columbia.	Georgia.	Illinois.	Indiana.	Iowa.	Kansas.	Kentucky.	Louisiana.	Maine.	Maryland.	Massachusetts.	Michigan.	Minnesota.	Mississippi.	Missouri.	New Hampshire.	New Jersey.	New York.	North Carolina.	Ohio.
Alexandria, Va.																									
"Soldiers' Rest,".....	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	5	.....	.....	...	1	...	14	2	14	12	.....	...	.....	5	2	27	...	27
J. B. Holt, Supt.																									
Annapolis.																									
"The Home".....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	4	4	1	.....	...	.....	...	...	25	1	2
C. F. Howes, Supt.																									
Baltimore.																									
"The Home".....	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	5	14	3	...	2	...	7	2	10	2	1	...	2	5	3	50	...	16
A. E. Hastings, Supt.																									
Boston.																									
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	1	...	14	2	7	...	2	.....	1	...	.....	1	457	1	736	7	1	...	.....	51	2	19	...	6
Chas. E. Mudge, Supt.																									
Buffalo, N. Y.																									
"Soldiers' Rest,".....	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	9	5	...	...	.....	...	1	...	.....	4	.....	...	.....	...	...	77	...	8
Mrs. H. Indevine, Mat.																									
Cairo, Ill.																									
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	3	...	4	...	...	...	391	59	174	14	27	...	10	1	1	16	42	...	63	...	17	50	...	35
C. N. Shipman, Supt.																									
Camp Nelson, Ky.																									
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	18	.....	...	638	...	.....	...	.....	180	.....	...	.....	...	...	11	6	122
Thos. Butler, Supt.																									
Cleveland, Ohio.																									
.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	.....
Columbus, Ohio.																									
"Soldiers' Home,".....	14	...	...	4	...	...	3	181	242	58	...	105	...	.....	...	3	350	.....	...	9	...	...	49	16	1,356
T. E. Botsford, Supt.																									
Detroit, Mich.																									
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	671	.....	...	.....	...	...	13	...	6
Luther Sawtelle, Supt.																									
Jeffersonville, Ind.																									
"Soldiers' Home,".....	1	...	...	16	...	...	...	87	128	57	...	33	...	.....	...	2	53	23	...	1	...	...	14	1	217
Egbert T. Smith, Supt.																									
Nashville, Tenn.																									
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	605	763	90	23	115	...	.....	2	3	397	48	1	157	...	4	90	6	897
Jos. Gillson, Supt.																									
New Orleans, La.																									
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	91	48	44	9	19	61	5	14	10	7	31	28	.....	...	6	31	...	20
N. S. Bullard, Supt.																									
Paducah, Ky.																									
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	251	65	82	...	34	...	.....	...	.....	42	.....	...	45	...	...	.....	...	78
E. D. Way, Supt.																									
Portsmouth, Va.																									
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	4	.....	.....	...	2	...	3	5	29	5	.....	...	.....	2	3	153	...	12
Jno. L. Alcocke, Supt.																									
Washington, D. C.																									
Lodge No. 6.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	.....
H. Y. McPherran, Supt.																									
"The Home,".....	...	...	...	30	4	...	...	9	18	1	...	9	...	59	11	62	42	12	...	5	21	21	245	...	44
J. B. Clark, Supt.																									
"Home for soldiers' wives and relatives".....	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	3	6	16	4	.....	...	.....	3	9	40	...	8
J. B. Clark, Supt.																									
Total.....	15	4	1	84	7	10	3	1,702	1,360	510	46	085	62	559	48	890	1,793	158	29	282	87	67	894	30	2,863

mission, 374 North Capitol street, near the Railroad Station, where arrangements can be made for the care of any disabled soldier, discharged or furloughed, who is going upon the train, and where, likewise, all information can be obtained concerning transportation, hospital cars, relief stations, &c.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,
CENTRAL OFFICE, 244 F STREET,
WASHINGTON, *June* 8, 1865.

In consequence of the very large demand made upon the Sanitary Commission by the armies encamped in and about Washington, it has become necessary, for the present, to restrict our issues of articles of clothing to the sick, and to such soldiers as are really destitute and unable to procure supplies through regular channels, by reason of absence from their commands, want of descriptive lists, or other cause.

JNO. S. BLATCHFORD,
General Secretary.

"HOMES," "LODGES," AND "RESTS," FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1865.

Pennsylvania.	Rhode Island.	Tennessee.	Texas.	Vermont.	Virginia.	West Virginia.	Wisconsin.	U. S. Regulars.	U. S. Navy.	Vet. Reserve Corps.	Q. M. Department.	Paroled Prisoners.	Colored Troops.	Unclassified.	Rebels.	TOTAL. Soldiers.	TOTAL. Relatives of Soldiers.	TOTAL. Refugees.	Whole number.	Lodgings.	Meals.	Paroled.	Under orders.	Discharged.
58	6	.....	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	6	...	.....	.....	4	.....	190	43	7	240	450	1,335	37	18	133
20	...	.....	...	...	...	1	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	62	.....	62	726	2,141	.....	.....	.....
21	1	.....	...	2	...	1	3	13	1	3	...	68	1	...	.....	245	25	100	370	576	1,831	142	30	5
4	1	.....	...	...	...	...	.....	47	22	90	...	126	.....	...	1	1,599	15	.....	1,614	974	2,829	1,057	250	181
.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	.....	5	...	19	10	.....	.....	2	.....	140	9	13	162	292	627	82	.....	59
15	2	30	...	...	...	...	1,211	.....	13	15	...	38	5	...	.....	2,237	.....	5	2,242	1,160	5,840	260	10	246
.....	...	2	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	2	.....	7	.....	264	...	.....	1,300	29	65	1,394	1,324	3,431	6	1,262	82
.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	...	.....	1,433	.....	.....	1,433	628	2,490	.....	.....	.....
48	...	52	...	...	55	...	12	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	...	.....	2,557	.....	138	2,695	2,557	7,969	2,358	.....	428
.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	7	8	...	63	1	341	.....	...	.....	1,111	.....	3	1,114	1,368	5,160	588	87	94
17	...	26	...	...	2	...	18	28	...	94	...	.....	.....	...	.....	818	.....	.....	818	160	1,939	342	296	46
160	...	1,035	...	...	4	...	248	640	...	.....	...	.....	.....	...	29	5,317	28	.....	5,345	3,690	16,728	2,214	551	2,552
1	3	1	31	...	...	...	53	7	1	6	...	.....	50	2	.....	589	.....	.....	589	5,000	14,743	30	332	238
48	...	48	...	...	...	...	101	8	...	.....	10	.....	149	...	.....	961	2	.....	963	1,200	7,524	20	921	10
13	...	.....	...	5	...	...	.....	.....	...	38	10	.....	5	7	.....	299	3	23	325	490	1,496	.....	.....	.....
.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	...	.....	60	.....	17	77	.....	760	.....	.....	.....
135	2	1	...	9	11	...	18	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	...	.....	762	1	5	768	3,310	7,723	370	289	113
52	1	.....	...	1	...	...	2	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	147	20	167	946	1,700	.....	.....	.....
592	16	1,195	31	17	72	2	1,670	758	39	334	38	573	465	13	30	19,618	864	396	20,378	24,851	86,266	7,506	4,046	4,137

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THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

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U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

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Central Office, 244 F Street, Washington, D. C.

This Bureau is established with the following objects:

1. To aid those who have served in the Army and Navy of the United States in obtaining employment.

2. To prevent, as far as possible, the necessity for costly charitable institutions, by thus encouraging industry, and aiding the disabled soldier, who might otherwise seek an asylum, to strive for self-support.

3. To lessen the pauperism and crime necessarily more or less a consequence of war, and which surely attend on large numbers of unoccupied men left to themselves without employment or means of subsistence.

4. To save to the country a large amount of productive labor, at a time when it can least afford to maintain idle hands.

The services of the Bureau are given gratuitously.

Information and suggestions are solicited relative to employments adapted to maimed and disabled men. Employers are earnestly requested to make application to this Bureau for every class of labor; and are reminded that our Army and Navy have contained many of the best and most trustworthy young men of the nation—skilled in every occupation.

It is demanded by both patriotism and humanity, that the light occupations of all towns, and whatever work can be as well done by invalid soldiers as by others, be given to the men who may have incapacitated themselves for rivalry in more active and laborious fields of duty, by giving their limbs, their health, and their blood to the nation.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Army and Navy Claim Agency.

NO CHARGE FOR SERVICES.

This Agency is established to prosecute the claims of those who have been in the service of the United States, in the Army and Navy, and their dependents, for Pensions, Arrears of pay, Bounty, Prize-Money, and all other Army and Navy claims on the Government, *WITHOUT CHARGE OR EXPENSE OF ANY KIND WHATEVER TO THE CLAIMANT.*

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"SOLDIERS' HOMES" AND "LODGES."

[OBJECTS. Temporary aid and protection,—food, lodging, care, &c.,—for soldiers in transitu, chiefly the discharged, disabled, and furloughed.]

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Annapolis, Md. "HOME FOR SOLDIERS' WIVES AND MOTHERS." Mrs. Hopes Sayres, Matron.

Baltimore, Md. "SOLDIERS' HOME." No. 62 Conway Street. A. E. Hastings, Supt.
"SOLDIERS' LODGE." Opposite Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad Station. ——, Superintendent.

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Buffalo, N. Y. "SOLDIERS' REST." Exchange street, opposite Central Railroad Depot. Mrs. H. Indevine, Matron.

Cairo, Ill. "SOLDIERS' HOME." C. N. Shipman, Superintendent.

Camp Nelson, Ky. "SOLDIERS' HOME." Thomas Butler, Superintendent.

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Louisville, Ky. "SOLDIERS' HOME." V. Scott, Superintendent.

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Nashville, Tenn. "SOLDIERS' HOME." Captain I. Brayton, Superintendent.

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Wilmington, N. C. "SOLDIERS' LODGE." Market street. F. B. Foster, Supt.

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[OBJECTS.—To give aid in procuring pay, pensions, bounty, prize money, arrears of pay and bounty, and other claims upon government. To supply clothing, hospital delicacies, crutches, &c. To give transportation, information, &c.]

Alexandria, Va. Office in Soldiers' Lodge. Orange and Alexandria Railroad Station. J. B. Holt, Agent.

Annapolis, Md. Office of United States Sanitary Commission. W. H. Holstein, Agent.

Baltimore, Md. United States Sanitary Commission, No. 288 West Baltimore street. J. T. Pancost, Agent.

Boston, Mass. United States Sanitary Commission, No. 76 Kingston street.

Buffalo, N. Y. Branch United States Sanitary Commission, Adams' Block, No. 209 Washington street.

Cairo, Ill. Office in "Soldiers' Home." C. N. Shipman, Agent.

Camp Nelson, Ky. Office in "Soldiers' Home." Thomas Butler, Agent.

Chattanooga, Tenn. United States Sanitary Commission.

Chicago, Ill. United States Sanitary Commission.

Cincinnati, Ohio. United States Sanitary Commission, corner Vine and Sixth streets.

Cleveland, Ohio. Branch United States Sanitary Commission.

Detroit, Mich. United States Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned street.

Dubuque, Ia. United States Sanitary Commission. Rev. E. S. Morris, Agent.

Harrisburg, Penn. Office in "Soldiers' Lodge." W. H. Hadley, Agent.

Jeffersonville, Ind. Office in "Soldiers' Home," New Market street, near railroad depot. E. T. Smith, Agent.

Knoxville, Tenn. United States Sanitary Commission.

Leavenworth, Kansas. United States Sanitary Commission. J. R. Brown, Agent.

Louisville, Ky. United States Sanitary Commission, Fifth street.

Memphis, Tenn. Office in "Soldiers' Lodge," near landing. C. W. Christy, Agent.

Milwaukie, Wis. Mrs. Colt.

Nashville, Tenn. United States Sanitary Commission. E. Root, Agent.

New Orleans, La. Special Relief Office, United States Sanitary Commission, No. 96 Julia street. O. C. Bullard, Agent.

New York City, N. Y. "Special Relief Office," Cooper Union, No. 10 Third Avenue. Mrs. W. P. Griffin, Chairman Special Relief Committee.

Paducah, Ky. Office in "Soldiers' Home." E. D. Way, Agent.

Philadelphia, Pa. United States Sanitary Commission, 1307 Chestnut street, third story, back. Colonel Soest, Agent.

Portsmouth, Va. Office in "Soldiers' Home." John Alcooke, Agent.

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Washington, D. C. "Special Relief Office," No. 389 H street, between 13th and 14th streets. J. B. Abbott, Chief Assistant.

Wheeling, Va. United States Sanitary Commission.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

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U. S. San. Com., Nos. 10 & 11 Cooper Union, New York.
U. S. San. Com., State House, New Haven, Ct.
U. S. San. Com., 1307 Chestnut st., Philada.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

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U. S. San. Com., 288 W. Balt. st., Balt., Md.
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U. S. San. Com., Annapolis, Md.
U. S. San. Com., Camp Parole, Md.
U. S. San. Com., Norfolk, Va.
U. S. San. Com., City Point, Va.
U. S. San. Com., Newbern, N. C.
U. S. San. Com., Beaufort, S. C.
U. S. San. Com., New Orleans, La.

Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. San. Com., corner Vine and Sixth sts., Cincinnati, O.
U. S. San. Com., No. 95 Bank st., Cleveland, O.
U. S. San. Com., No. 66 Madison st., Chicago, Ill.
U. S. San. Com., No. 2 Adams' Block, Buffalo, N. Y.
U. S. San. Com., No. 59 Fourth st., Pittsburgh, Penna.
U. S. San. Com., No. 32 Larned st., Detroit, Mich.
U. S. San. Com., Columbus, O.
U. S. San. Com., Fifth st., Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to Geo. T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall street, N. Y.

PROTECTIVE

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OF THE

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OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

PROTECTIVE

War Claim and Pension Agency

OF THE

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

Office No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

All the papers and correspondence required to procure Pensions, Bounty and Back Pay, and Prize Money for discharged soldiers and sailors, and for the relatives of soldiers and sailors dying in the service of the United States, prepared and forwarded, and the proceeds of all claims, when collected, remitted to the parties entitled, *free of charge.*

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SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., *Dec.* 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the city of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * *

In compliance with the recommendation of the Board, when a Soldier may desire to purchase "the more elegant and expensive arm of Palmer," fifty dollars will be allowed towards payment for the same.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.

C. H. CRANE, *Surgeon U. S. A.*

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., *Sep.* 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, *so far as regards the Limbs manufactured by you.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,

W. C. SPENCER, *Assistant Surgeon U. S. A.*

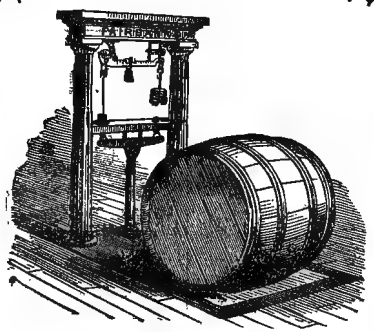
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THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

No. 40. WASHINGTON, D. C., AUGUST 1, 1865. No. 40.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 15,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the Central Office, 244 *F street, Washington, D. C., and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or* 244 *F street, Washington, D. C.,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

GOOD WORDS OF GREAT MEN.

PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

The Sanitary Commission is doing a work of great humanity, and of direct practical value to the nation in this time of its trial. It is entitled to the gratitude and the confidence of the people, and I trust it will be generously supported. There is no agency through which voluntary offerings of patriotism can be more effectively made.

CHIEF JUSTICE SALMON P. CHASE.

What age before this age, and what country besides our country, ever witnessed such an organization as that of the Sanitary Commission? What needs have been supplied; what wants relieved; what wounds healed; what evils averted, by the activity, wisdom, and unflagging zeal of this admirable organization, fostered and sustained by the people, and recognized and aided by the Government.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,
CENTRAL OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., *July* 4, 1865.

To the Branches and Aid Societies tributary to the Sanitary Commission:

In a circular (No. 90) issued from this office May 15, last, you were called on to continue your labors in collecting and providing supplies up to the present date. For the alacrity you have shown in complying with this request, under circumstances so unfavorable to zeal, we tender you special thanks. Your continued support has enabled us to extend a generous assistance to our armies gathered at Washington and Louisville, and elsewhere, before being finally mustered out of service. When you have forwarded to our Receiving Depots such supplies as you may now have in hand, we hope to find our storehouses sufficiently recruited to meet all remaining wants of the service. In the Eastern Department our work of supply is substantially done, with the exception of a limited service still required in the Department of Washington.

In the Western Department it may continue, on a very diminished scale, a couple of months longer. In Texas and the Department of the Gulf the supply service may possibly last all summer. But, by economy of our stores in hand, we feel authorized to say that after collecting what is already in existence we shall be able to meet all just demands made upon us. We, therefore, in accordance with our promise, notify our Branches that their labors in collecting supplies for us may finally cease with this date. We shall make no further requisitions upon them, except in regard to supplies already in their hands.

We hope our Branches will use all dili-

gence in forwarding to our Receiving Depots, through the accustomed channels, whatever stores may reach them from their Aid Societies, or any they have in hand.

All balances in cash left in the Branch treasuries, after settling up their local affairs, will be forwarded to Geo. T Strong, Esq., Treasurer of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

So far as any of our Branches are engaged in other portions of our work than in collecting and forwarding supplies, their labors will continue so long as those of the Commission itself last. But the supply work is over, and the characteristic labors of the women of the land, in furnishing hospital clothing and comforts for sick and wounded soldiers, are completed. Henceforward, during the few months of existence still allotted to the Sanitary Commission to complete its work of collecting the pensions and back pay of the soldiers, in which it already has one hundred and twenty-seven offices established, to make up its scientific record and close up its widely-extended affairs, there will be no probable necessity for addressing the women of the country, and this circular may be our last opportunity, until the final Report of the Commission is made, of expressing the gratitude of the Board for their patient, humane, and laborious devotion to our common work.

For more than four years the U. S. Sanitary Commission has depended on its Branches, mainly directed and controlled by women, for keeping alive the interest in its work in all the villages and homes of the country; for establishing and banding together the Soldiers' Aid Societies which in thousands have sprung up and united their strength in our service. By correspondence and by actual visitation, as well as by a system of canvassing, you, at the centres of influence, have maintained your hold upon the homes of the land, and kept your storehouses and ours full of their contributions.

By what systematic and business-like devotion of your time and talents you have been able to accomplish this we have been studious and admiring observers. Your volunteer work has had all the regularity of paid labor. In a sense of responsibility, in system, in patient persistency, in attention to wearisome details, in a victory over the fickleness which commonly besets the work of volunteers, you have rivalled the discipline, the patience, and the courage, of soldiers in the field—soldiers enlisted for the war. Not seldom, indeed, your labors, continued through frosts and heats, and without intermission, for years, have broken down your health. But your ranks have always been kept full—and full, too, of the best, most capable, and noble women in the country. Nor do we suppose that you, who have controlled and inspired our Branches, and with whom it has been our happiness to be brought into personal contact, are, because acting in a larger sphere, more worthy of our thanks and respect than the women who have maintained our village Soldiers' Aid Societies. Indeed, the ever-cheering burden of your communications to us has been the praise and love inspired in you by the devoted patriotism, the self-sacrificing zeal, of the Aid Societies, and of their individual contributors. Through you we have heard the same glowing and tear-moving tales of the sacrifices made by humble homes and hands in behalf of our work, which we so often hear from their comrades, of *privates* in the field, who throughout the war have often won the laurels their officers have worn, and have been animated by motives of pure patriotism, unmixed with hope of promotion, or desire for recognition or praise, to give their blood and their lives for the country of their hearts.

To you, and through you to the Soldiers' Aid Societies, and through them to each and every contributor to our supplies—to every woman who has sewed a seam or knitted a stocking in the service of the Sanitary Commission—we now return our most sincere and hearty thanks—thanks which are not ours only, but those of the Camps, the Hospitals, the Transports, the Prisons, the Pickets, and the Lines; where your love and labor have sent comfort, protection, relief, and sometimes life itself. It is not too much to say, that the Army of women at home has fully matched in patriotism and in sacrifices the Army of men in the field. The mothers, sisters, wives and daughters of America have been worthy of the sons, brothers, husbands, and fathers who were fighting their battles. After having contributed their living treasures to the war, what wonder they sent so freely after them all else that they had! And this precious sympathy between the fire-sides and the camp-fires—between the bayonet and the needle, the tanned cheek

and the pale face—has kept the Nation one; has carried the Homes into the Ranks, and kept the Ranks in the Homes, until a sentiment of oneness, of irresistible unanimity—in which domestic and social, civil and religious, political and military elements entered, qualifying, strengthening, enriching, and sanctifying all—has at last conquered all obstacles, and given us an overwhelming, a profound, and a permanent victory.

It has been our precious privilege to be your almoners; to manage and distribute the stores you have created and given us for the soldiers and sailors. We have tried to do our duty impartially, diligently, wisely. For the means of carrying on this vast work which has grown up in our hands, keeping pace with the growing immensity of the war, and which we are now about to lay down, after giving the American public an account of our stewardship, we are chiefly indebted to the money created by the Fairs, which the American women inaugurated and conducted, and to the supplies collected by you under our organization. To you, then, is finally due the largest part of whatever gratitude belongs to the Sanitary Commission. It is as it should be. The soldier will return to his home to thank his own wife, mother, sister, daughter, for so tenderly looking after him in camp and field, in hospital and prison; and thus it will be seen, that it is the homes of the country which have wrought out this great salvation, and that the men and the women of America have an equal part in its glory and its joy.

Invoking the blessing of God upon you all, we are gratefully and proudly your fellow-laborers.

H. W. BELLOWS, President.
A. D. BACHE.
F. L. OLMSTED.
GEORGE T. STRONG.
ELISHA HARRIS.
W. H. VAN BUREN.
WOLCOTT GIBBS.
S. G. HOWE.
C R. AGNEW.
J. S. NEWBERRY.
RT. REV. T. M. CLARK.
HON. R. W. BURNETT.
HON. MARK SKINNER.
HON. JOSEPH HOLT.
HORACE BINNEY.
J. HUNTINGTON WOLCOTT.
REV. J. H. HEYWOOD.
CHARLES J. STILLÉ.
EZRA B. McCAGG.

JNO. S. BLATCHFORD, General Secretary.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,
CENTRAL OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., *July* 15, 1865.

With the issue of the accompanying circular, it is deemed important to call the earnest attention of all those co-workers who have so faithfully contributed to the usefulness of the Commission during the past four years, to the work of its "Army and Navy Claim Agency," now being prosecuted by agencies established throughout the loyal States, for the gratuitous adjustment and collection of claims against the Government, for soldiers, sailors, and their dependents. It is most earnestly desired, that within the next sixty days the fact that this enterprise has been inaugurated may be brought to the knowledge of, and the opportunity of enjoying its benefits afforded to, every soldier and soldier's family throughout the Union. To the Branches and Aid Societies the Commission appeals with confidence, to enlist their lively interest in this effort. A list of the Local Agencies already established by the Commission is appended.* Each Aid Society should select the names of those agents most accessible to the field of labor, and should direct in person, if practicable, every claimant to such agent. Where this cannot be accomplished, the claimant's name and post-office address, and the name, rank, company, regiment, and service of the soldier, with the date of his discharge or death, should be taken, and a letter written at once to the agent, who will return the proper blanks, with directions for their execution.

These suggestions are simple, but if energetically carried into operation, most valuable results must follow.

This is a work worthy of your utmost zeal and energy, and in its accomplishment all the appliances of the press, of public speech, and private effort, of the various local interests so familiar to you all, should be freely used.

Let but the united activity of all be exercised in this enterprise, and in the future it will be rightly termed the crowning effort of the Commission's career of beneficence.

JNO. S. BLATCHFORD,
General Secretary.

FOURTH ANNUAL AND FINAL REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF FOR THE ARMY AND NAVY OF THE UNITED STATES, JULY 4, 1865.

It has been suggested that we should make this, our Final Report, a short History of the Association, tracing its course from the time of its organization, April 29, 1861, to this 4th of July, 1865, when, its work being done, the Woman's Central Associa-

* See page 1277.

tion of Relief closes its career, and must live henceforth only in the memory of its friends, or as an incident in the chronicles of the Great Rebellion. But whatever may be thought desirable hereafter, in regard to this proposition, we have determined for the present simply to take up the thread where we left it fourteen months ago, and, as clearly and rapidly as possible, follow the course of our work from that time to this, when the end of the war has brought with it the end of our work.

Fourteen months ago to-day, at the opening of the spring campaign, our gallant Army of the Potomac was obstinately fighting its way through the dense underbrush, in those merciless battles of the Wilderness. May, with its buds and blossoms, its tender green, and delicate wild-flowers, came and went. June, filled with the beauty of earth, and air, and sky—the richest and loveliest month of the year—burst upon us in all her splendor. And still the fighting went on. Five weeks passed—six weeks—seven long weeks. Was there to be no end to the bloodshed and the suffering, to the anxiety and misery of those days and nights? And still that army, with its face set towards Richmond, pressed on—marching and fighting, fighting and marching. From the Rappahannock to Spottsylvania Court House, from Spottsylvania to Cold Harbor, from Cold Harbor to the entrenchments before Petersburgh. "We shall fight it out on this line, if it takes all summer," said our Lieutenant General, with quiet, determined voice. It took all summer—it took all winter. Sherman, who had fought and marched his army from the prairies to the sea, was at hand. Sheridan, with his cavalry, had swept down the Valley. The "right time" had come, and our General gave the signal. The assault was made. Petersburgh and Richmond were evacuated! Lee's and Johnston's armies were surrendered! The war was over!

Since we last addressed you, death has again entered our little circle. At the Annual Meeting in May we missed our kind and ever-courteous President from his accustomed seat. Although in his eighty-third year, Dr. Valentine Mott was most punctilious in his attendance at our meetings and unfailing in his interest in our work. To his influence and active support was due much of the public respect and confidence shown towards this Association at its formation. At a recent meeting it was resolved that the vacant office in the Board, occasioned by his death, should remain unfilled, out of respect to the memory of our first and only President.

During the past year, or rather the past fourteen months, there has been but little incident of note in our work. If we except our Soldiers' Aid Society Council, held in this city last November, the days at our rooms have come and gone with almost unvarying sameness. At this Council, an account of which has already been published in the *Bulletin*, there were 215 delegates present, representatives from Soldiers' Aid Societies in New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Jersey, Michigan, and Canada. Since then, a series of articles, addressed to you, and published in the *Sanitary Commission Bulletin*, have kept you fully informed of the progress of our work.

In examining the statistical reports of the different Committees, we find some few changes in their work from previous years. The Committee on Correspondence reports having had in the field, at different times, nine Canvassing Agents. Also, that 369 lectures have been delivered by these gentlemen in the States of New York and Connecticut. We notice also, in this connection, an increase of 138 Contributing Societies over the number reported a year ago. The proposition made in our Third Annual Report, to furnish those Auxiliary Societies desiring it with material at half-price, under certain restrictions, has been of mutual benefit. Our Contributing Societies at present number 813, not including those sending through Centres of Collection. Of these, 375 have availed themselves of this offer. Nearly one-half of the sum expended for material was furnished by the Aid Societies; the rest being given by the Sanitary Commission for this purpose, at our request.

For the last few weeks the Special Relief work has been greatly increased by the returning regiments passing through this city. Our rooms have been thronged daily with soldiers in need of clothing. A new feature in this department of work has been the systematic visiting of all the Military Hospitals in this city, and upon the neighboring islands, which has been done by our Hospital Visitor—a lady who volunteered her services for this duty. We had before this supplied these hospitals upon requisitions of the surgeons, or through other

trustworthy agencies. The last report of our Hospital Visitor, sent in three months ago, speaks of the condition of these local hospitals as exceedingly satisfactory—sufficiently so, it is suggested, to make the services of a Hospital Visitor no longer necessary.

We call your attention to the Tables at the end of this Report. They contain a Summary of the total receipts, distributions, and expenditures, of the Association, in money and supplies, from its organization to the close of its work. Also a list, as complete as we have been able to make it, of all places from which supplies have been received during the war. They number 1,920.

In our Third Annual Report, we spoke of "Homes," or "Sanitaria," which the Sanitary Commission proposed to establish for our disabled soldiers. After much research and careful study of the subject, the Commission decided that the vexed question, as to whether these Homes were or were not needed by our American soldiery, and to what extent, could alone be determined by actual experiment. They have accordingly opened a "Home" in this city, for disabled discharged soldiers. It contains at present only about 40 inmates, although it has been open two months. Our latest information upon this subject is derived from a letter written by the President of the Commission, dated May 26, from which we quote:

"There is, however, a class of persons made helpless by the war—some of them yet to develop the whole extent of their broken constitutions—who must be made comfortable for life in public institutions. How numerous this class will prove it is impossible even to conjecture. It does not include *all the helpless;* because a large proportion of them will receive the tenderest care of their own families, too happy to watch over, and protect, and solace them, as they should be, even though in very moderate circumstances. Let us do nothing to discourage this noble pride of domestic independence, this sacred bond of consanguinity. A large share of the invalidism of the war we shall never hear of. Our proud boys will hide their scars, and die in the sacred retirement of homes that will not parade their services or their sorrows; happy in having borne and rendered both. This, too, is every way to be admired and encouraged. But there are many foreigners who have fought for us, and have all the claims of natives; since to mix their blood with ours on our battle-fields makes them our kindred, and "of one blood," in even a higher sense than usual. There are fatherless, motherless, homeless soldiers; blind, consumptive, limbless men, full of sorrows and necessities, who require an absolute and permanent asylum. How many they will prove nobody can guess at this moment; but some thousands in all. The States are already moving in their behalf. It would be much better if the nation could agree to make four conveniently-situated homes for this class of men, independent of State lines, and either Federal or State control or support, where the spontaneous charity and mercy of the nation could maintain them, in memory of their service to the Union; where the State and sectional feeling should be steadily withstood, in favor of a larger and more patriotic sentiment, and the guarantee of private intelligence, energy, and integrity, in their ordering, management, and continued improvement, be offered in place of the official formalism, coldness, and fixity, which sooner or later cankers all institutions of benevolence passing into Government hands. Such asylums being tentative, require flexibility, should be started on a small scale, in a temporary way, feel their road, and gradually adapt themselves to their experience of the wants of the men. To erect great edifices, upon any present knowledge of what our American life and spirit requires, would be to stereotype our ignorance and petrify our dreams.

"The Nation, through some Board it has learned to trust, should take some one or more of the cheap Pavilion Hospitals the war has erected, and which must soon be in the market; and, having thoroughly purged it, open one or more wards at a time, testing the want, and gradually developing the best system for the care and comfort and happiness of the men; making the institutions in all cases *mixed*, so as to destroy the horrid, deadening uniformity of classified asylums, putting the wholly disabled and the partially disabled together—the blind and the halt—and by the greatest diversity of industries, and light, even if useless employments, seek to keep up self-respect, drive off *ennui*, restore to society as many as possible, and make those who cannot be restored as little miserable as their wretched circumstances will allow. The wan and woful countenances of many blind

soldiers, many lame and helpless ones, utter strangers to homes of their own, have already stamped an image on my mind of their long, weary future under the best care they can possibly secure, which is full of motive and full of solicitude."

With the close of the Supply Department of the Sanitary Commission, our *National* work, through this agency, ceases. But our work for the soldier does not cease. It has only been brought to our own doors with our returning veterans, and henceforth takes its place as among the most sacred of our home duties.

O friends! On this Fourth of July, this day of our National Independence, which now welcomes home those who have fought and won for us a Second Battle of Independence and Freedom; while flags are flying and drums are beating, and the air is full of rejoicings, in double celebration of this great day; while our hearts are full of gratitude to God for having preserved our country through such great peril, shall we not best prove our gratitude by pledging ourselves anew to finish the work we have so well begun? Our soldiers have not faltered. They have fought the four years' fight through to the end. Nor have we faltered. The loyal women of America have been equally true to the cause, equally faithful to their work, through these long years of anxiety and toil. They knew that peace would come with the triumph of the right. Peace has come; the right has triumphed. The war is over, and our sons and brothers are returning to us. But, in the midst of our rejoicings, let us remember those whose sons and brothers will never return to them, with whom the war will never be over. Let us remember those who come back to us, having left health and limb upon the battle-field, and who would gladly have given life itself had it been required. Let us remember the last words addressed to us, by one whose memory is especially present with us to-day: "With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, *to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and orphans*, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and a lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations" By the love we bear our martyred President, by the memory of his love for us, we pledge ourselves to carry out this, his last request. And may God bless us in this resolution.

We have been asked to make a few suggestions in regard to the practical form this future work should assume. We do so with diffidence. The confidence, dear friends, with which we have guided you in your work heretofore, falters and hesitates as it approaches your own thresholds. For we feel that the homes, whose thoughtful love has followed the soldier hundreds and thousands of miles, for four years, must surely know best how to cherish and care for him upon his return. At your request, however, we would suggest the following classification of your Home Soldier work:

1st. The care and support of totally disabled men, who may need it; and assistance to the widows and orphans of soldiers requiring aid.

2d The Collection of Claims, through the Army and Navy Claim Agencies of the Sanitary Commission.

3d. The finding of suitable Employment for partially disabled men.

4th. The visiting of any neighboring Military Hospital, or "Home," and the furnishing of such supplies as may be desirable.

On another page we publish a list of the Claim Agencies already established by the Sanitary Commission. Through these agencies the Commission collects any claim the soldier or his family may have against the Government, whether of Bounty, Back-Pay, or Pensions, free of charge. In many of the smaller places, however, no regular agency will be established. We, therefore, suggest that *one* member of the Soldiers' Aid Society makes this his or her duty. Write for directions and blanks to the "Army and Navy Claim Agency, U. S. Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

In many places, however, and we hope in most, this local work will be insufficient to absorb all the surplus energy and resources of the community. The great *National* work of the day, growing out of the war, now presents itself to us through the "American Freedmen's Aid Union," and the "American Union Commission." We enclose their circulars, commending them to your judgment.

It has been only after much earnest thought, and serious counsel, that we have concluded that it is best and right for us to dissolve our Association. To undertake any part of the work for our soldiers, as

indicated above, would be merely to duplicate that which is already being done through established agencies of the Commission in this city. We give the list of those agencies as they now exist:

Army and Navy Claim Agency, 35 Chambers street.

Bureau of Employment, 35 Chambers street.

Soldiers' Home, 45 Grove street.

Headquarters of Sanitary Commission, 823 Broadway. Apply at this office, either in person or by letter, for any desired information regarding the work of the Commission.

The end of the war has brought with it the end of our work. You, our faithful fellow-workers for four years, can well understand why we should repeat these words, and dwell upon them with mingled feelings of joy and sorrow. For while we rejoice that the horrors of war are over, that our country is not only restored to us in all its integrity, but that henceforth it is a free country—purged from the sin of slavery by fire and sword; while we are thankful that the necessity for our work no longer exists, and are glad to be released from its responsibilities and cares, yet these very conditions, dear friends, bring with them the breaking up of our intercourse, and the severing of ties whose strength we scarcely knew, until now, when the hour has come for us to part. There are twenty-five large, thick books, still standing upon our shelves, in which every one of your invoiced letters, received during the past four years, have been carefully preserved. These books are our most valuable records. Let those who want to understand the work in its truest sense read over those hundreds, or rather thousands, of letters. They will find there every phase of the war as reflected in the hearts of the women at home. They will find, too, what the relation of our Association to the people has been, and get some faint idea of the strength and endurance of the people's love for the army. They show also, as nothing else can, the love and confidence which have grown up between us, during these four years of trial, and which we trust may continue to be sacredly cherished to the end of our lives.

As members of this Branch of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, we have held the enviable position of being brought into immediate contact, on the one hand, with the earnest, active minds, and patriotic zeal of the officers of the Commission, while, on the other hand, our work has given us four years of constant intercourse with the most patriotic, the most earnest, and the noblest hearts and minds from among our countrywomen. For the influence of this two-fold relationship we shall never cease to be grateful. It is impossible to be engaged in such a cause for so long a time, and with such associates, without feeling one's own nature elevated and deepened.

The bond existing between the Woman's Central and the Sanitary Commission has been a peculiarly strong one; not only because we are its oldest Branch of Supply, or on account of the exceedingly agreeable and harmonious character of our intercourse, but because, with all our love and admiration of the Commission, there is a little lurking pride—we may as well confess it—that the Commission itself is, in some sense, an offshoot of our own Association.

The President of the Commission has always been a member of our Board. It was while acting as our delegate in Washington, the first summer of the war, seeking the best channel for the distribution of our supplies, that he conceived the idea of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, which, when moulded by the genius of Frederick Law Olmsted, also one of our earliest members, produced that wonderful organization which has prevented and relieved untold suffering, and, as "bearer of the people's love to the people's army," has blessed both giver and receiver.

On the 24th of June, 1861, the Woman's Central voluntarily offered to assume a subordinate position to the Commission as one of its Branches of Supply. It proposed to open a central depot in the City of New York, for the collection of hospital supplies, "such supplies to be delivered solely upon requisition from the Sanitary Commission, or to agents authorized by it." The manner of obtaining these supplies was left to the Association. This agreement, of mutual benefit, has remained unbroken to the present hour.

One remarkable feature in the work of the Commission, and to which, without doubt, much of its success is due, is its discipline. We refer particularly to the discipline enforced and respected throughout its *vol-*

unteer corps of workers. Its Branches receive their orders from the Commission, and carry them out, with as little thought of disputing them as a captain would the orders of his colonel. And you yourselves, dear friends, with your deference to our wishes, have taught us to believe that our authority with you is paramount also. You have chosen to have it so, and have received directions about the work from us in the same spirit of obedience with which we have received them from the Commission. One of your letters says: "We don't think your plan a very good one, but we shall obey orders." And others: "Tell us what to do"—"If you want anything more, tell us what it is, and how soon you want it"—"The war is over, but we mean to keep on working until you tell us to stop." So many, many letters repeating this in every variety of expression. "After this work is over will you not advise us what to do next?" writes another friend.

This wonderful discipline in the volunteer work of the Commission! What is it but the strongest of all bonds—which is love.

It is with aching hearts that we read over these last, most precious letters from you. They are too personal, too sacred, to be quoted, or to be answered here. We want you to know how dependent we have been upon your sympathy and encouragement throughout our work. Don't forget us. Although the Woman's Central no longer exists, its old members wish to be remembered by you as friends, and as fellow-workers in and sympathizers with every cause that represents the welfare of our country, and the interests of humanity. And may God bless us in the future as in the past, and keep us in His great love and mercy.

For the Association.

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER,
ELLEN COLLINS,
CHRISTINE K. GRIFFIN,
M. D. SWETT,
HOWARD POTTER,
SAMUEL W. BRIDGHAM,
Committee.

RESOLUTIONS.

At the Final Meeting of the Woman's Central Association of Relief, Branch of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, held at Cooper Union, July 7, 1865, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Woman's Central Association of Relief cannot dissolve without expressing its sense of the value and satisfaction of its connection with the U. S. Sanitary Commission, whose confidence, guidance and support it has enjoyed for four years past. In now breaking the formal tie that has bound us together, we leave unbroken the bond of perfect sympathy, gratitude and affection, which has grown up between us.

Resolved, That we owe a deep debt of gratitude to our Associate Managers, who have so ably represented our interests in the different sections of our field of duty; and, that to their earnest, unflagging and patriotic exertions, much of the success which has followed our labors is due.

Resolved, That to the Soldiers' Aid Societies, which form the working constituency of this Association, we offer the tribute of our profound respect and admiration for their zeal, constancy and patience to the end. Their boxes and their letters have been alike our support and our inspiration. They have kept our hearts hopeful, and our confidence in our cause always firm. Henceforth the Women of America are banded in town and country, as the men are from city and field. We have wrought, and thought and prayed together, as our soldiers have fought, and bled, and conquered, shoulder to shoulder; and, from this hour, the Womanhood of our country is knit in a common bond, which the softening influences of Peace must not, and shall not weaken or dissolve. May God's blessing rest upon every Soldiers' Aid Society in the list of our contributors, and on every individual worker in their ranks.

Resolved, That to our band of Volunteer Aids, the ladies who, in turn, have so long and usefully labored in the details of our work at these rooms, we give our hearty and affectionate thanks, feeling that their unflagging devotion and cheerful presence have added largely to the efficiency and pleasure of our labors. Their record, however hidden, is on high; and they have in their own hearts the joyful testimony, that in their country's peril and need they were not found wanting.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are due to the ladies, who have, at different times, served upon the Board, but are no longer members of it; and that we recall in this hour of parting the memory of each and all who have lent us the light of their countenance, and the help of their hands. Especially do we recognize the valuable aid rendered by the members of

our Registration Committee, who, in the early days of this Association, superintended the training of a band of one hundred women nurses for our Army Hospitals. The successful introduction of this system is chiefly due to the zeal and capacity of these ladies.

Resolved, That in dissolving this Association, we desire to express the gratitude we owe to Divine Providence for permitting the members of this Board to work together in so great and glorious a cause, and upon so large and successful a scale; to maintain for so long a period, relations of such affection and respect, and now to part with such deep and grateful memories of our work and of each other.

Resolved, That the close of the war having enabled this Association to finish the work for which it was organized, the Woman's Central Association of Relief for the Army and Navy of the United States, is hereby dissolved.

By order.

SAMUEL W. BRIDGHAM,
Secretary.

GENERAL AID SOCIETY OF BUFFALO, N. Y.

Resolutions passed at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the General Aid Society, Buffalo, July 24.

Whereas the necessity of the continuance of the efforts of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, organized for the benefit of the sick and suffering soldier, is now brought to a close by the restoration of the blessing of peace, we, as managers of a branch of this inestimable work, express our feelings in the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we hereby place on record our sincere thanks and full appreciation of the sympathy and encouragement rendered us by the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

Resolved, That we are most happy to communicate to the officers of this organization, expressions of the most unfeigned gratitude for the kind and harmonious action so invariably extended to this branch of the noble and philanthropic work.

Resolved, That while we acknowledge the aid and encouragement given by the officers of the Commission, we are not unmindful of the labor bestowed and the sacrifices made by our auxiliary societies; their prompt assistance and ready response to every appeal has been a sunbeam to brighten every shadow cast upon our exertions in the cause of the suffering soldiers.

Resolved, That we rejoice in the reflection that we have been made co-laborers in this stupendous and unexampled charity, and while life lasts we will cherish the remembrance of this benevolent effort, and hope that future generations may exult in the results of this glorious organization.

Resolved, That these resolutions be signed by the officers of the Buffalo General Aid Society, and a copy sent to the Central Office of the Sanitary Commission.

MRS. HORATIO SEYMOUR, President.
MRS. HENRY R. SEYMOUR, Vice President.
MRS. J. R. LOTHROP, Vice President.
MRS. JAMES P. WHITE, Treasurer.
MISS GRACE E. BIRD, Secretary.

ROCHESTER SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the Rochester Soldiers' Aid Society, recently held at their rooms, the following resolutions were presented, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Society desires to express its high appreciation of the value of the work achieved by the U. S. Sanitary Commission in aid of our soldiers, both through its relations to the home work and to that upon the field; in the former, encouraging, stimulating, and directing the production of supplies; and in the latter, wisely distributing to our vast armies the immense contributions, which, since its organization, have constantly flowed into its channels from almost every home in the land.

Resolved, That we regard with unfeigned satisfaction our own connection with this body, as one greatly promoting the efficiency of our efforts, and highly agreeable to ourselves, and that we desire to express our thanks for the courtesy and kindness which has ever characterized its intercourse with this Society.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be requested to transmit these resolutions to the Sanitary Commission, at Washington.

By order of the Society.

MRS. L. GARDNER,
Cor. Secretary.

SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY—NEW HAVEN.

In closing the business of this Society, it is due to our friends and co-laborers to give expression to feelings growing out of our long connection in labor for the amelioration of the soldiers of our armies in their struggles and sacrifices in the cause of human rights and the government of our fathers, vindicated and maintained by their

noble sons, and re-established forever by their valor: it is therefore,

Resolved, That we, as a Branch of the "U. S. Sanitary Commission," express our pride in having formed a portion of that active organized benevolence, unparalleled in its proportions in any country, and tender our thanks to its officers for the uniform courtesy, sympathy and consideration extended to us as a society; and we further express our approval and admiration of all its satisfactory results in the great christian and beneficent objects of relieving the calamities of war and assuaging the woes of its avenging justice.

Resolved, That to our auxiliary societies words can but partially convey the expression of feeling that affects us in dissolving the ties that have united us in this holy cause. Reliance in our good faith, patience with our short comings, prompt and cheerful compliance with our repeated and urgent calls, can never be forgotten by us, individually or as a society, and calls forth deep and heart-felt gratitude.

Resolved, That our satisfaction is increased by the pleasurable reflection that in our country and in our midst there are women equal to the great emergencies of christian war; women who have not quailed before disease and death, or shrunk from the spectacle of hospitals or the horrors of the battle-field, but have left the comforts of home and the luxuries of wealth to serve and administer to the wounded soldier or to smooth the dying pillow, and carry the last whispered message to the loved at home. With such illustrations of the heroic element in wives, mothers, and sisters, have we not a sure guarantee that husbands, fathers, and brothers, with God's favor, will be forever invincible?

Resolved, That we are deeply indebted to the various transportation companies for long-continued and cheerful assistance in our operations. To Adams' Express Company especially, which, from the nature of its organization, was in more constant requisition, warmest thanks are due from the whole community, as well as from ourselves and our auxiliaries. Their aid has been, from the beginning to the glorious end, cheerful, untiring, and of great value

Resolved, That we bow in humble adoration to the Giver of all good, that He has delivered our nation from the violence of enemies and the scourge of war, and preserved to us, for all generations, the country of our sires; and that we, the descendants of heroic mothers, have been able to add to the mite of our labor the contribution of prayers to the Giver of victory, for blessing and favor, and the consolations of sympathy with the sorrows of the widow and the orphan.

E. S. ROBERTS,
Cor. Secretary.

RESOLUTIONS OF SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY, IRVINGTON, N. Y.

At a meeting held by the Soldiers' Aid Society of Irvington, June 29, 1865, the following resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we do not dissolve the Soldiers' Aid Society, but consider its duties changed. Hereafter we will turn our attention to ascertaining and relieving the wants of the soldiers and their families who have enlisted from Irvington, or come here to reside after their discharge from service.

Resolved, That the materials and money remaining in the hands of the Society shall be used for the benefit of soldiers and their families in this place, who may at any time hereafter be in want of such aid; and that the same shall be in charge of the officers of this Society.

Resolved, That when any member of this Society becomes aware that a soldier or his family, residing in Irvington, needs assistance, she is to communicate the fact, at once, to any one of the officers of this Society, who shall forthwith call a meeting of the rest, to decide what aid to render. A meeting of *three* of the officers shall be considered sufficient to transact such business.

RESOLUTION OF THE WISCONSIN SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY.

MILWAUKIE, *July* 25, 1865.

Resolved, That in closing their long and arduous duties, the Wisconsin Soldiers' Aid Society and its Branches (numbering over three hundred) take pleasure in acknowledging the uniform kindness and consideration manifested towards them by the U. S. Sanitary Commission, with which they have been connected as auxiliaries; that they feel a lively satisfaction in looking back upon a union of effort, which has proved so beneficent to others, and has been marked by so much harmony and fraternity between themselves; and that they take this occasion to express their entire concur-

ence in the wise and humane course pursued by the Commission, and their admiration of the ability, integrity, and fidelity with which it has discharged the delicate and important trusts confided to it by a generous and patriotic people.

Respectfully yours,

MRS. CHAS. KEELER,
President.

MRS. J. S. COLT,
Cor. Sec'y.

Per MRS. J. B. DOUSMAN,
Asst.

NEW ENGLAND WOMAN'S AUXILIARY ASSOCIATION.

To our Friends and Fellow-workers throughout New England:

It is deemed desirable that we should say a parting word to you, in this closing number of the *Sanitary Bulletin.* Many thoughts rush into our minds, and our hearts are full, but words fail us. You do not need them, we know. Your constant intercourse with us, for three years and seven months, has assured you, far better than any words could do, that we have valued your sympathy, and needed your aid at every step we have taken. We have asked much and constantly of you, and we have not asked in vain. We do not wish now to thank you for what you have done for the soldiers. In some respects we may speak in their behalf; but, in this case, we cannot worthily represent them. They must speak for themselves, either in this world, or in that better land, where, if sorrow and suffering do not enter, at least the memory of such relief as you have bestowed must find a place. Our gratitude to-day is only personal. For three years and a half you have touched us by your kindness; you have upheld us by your sympathy and ready aid; you have humbled us by a generous confidence, of which we could not feel that we were worthy. The success that has been gained is chiefly your own; we are thankful to have been in any way sharers in it.

Need we tell you that we honor, and trust, and love you in return; that the only pain we feel to-day, as we reflect upon our relation with you, is that it must end so soon; that the pleasant paths—"paths of peace," indeed they have been, in the midst of devastating war—which we have trodden so happily together, are to be ours no longer?

But new ways are before us, and life is full and rich in other directions, and beckons us on to fresh endeavors, in ever-changing experiences. The result of past labors and past enjoyments shall be to make us stronger for what is yet to come.

And, if in any new effort it should be our good fortune to meet with you again, we believe it will give you the same satisfaction that we shall feel in renewing a connection that, however long it may be laid aside, can never cease to be remembered as one of the greatest blessings of our lives.

And now farewell! May God bless you and yours forever.

In behalf of the New England Women's Auxiliary Association.

ABBY W. MAY,
Chairman Executive Committee.

LETTER FROM N. W. BRANCH U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

CHICAGO, *July* 29, 1865.

DEAR DR. PARRISH: The happy termination of the war having so greatly reduced the field and hospital work of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, that its gifted and venerated President, the Rev. Dr. Bellows, has felt warranted in announcing to the Branches and the Aid Societies a release from the further procuring and forwarding of supplies and money to the Parent Society, we would take this opportunity to speak in behalf of the Aid Societies and tributaries of the Northwest Branch of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

We would express, as they have directed us, the deepest gratitude for the privilege of laboring in so sacred a cause in connection with the U. S. Sanitary Commission, which has so wisely, efficiently and faithfully ministered to the wants and met the necessities of our glorious army of patriots, from the beginning of this terrific rebellion until it has been subdued, our own armies disbanded—"the sword beaten into the ploughshare and the spear into the pruning-hook."

We consider it a privilege, as well as a duty, to express our deep sense of satisfaction and admiration at the prompt, accurate and thorough mode of applying the gifts which the patient and self-denying people of the Northwest have poured into the great reservoir of the U. S. Sanitary Commission. Our confidence has grown with added years of experience and co-operation, and our satisfaction has only been

exceeded by our wonder, that so huge a scheme of benevolence, national in its resources and results, could so minutely and accurately dispense its benefits, and supervise and hold to a strict account, its most humble employees.

While it has embraced in its grasp armies of wounded heroes, and expended on battle-fields tens of thousands of dollars in a day, it has as carefully met and cared for the individual, emaciated, or wounded soldier, bound up wounds, furnished his cot, cooked his food, saved his pay, carried to his home, or dug his grave, and marked the place of his interment.

Our prayers and blessings must ever rest upon its founders, officers and aids, wherever found. We shall always feel grateful that we have been permitted to be humble co-workers with the most colossal humanitarian organization that the world has ever seen; one which has blessed a nation, and to which history will give her highest page. With these heartfelt sentiments of love, confidence and gratitude, we heartily respond to the words of cheer and approval contained in the letter of our beloved President. We pray that upon himself and his fellow-laborers the light of God's countenance may rest, and give them peace.

MRS. A. H. HOGE,
MRS. D. P. LIVERMORE,
Associate Managers N. W. Branch U. S. San. Com.

FROM MICHIGAN AGENT.

ANN ARBOR, MICH., *July* 24, 1865.

To HENRY W. BELLOWS, D.D.,
Pres't U. S. San. Com., New York.

REV. AND DEAR SIR: As the field and hospital work of the U. S. Sanitary Commission is, most happily, nearing its close, and the official relations of the various Aid Associations and members of the Parent Society are soon to terminate; as commissioner of Sanitary Supplies in Michigan, co-operating with the Northwestern Sanitary Commission at Chicago, Ill., I cannot, with any due regard to a sense of gratitude for the great and inestimable blessings of which the U. S. Sanitary Commission has been the able almoner, omit the opportunity of expressing, through you, to the Commission:

1. Gratitude to God for raising and sending forth, on its mission of love, good will, and beneficent deeds among our hero-sick and wounded, the United States Sanitary Commission.

2. Thanks to the Commission for the ever-efficient manner in which supplies of all kinds, from the various Aid Societies in Michigan, have been forwarded by its agencies to the front.

3. Admiration of the vast and constantly increasing labors and resources of the Commission; the careful supervision exercised in all its departments; the efficiency of its business method; its charity, impartiality, and economy in the distribution of its stores, together with the rigid accountability to which all its agencies have been held.

4. A grateful sense of obligation to the Commission for the service it has rendered to the whole country, in the many lives which, under God, it has been instrumental in saving—by hundreds here in Michigan, by thousands in the whole land; to the widowed mothers, self-denying wives, patriot-minded sisters, who have sent out their sons, husbands, and brothers, our national jewels, to do battle for the life of the nation, right, and liberty.

5. A God-speed to the Commission in all its remaining work in the general hospitals, its Soldiers' Homes, its Employment, Bounty, Back Pay, and Pension Bureaus, with the earnest prayer that those agencies may be continued, in all their past and present efficiency, until the head-stone of its great work shall be brought forth by the Commission in ample relief, rendered to the last hero-soldier needing its aid.

In the expression of these sentiments, reverend and dear sir, I not only speak from my long and varied experiences and observations on the front as a chaplain, but I am sure I give utterance to the long entertained, well established, and thoroughly tested opinions of tens of thousands of patriotic minds in Michigan who have been associated, as humble auxiliaries, with the United States Sanitary Commission, in its truly noble, great, patriotic, catholic, and christian work.

More than this I may not now add. Less it were unjust to have said.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL DAY,
Com. U. S. Sanitary Supplies, Mich.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR.

DEAR R.:—I cannot be with you in making up the last Bulletin.

You will insert the admirable address of the Board, to the Branches and Aid So-

cieties. I forward to you divers letters and resolutions, which come fresh from the people, as expressive of their feelings in this time of parting, which you will put in their proper places.

I want to add, also, my own testimony to that of others, concerning the work in which we have been engaged with the people, and to express my appreciation of the cordial intercourse that has been so long maintained between the auxiliaries of the Commission and myself.

The single-mindedness and devotion of the women of the United States during the four years of sorrow and sacrifice through which we have passed, is without a parallel in history; but their own history must be written, and stand as a memorial for those who shall come after.

There is now being prepared a series of questions, to be submitted to them, which will enable all the societies in the country to return answers according to a uniform plan; and when these returns shall have been made, some idea can be formed of the magnitude and magnificence of the work.

The societies are still in existence, and will find it an agreeable service to collect incidents of their experience, and prepare the results of their labor, for permanent preservation by the Commission; while they will consider the future field that is open before them, appealing, as it does, to their sympathy, and awaiting the promptings of their genius for organization and labor, that has given such efficiency to the benevolence of the country during the war.

The Southern country—many parts of which are desolated by war—has a population which needs the aid of Northern enterprise and philanthropy. The people, depressed by defeat, schoolless and churchless, and without the energy and education which belong to a true social and civil state, look to the North for aid and instruction.

The Government has established a "Bureau for Freedmen, Refugees, and Abandoned lands," which, in the present crisis, stands before the people, as did the War Department in 1861, with the same kind of confidence in their willingness and ability to furnish the needed help.

As the women came forward then and organized to supplement the War Department, so they are beginning now to come forward to help the Government in this new field. That they may rise to the magnitude of the opportunity offered them is greatly to be desired; and if they resolve to do so, their record for the four years to come will be even more bright than it has been in the past. The country cannot afford to dispense with their services. The Government has depended upon the women of the land too long and too confidently, to spare them in the time of present trial.

The sore with which the South is bruised must be healed, until we can go in and out among them, as sharers of all the common industries and improvements of a wise civilization; and no power on earth is so efficient for good in this direction as woman's love and labor. Let these be spent in furnishing supplies to the needy, and instruction to the ignorant, and the next decade will show a new people, with new hopes, a new agriculture, new schools, new manufactories, and a blessing upon the sacred bond of domestic life.

I wish I could send you something about the new organization that is being formed, for the purpose of aiding and elevating the Freedmen; but I cannot now. I bespeak for it, however, a welcome support by the women who have organized and conducted the auxiliaries of the Sanitary Commission, and say farewell to them in this field of labor, with the hope of co-operation in the future.

Yours, faithfully,

JOSEPH PARRISH.

NEW YORK, *Aug.* 12, 1865.

We call the attention of all to the full list of Claim Agencies on page 1276. Thousands of dollars are being collected monthly, without any expense whatever to the claimant.

FORM C.—MONTHLY RETURN FROM CLEVELAND BRANCH SANITARY CO MISSION SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY, NORTHERN OHIO.

CLEVELAND, *July* 1, 1865.

MONTH OF JUNE, 1865.

Number of applications for employment:

By able-bodied men	36
By disabled men	44
Total	80
Number of applications by employers	22

Number furnished with employment:

Able-bodied men	20
Disabled men	6
Total	26

Kind of employment furnished:

Agricultural	5
Mechanical	3
Commercial	7
Laborers	2
Others, not included in above	9

REPORT OF J. C. HOBLIT.

LOUISVILLE, KY., *June* 29, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Sec'y West. Dept. U. S. San. Com.

DEAR SIR: On arriving in this city two weeks since, by your direction I immediately commenced visiting the troops located near the city, consisting of the 14th, 15th, and 17th Army Corps. I prosecuted this work until every portion of the army was reached. Substantial issues of vegetables have been made to every regiment, detachment, and headquarters, so far as I know, throughout the entire command. The issues made were at first once each week, but afterward twice, at the rate of four barrels of potatoes to each 100 men, one barrel of pickles to the regiment, unless there were more than 400 men, then two barrels. Onions were also distributed in considerable quantities, as well as other Sanitary stores, for the use of the sick in the regiments. There are no Division Hospitals as formerly. The sick are sent to the General Hospitals in and about Louisville. In some instances, however, there has been an attempt to retain and treat the patients, when they were not seriously sick, in the regimental quarters, rather than send them out of the command. Brown Hospital has received most of the patients from the army. This hospital is entirely too much crowded for its capacity, and number of surgeons and nurses. The patients have not been able to receive the attention they should, from this fact; the defect, however, is being corrected. The troops are exceedingly glad to receive the vegetables furnished by the Commission. The government is not supplying vegetables, and many have been the testimonies of both officers and private soldiers to the great value of our work. All the non-veterans have gone home, and now 15,000 of the veteran troops of the Army of the Tennessee are to be mustered out of the service immediately. One division of the 15th Army Corps has gone to Arkansas. Thus the large Army of the Tennessee will soon be reduced to a small command. I learn that the Corps organizations are to be broken up, and what troops are retained in the service will be sent to garrison different posts in the South. This will, perhaps, all have been accomplished by the last of July. Among all the troops I have been received with cordiality.

Yours, very truly,

J. C. HOBLIT.

REPORT OF DR. J. W. PAGE.

JNO. S. BLATCHFORD, ESQ.,
General Secretary U. S. San. Com.

DEAR SIR: Mr. F. A. S. Perry, who has been Relief Agent of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, in this department, since August of last year, left Newbern last week to report to the Central Office, at Washington. He went the inland route, via Raleigh and Greensboro to Richmond. Mr. Perry, after months of faithful service in this district, went forward with the advance stores on the spring campaign, and kept at the front until the capture of Kinston, where he remained in charge of the depot until the reduction of the garrison and the withdrawal of Sherman's army rendered the existence of a permanent depot unnecessary at that point. His efforts to forward our stores on the early marches, and his own personal labors and exposures in carrying supplies to the field hospitals, in the battles around Kinston, over roads which no vehicles but government wagons under military orders would venture to traverse, merit the high appreciation of the Commission, as they have gained him the thanks and gratitude of those who directly received the benefit of his self-sacrificing ministrations. I send you enclosed his special reports from March 4th to June 10th, which gives a fair exposé of his labors, and some inkling of the condition of the service, and the beneficial relations of the Sanitary Commission with it.

Since the closing of our Sanitary depot at Raleigh, all our relief work has been done from the depot at Newbern. The chief position of our white troops in this district have been in *rendezvous* at "Camp Chattanooga," a wide clearing in the woods, some three miles from town—a wild, romantic spot—first occupied as an encampment by that rollicking Irish General, Meagher, with his nondescript brigade, the "*Les enfans perdus*" of our Southern armies. Here, in a space of rolling land, sufficient for the "Grand Army," are pleasantly bivouacked some dozen different military organizations, vieing with each other in camp decorations and artificial evergreen shade—a rural oasis, eclipsing in picturesque effect the novel representations of romantic encampments set off by the rich fancy and facile pen of Bulwer. Here some thousands of our veteran troops, with their hearts fixed on near visions of home, await the slow routine of red tape to unloose the leash in which they are held, and let them speed to the longing arms so impatiently stretched forth to receive them. This clerical delay is straining the patience and martial discipline of these brave fellows to the utmost. While some relieve the strain on their patience by letting off unmeasured strictures on the motives of delinquent officers, others, and far the greater portion, despondent at delay, and sickened by hope deferred, are yielding to the depressing influences of the advancing season. With comparatively few severe cases, hundreds are on the sick list, and some of the more sensitive or susceptible have succumbed to a low but rapid type of fever. Every effort is being made to sustain the *morale* of the men. The more intelligent officers cheer the encampment with musical soirees and evening hops; the Christian Commission are in the field with their good reading and boiled blackberry root; and the Sanitary are doing all that their generous stores and the bountiful yield of luxuriant gardens can do for the soldiers, to console their "outward and inward man." Young, ardent boys, and old, hirsute veterans, who, in the rough bivouac and stern excitement of actual war, left these "sick charities" to their less hardy comrades, now seek our stores and beg a memento, if only a handkerchief, to show the gentle ones at home that their handiwork has been within their reach, while breasting the dangers which beset their homes and their country. This association of the Sanitary Commission with their homes at this juncture of their service is a gratifying evidence of the relations the Commission has borne to the soldier in the camp, and how well he has appreciated the home-felt comforts it has brought to his relief. The presence of the mustering officer, and the arrival of transports to take them home, will do more for these soldiers than any direct relief. Several regiments have already embarked, and are on their homeward track. The 23d Massachusetts, 16th Connecticut, and 3d New York Artillery have shipped. The 5th Rhode Island, 15th Connecticut, and some others are mustered out, and awaiting transportation. I enclose a tribute to the Commission, sent in to me just as they were leaving the department, by the officers of the 3d New York Artillery, an immense regiment, whose attachment to this department has been coeval with that of the Commission. This expression was a spontaneous one, and quite unexpected, from batteries which have been on active duty to the most remote parts of the department.

Our season thus far is remarkably uniform, like the winter preceding it. This month we have had but three days with the thermometer at noon below 80°, and no day above 88°. There are many cases of sickness, but all mild. Most every one has felt more or less *shaky*, even though not subject to actual chills. The town is now clean, and is occupied wholly by colored troops. The general hospital has been removed to Morehead City. The hospital at Wilmington is to be broken up immediately, and its archives brought to the Medical Director's Office in Newbern. Mr. Foster reports favorably of sanitary matters there. The chief Medical Director of the department, Dr. Hand, applied to me last week for chloride of lime, to be used in Raleigh. A fatal fever, I understand, has broken out in and near the town, more especially in the spacious insane asylum in the suburbs, for which more particularly the disinfectant was required. I sent up ten barrels. The recent arrival of an invoice of chloride of lime and stone lime, fifty barrels of one and one hundred of the other, has enabled me to fill another timely requisition of an able and watchful Medical Director; this time for Greensboro, to which I also supplied ten barrels of chloride of lime. I inclose the requisition, which speaks for itself.

I shall make no requisitions at present on the general stores of the Commission.

The service seems to be gradually narrowing down to a *peace* establishment of black troops, the nature of whose duties will hardly necessitate the continued operation of extraordinary relief, but will assimilate itself to the condition and *regime* of the old regular army. The waning of the summer will probably witness the winding up of our hospitals, and the healing over of the human scars which are now the traces of the struggle we have passed through. Old mother earth will, however, with her ineffaceable trenches, and her serried graves, carry down to the remotest ages the balanced account between the dead and the living of the heaviest transaction since the formation of nations. Every element in nature has been drawn into the contest, and influences, more subtle and powerful than the fancy of heathen poets ever ascribed to their gods of war, have lent their might to turn the scale of the fight, making the moral effects of the war more imperishable and important on the welfare of the race than any revolution it may have effected in politics or in nationality. That the Sanitary Commission shall pass into history as the great humanizing spirit amid these stupendous powers of evil, now for the first time brought to bear collectively in the wars of mankind, immortalizes the period as the greatest triumph of practical Christianity over the passions of men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. PAGE, M. D.,

Inspector U. S. S. C., Dept. N. C.

TESTIMONIAL.

HEADQUARTERS 3D RGT. N. Y. V. ART.,
NEWBERN, N. C., *June*, 1865.

DR. J. W. PAGE,
United States Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR: The undersigned, officers of the 3d Regiment N. Y. V. Artillery, desire to return to the Sanitary Commission our sincere thanks for the many kindnesses bestowed through you to the soldiers of our commands during this great rebellion. Many comforts have been dispensed to the soldiers which would not have been were it not for the Commission.

To you and your Assistants in North Carolina we would return thanks, believing there never was a better institution for the soldier, and no better person to care for it, in a department, than Dr. J. W. Page.

We subscribe ourselves, very respectfully, yours,

Charles H. Stewart, Col. 3d N. Y. V.

Art'y; T. J. Kennedy, Lt. Col. 3d N. Y. V. Art'y.; J. W. P. Riggs, Maj. 3d N Y. V. Art'y; A. D. Wilson, Surg. 3d N. Y. V. Art'y; F. W. Benjamin, Assist. Surgeon; J. E. Storke, 1st Lieut. and Adjt.; O. D. Ball, 1st Lieut. and R. Q. M.; Samuel P. Russell, Captain Comdg. Battery A; William E. Mercer, Capt. Comdg. Battery C; Stephen Van Heusen, Capt. Comdg. Battery D; W. A. Kelsey, Capt. Comdg. Battery G; W. M. Kirby, Capt. Comdg. Battery I; S. H. Mowers, Capt. Comdg. Battery L; William Richardson, 1st Lieut. Battery A; G. H. Edward, 2d, 1st Lieut. Battery C; John Stevenson, Jr., 1st Lieut. Battery D; Edward Cunningham, 2d Lieut. Battery A; John Marley, 2d Lieut. Battery A; Wm. H. Coffin, 2d Lieut. Battery C; Martin Webster, 2d Lieut. Battery C; Thomas Vanderberg, 2d Lieut. Battery D; J. I. Brinkerhoff, Jr., 2d Lieut. Battery D; Charles A. Moore, 2d Lieut. Battery G; R. D. Wade, 2d Lieut. Battery G; E. W. Seymour, 2d Lieut. Battery I; Wm. H. Goodnick, 2d Lieut. Battery I; L. S. Newcomb, 2d Lieut. Battery L.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION, NO. 91.

On the 22d March, 1864, the Sanitary Commission resolved to ask the aid and co-operation of an Auxiliary Finance Committee, to be composed of gentlemen of the highest position and standing, on whose advice it could depend in any questions that might arise as to the best management of its funds.

It was thought desirable that this Committee should also be requested from time to time, to pass upon and examine the accounts and vouchers of its Treasurer. These have been audited and examined by Committees appointed by the Commission and consisting of its own members, at intervals of not less than three months, ever since the Commission was appointed in June, 1861, and have been found correct. But the amount confided to the Commission by the people has been so large, and the responsibility thus imposed on it so heavy, that a thorough investigation of its expenditures by gentlemen not belonging to its own body seemed expedient for the protection of the Commission and the satisfaction of the public.

Messrs. A. A. Low, Jonathan Sturges and John Jacob Astor, Jr., having consented to act as such Auxiliary Finance Committee, all the books, accounts, and vouchers of the Treasurer from June 26, 1861, the date of the first entry they contain (including those of the Washington and Louisville offices) were laid before this Committee. It proceeded to engage the services of a professional accountant, and on the 30th May, 1865, reported the result of its examination down to January, 1865.

The reports of the Committee and of its accountant are as follows:

NEW YORK, *May* 30, 1865.

GEO. T. STRONG, ESQ.,
Treasurer.

DEAR SIR: We hereby certify that Mr. James M. Halsey, Teller of the Seamen's Savings Bank, was selected and appointed by us to examine into the books and accounts of the Sanitary Commission, and after many months devoted to this work more or less continuously, the accompanying certificate shows the result of his examination.

His name is appended to a statement of receipts and disbursements from June 26, 1861, to January 1, 1865, sent herewith, the aggregate being $3,470,587 94.

Respectfully yours,
J. J. ASTOR, JR.,
A. A. LOW,
JON'N STURGES.

78, WALL STREET,
NEW YORK, *July* 20, 1864.

MESSRS. A. A. LOW, ESQ., JONATHAN STURGES, ESQ., J. J. ASTOR, JR., ESQ.

GENTLEMEN: I have to report (pursuant to your instructions) that the accounts of the Treasurer of the U. S. Sanitary Commission have been carefully examined, and that I find them *correct* in all particulars.

The examination included the bank accounts kept by the Treasurer, and I find vouchers returned for the same, correct both as to *date* and amount.

Herewith I hand you a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the Commission from June 26, 1861, to May 1, 1864, showing a balance of cash on hand of $394,598 62, which I find to have been the balance on the Bank Books at that date.

Any further information you may wish in regard to the accounts I shall be pleased to furnish, with the assistance of the Assistant Secretary, (Mr. B. Collins,) at any time when required.

Respectfully yours,
JAS. M. HALSEY.

NEW YORK, *March* 30, 1865.

MESSRS. A. A. LOW, ESQ., JONATHAN STURGES, ESQ., J. J. ASTOR, JR., ESQ., Committee.

GENTLEMEN: Herewith I hand you my report of the operations of the U. S. Sanitary Commission from June, 1861, to January, 1865.

Upon a careful examination of the books, I find vouchers for all disbursements, and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the enclosed account is correct in every particular.

Respectfully yours, &c.,
JAS M. HALSEY.

The same Committee has been requested to continue its examination from 1st Jan., 1865, until the affairs of the Commission shall be finally wound up. The result of such future examination will be duly laid before the public.

HENRY W. BELLOWS,
President.

JNO. S. BLATCHFORD,
General Secretary.

823 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, *June* 1, 1865.

REPORT OF DR. J. S. NEWBERRY, ASSOCIATE SECRETARY WESTERN DEPARTMENT.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,
LOUISVILLE, KY., *July* 8, 1865.

J. S. BLATCHFORD, ESQ.,
General Secretary Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR: I regret to say that the oppressively hot weather of the last month, combined with the unusual amount of work thrown upon us, have so far affected the the health of my associates and myself, that it is impossible for me, at present, to make the journey to Washington, and report in person the condition of our Sanitary work in this Department. I must try, therefore, to give you a brief synopsis of it by letter, trusting that this will afford all the information necessary to enable the Board to legislate for this, as all other parts of our field of labor, at its ensuing meeting.

In its general aspects, the work of the Sanitary Commission in the Western Department is not greatly different from what it has been during most of the past two years, and the changes which we had anticipated would take place as soon as the first of this month, have not as yet occurred. During the past quarter, all departments of our work have been nearly as active as at any former period, and our labors at this point have for the past month been greatly increased by the immediate presence of 50,000 troops, just returned from a campaign without precedent for its hardships, craving, and really needing, an amount of help from the Commission, which has taxed our power and resources to the utmost. The demand for assistance of various kinds in other parts of our extended department has, for various reasons, been even more importunate than heretofore; and it now seems probable that, contrary to all expectation,

the last days of the Sanitary Commission will be among its busiest.

The movements of troops, the transfers of patients in hospital, the wholesale discharge of invalids, the mustering-out of large numbers of men, have produced a degree of activity, and even confusion, in military operations, that have thrown upon us much unusual thought, labor, and expenditure.

Our *Homes* have been filled with discharged and furloughed men; the *Hospital Directory* been burdened with the discussion of an unusual mass of records; and the confusion attending the disorganization and re-arrangement of a great and widely-scattered army, has left regiments and hospitals more dependent upon the attentions and charities of the Commission than when we had a larger force in the field, but that force—while enduring all the hardships and performing all the duties of an active campaign—stimulated by the excitement, and provided for by the necessary system of real and successful warfare.

The want of vegetables and other anti-scorbutics, which has been felt among our troops every spring since the war began, has been as plainly felt and expressed during the last quarter as at any former time. To meet this want we have gathered potatoes and onions, sourkrout and pickles, from all parts of the North-Western States, and even from Canada, and have sent them not only to all parts of this Department, but have forwarded several large shipments, at his request, to Dr. Blake, at New Orleans. Copies of his letters asking for and acknowledging these shipments are herewith enclosed.

The Army of the Tennessee, which, war-worn, unpaid, and hungry, has been encamped at Louisville since the first of June, has been liberally dealt with, from considerations of both policy and philanthropy. The markets of the Ohio Valley being nearly exhausted of vegetables, almost nothing of the kind has been issued to this Army by the Commissary, while, by purchasing far north, we have been able to issue regularly to the entire Army a larger allowance of potatoes, onions, pickles, and krout than they have at any time received from the Government.

We have issued once and sometimes twice a week, for the past month, four barrels of potatoes, and one of pickles or krout to every two hundred men. We have also issued largely of other stores included in our supply table, but the items I have mentioned have been by far the most important. The effect of this special effort to feed a whole army hardly needs, I think, to be discussed before approval. Probably not all we have been doing for this army during the past three years has done so much to make them know and feel the value of the Commission. They will certainly leave here with a pleasant taste of the Sanitary Commission in their mouths, and are likely to be led by this comparatively unimportant service to give us something of the credit with our constituency at home, which all our silent and legitimate good-doing in hospitals would have failed to obtain.

Although the demand has, I have said, been kept up, the *supply*, so far as derived from contributions in kind, has considerably fallen off, especially during the past month. This has been a consequence of a general conviction that "the war is over," and the work of the Sanitary Commission about done. This impression was strengthened by the issue of Sanitary Commission Document 90, which, while giving a just view of our work at the East, anticipated the progress of events at the West by two or three months. For this reason our purchases have been unexpectedly large for the month of June.

The effect of our liberal issues to the Army of the Tennessee has been happy in more respects than one. Not only has the issue of vegetables, pickles, &c., had an important influence on the health and comfort of the troops, but has done much to make them contented in the peculiar and trying circumstances in which they have been placed. I am promised testimonials to this effect from a large number of officers.

In the Louisville office few changes have occurred which require notice. Mr. Thorne, having been most laboriously engaged in the service of the Sanitary Commission without intermission for more than a year, has taken a furlough for thirty days. Dr. Soulé was two weeks since taken sick, and has been since dangerously ill, but, I am happy to say, is now better.

The *Reporter*, having finished its second volume in May, has not been since published. I propose, however, to issue a supplementary number in a few days, bringing the record of our work down to the present time.

The work of the *Hospital Directory* has been nearly as active during the last quarter as at any previous period. Reports have been regularly received from the hospitals to July 1, and information has not only been furnished to individuals, but not unfrequently to the officers of Government. Several inquiries have been received from the Adjutant General's Office at Washington, all of which have been satisfactorily answered.

In accordance with permission given me at the last meeting of the Board, the list of deaths in the prison at Andersonville was purchased, and has been incorporated with the other records of the Hospital Directory. This list included 12,456 names, giving the name, rank, company, regiment, disease, date of death, and place of burial, of every man who died in that prison during its existence, with the exception of some 428, who, dying without friends or papers, could not be identified. This record has proved of great value, and has told the fate of a large number whose friends have previously sought in vain to gain any intelligence of them.

The circular recently issued by the Surgeon General is likely to render it more difficult than it has been for us to gather the facts which form the Directory Record; but, in view of the great value of this record to the people and the Government, and the fact that not the slightest evil has ever been traced to it, I can hardly believe the medical authorities in this department will literally construe it.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

The work of the *Homes* at the West has as yet fallen off but little. The number of applicants for admission to those on and south of the Ohio river has somewhat decreased, but those admitted are now almost exclusively *furloughed* and *discharged* men.

The Homes in the "home field"—as at Cleveland, Columbus, &c. — have been crowded by returning regiments, and have done, and are doing, a great and most popular work.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The Agency of the Supply Department at Wheeling, having in a great degree lost its importance, has been discontinued. Any general work which may be necessary will be performed by the newly-appointed Claim Agent at that place.

KANSAS.

Mr. Brown writes from Leavenworth that the work of the Commission in his district is as urgent as ever, keeping him fully employed, and consuming all the stores he can procure.

DISTRICT OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

Dr. Woodward has remained in charge of this district until the present time, but now enters upon a work of special inspection under Dr. Harris.

Our Agencies at Cairo and Memphis are still kept in full activity, though their work must soon diminish. Mr. Shipman remains in charge at Cairo; Mr. Christy and Mr. Way at Memphis. The Agency at Vicksburg has been discontinued, as no longer necessary, and our excellent representative there, Mr. Brown, has left the service of the Commission.

In Arkansas we have now no agent. Dr. Woodward has been there recently, but it has scarcely seemed necessary for us to do more during the past quarter than to make occasional shipments of stores from Memphis.

Mr. D. B. Carpenter, who formerly represented us so ably in Arkansas, is now in Montgomery, Ala., where he went in company with the 16th Army Corps. His services in connection with that Corps are recognized in the accompanying testimonial of Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith.

The Agency at Paducah has been discontinued since my last report, and Mr. Way, the Superintendent, has been transferred to Jeffersonville, where he takes the place of Major Smith, resigned on account of ill health.

At Seymour, fifty miles north of Jeffersonville, a Lodge and feeding station has been established for the benefit of soldiers detained at that important railroad crossing. This Lodge is in care of Mr. W. Ackley.

DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE.

The Agency at Nashville still continues in the good hands of Judge Root, Capt. Brayton, and Mr. Jones, and is still doing a great and good work. During the past quarter the presence of the Fourth Army Corps has greatly increased the duties of our agents at Nashville, but, so far as I can learn, their responsibilities have been fully sustained, and the reputation of the Commission with the Army of the Cumberland maintained to its final dismemberment. During the past three years our Agency at Nashville has occupied large and commodious buildings furnished by the Gov-

ernment. A few days since all the property held by military authority in the city, including some two hundred buildings, was restored to its owners. By this measure we are placed at the mercy of the proprietor of the premises occupied by us, for which they demand an aggregate rent of about $10,000 per annum. We shall therefore be compelled to look elsewhere for accommodations. If these are not readily found, the warehouse and Home will be closed. The office we shall retain control of, and it will be occupied by the Claim Agency, if one shall be established there.

CHATTANOOGA.

This post has lost much of its former importance, but it still contains something of a hospital population, and is the base of supplies for a number of garrisons. The hospital garden at Chattanooga is now in a fine state of cultivation, and is almost the only dependence for vegetable food of hospitals and troops in the vicinity.

The Agency at Knoxville is now scarcely less useful than at any time during the past year; but on the arrival of Mr. Seymour, the newly-appointed Claim Agent, the services of Dr. Starr and Mr. Mason can be dispensed with; Mr. Seymour taking charge of any relief or supply-work remaining to be done.

A large number of names are stricken from our roster this month, and in September I feel that we may dispense with all but a corporal's guard, whose duty will be simply to administer upon the estate of the then deceased Sanitary Commission, which shall at that time have entered upon its destined immortality.

Hastily, but respectfully, yours,

J. S. NEWBERRY,
Associate Secretary.

HOSPITAL GARDEN.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., *July* 1, 1865.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY.

DEAR SIR: It gives me pleasure to inform you of the successful operations of our Garden thus far. The past three or four weeks have been very hot and dry; regardless of this, our crops are looking well. The much-needed rain has come; we are getting a splendid shower, which seems likely to continue for the day.

Troops are being fast sent from here; still there are enough left to consume the products of the Garden, which have been considerable, as enclosed report will show. Our Garden is attended to with much less labor this season than last year, with as good or better results. Our present help will not number more than half that of last year. The vineyards, too, are looking well, up to this time. If the present rain does not continue, the prospects are favorable for a good crop of grapes. The owners of the vineyards are expected here in a few days: two of their servants have arrived. From the number of troops supplied during the season, I think almost every man must have enjoyed the fruits of our industry. I do not know of any requisition that has not been fil'ed, the supply being sufficient for the demand up to this time.

Our floricultural arrangements this season are much enlarged, a number of varieties being added which are doing splendidly up to this time, and are visited by large numbers of persons, who are highly pleased with appearances.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. WILLS.

TESTIMONIAL OF GEN. SMITH.

HEADQUARTERS 16TH ARMY CORPS,
DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, *June* 17, 1865.

Mr. D. B. CARPENTER,
Relief Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR: I have had the pleasure of observing the amount of material and much needed aid which has been extended to the troops of my command by means of your agency, and I cannot permit you to go from among us without giving you a feeble expression of the deep feelings which we cherish towards the noble society which you have so faithfully represented, and whose benevolent objects you have so ably carried out. The war is over, and thousands of patriot soldiers are returning to their homes, carrying with them reminiscences of the eventful scenes of the past, which, for long years to come, they will rehearse to their children, and their children's children; and among their reminiscences, many will tell how, when they were wounded and faint and weary, "the agents of the blessed Sanitary Commission" came and cared for them "like ministering spirits," binding up their wounds, and, uttering words of hope and comfort, gave to them all the aid which man could render to his suffering fellows. In behalf of the officers and men of this corps, I tender to

you and the Sanitary Commission our most heartfelt thanks for the many favors which we have received at your generous hands, and assure you that they will be gratefully remembered by us all.

I am, yours truly,

A. J. SMITH,
Major General, U. S. A.

REPORT OF BOSTON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

SANITARY COMMISSION,
OFFICE EX. COM., 76 KINGSTON STREET,
BOSTON, *July* 10, 1865.

JNO. S. BLATCHFORD,
Gen, Sec. U. S. Sanitary Commission,
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SIR: I submit herewith a report concerning the Special Relief Service of the U. S. Sanitary Commission in this city for the quarter ending June 30, 1865.

AID RENDERED.

Furnished transportation at Government rates	3,850
Furnished transportation paid by Commission	81
Furnished transportation by U. S. Quartermaster.	12
Furnished carriage within the city	811
Furnished special attendance to their homes	3
Furnished lodging	6,283
Furnished meals	7,057
Furnished clothing	139
Furnished aid in arranging papers	94
Furnished aid in obtaining pay	104
Furnished medical advice	443
Wounds dressed	377
Loaned money	121
Gave money	23
Sent to hospital	22
Referred to Local Relief Associations	35
Amount of pay collected	$2,099 85
Furnished transportation by hospital cars	4,314
Number of soldiers aided	12,779
Daily average	140.13-30

Of the whole number that have received aid at our Relief Rooms, amounting to 8,465, as distinct from the "Hospital Car Service," Maine has furnished 2,317; New Hampshire, 286; Vermont, 19; Massachusetts, 4,396; Connecticut, 45; Rhode Island, 18; New York, 117; New Jersey, 4; Pennsylvania, 22; Maryland, 7; District of Columbia, 15; Delaware, 2; Ohio, 12; Michigan, 17; Indiana, 3; Illinois, 8; Iowa, 3; Minnesota, 9; Wisconsin, 7; Tennessee, 2; California, 10; Louisiana, 10; Alabama, 4; Georgia, 3; Kentucky, Kansas, North Carolina, Virginia, Arkansas, and rebel army, one each; U. S. Regulars, 265; U. S. Navy, 430; Veteran Reserve Corps, 381.

The following supplies have been drawn from the Supply Department of the New England Women's Auxiliary Association: sheets, 48; pillow cases, 96; woolen shirts, 276; woolen drawers, 264; socks, 264; handkerchiefs, 192; bandages, 6 lots; lint, 1 lot; caps, 12.

Transportation has been furnished by orders issued upon respective railroads, to	3,850
Transportation procured from U. S. Quartermaster.	12
Transportation by hospital cars between New York and Boston has been furnished to	4,314
Cost of Hospital Car Service	$408 18
Average cost per man	10¼ cts.

The following supplies have been furnished to the hospital cars during the quarter: brandy, 5 bottles; whisky, 6 bottles; wine, 4 bottles; extract of coffee, 3 cans; pillow slips, 24; fans, 6; bay water, 2 bottles; kerosene, half gallon; wicking, 1 p'kg; soap, 1 lot; chloride of lime, 1 bottle.

The total expenditure for the quarter has been $8,197 19, classified as follows:

Rent and taxes	$225 00
Furnishing and repairs	214 58
Salaries	1,040 01
Travelling expenses	5 00
Advertising	78 84
Stationery and printing	164 01
Hospital stores	19 95
Superintendent's expense account	6,025 58
Miscellaneous	16 04
Hospital Car Service	408 18
Whole number of men aided	12,779
Whole expenditure	$8,197 19
Average cost per man	64.1-7 cts.
Number of soldiers furnished with meals	7,057
Number of meals furnished	15,946
Average No. meals per man	2¼
Amount paid for meals	$6,077 22
Average cost per meal	38½ cts.
Number of orders issued for transportation at Government rates	3,850
Aggregate miles of distance	279,533
Resulting in a saving to the soldier of	$2,975 12
Amount of money loaned and given	325 80
Number of recipients	144
Average amount to each	$2 26
Amount returned	75 67
Average amount returned	13-34
Number furnished with clothing	139
Number of garments furnished	317
Average per man	2.3-13

Your obedient servant,

JAS. M. BARNARD,
Ch. Ex: Com. Boston Associates U. S. Sanitary Commission.

WOMAN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF—No. XII.

To the Members of Soldiers' Aid Societies, lately auxiliary to the Woman's Central Association of Relief:

DEAR FRIENDS: There are a few last words still to be said to you, and it is my privilege to be allowed to say them.

We asked you to continue your work until the 4th of July. On the 3d of July, the last day, we received 57 packages, a larger number than on any previous day for many months. Our receipts throughout the past fortnight have been also unusually large. We were not surprised; you told us you would go on with your work until we asked you to stop.

The Final Meeting of our Association was held on the 7th of July. It was de-

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT---CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EIGHTEEN

PLACES.	Alabama.	Arkansas.	California.	Connecticut.	Delaware	District of Columbia.	Florida.	Georgia.	Illinois.	Indiana.	Iowa.	Kansas.	Kentucky.	Louisiana.	Maine.	Maryland.	Massachusetts.	Michigan.	Minnesota.	Mississippi.	Missouri.	Nebraska.	New Hampshire.	New Jersey.	New York.	North Carolina.
Alexandria, Va.																										
"Soldiers' Rest,".....	...	...	...	30	17	...	...	...	96	60	26	...	0	...	64	28	88	36	27	.....	2	...	31	66	286	...
J. B. Holt, Supt.																										
Annapolis.																										
"The Home" Relatives...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	2	.....	1	.....	...	.....	...	3	...	2	1	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	2	8	...
C. P. Howes, Supt.																										
Baltimore.																										
"The Home".....	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	5	4	2	...	6	...	15	0	11	.....	.....	.....	1	...	3	11	52	...
A. E. Hastings, Supt.																										
Boston.																										
"Soldiers' Home,".....	1	...	10	9	...	6	...	3	.....	1	1	...	.....	...	667	...	904	7	3	.....	.....	...	137	.....	35	...
Chas. E. Mudge, Supt.																										
Buffalo, N. Y.																										
"Soldiers' Rest,".....	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	11	17	18	...	1	...	1	...	6	6	1	.....	1	...	1	.....	92	...
Mrs. H. Indevine, Mat.																										
Camp Nelson, Ky.																										
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	72	14	.....	...	316	...	.....	...	.....	168	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	...
Thos. Butler, Supt.																										
Columbus, Ohio.																										
"Soldiers' Home,".....	4	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	50	183	11	...	109	...	2	5	16	118	.....	7	.....	...	2	6	79	...
T. E. Botsford, Supt.																										
Cairo, Ill.																										
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	1	...	.....	...	...	...	2	639	320	184	9	25	9	3	2	5	71	56	.....	145	...	.....	15	50	2
C. N. Shipman, Supt.																										
Jeffersonville, Ind.																										
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	135	234	37	...	35	...	.....	...	9	117	11	.....	6	...	.....	7	67	...
Egbert T. Smith, Supt.																										
Memphis, Tenn.																										
"Soldiers' Home,".....	2	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	245	126	62	29	23	...	4	2	10	73	62	2	75	2	.....	11	41	...
C. W. Christy, Supt.																										
Nashville, Tenn.																										
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	...
Jos. Gillson, Supt.																										
Portsmouth, Va.																										
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	...	...	16	1	...	...	...	2	.....	...	5	...	5	2	3	56	10	.....	.....	.....	...	3	6	189	...
Jno. L. Alcock, Supt.																										
Cleveland, Ohio.																										
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	...
J. Jerome, Supt.																										
Nashville, Tenn.																										
"Soldiers' Home,".....	36	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	478	615	76	24	101	...	3	2	4	479	.....	158	449	...	.....	5	62	...
Isaac Brayton, Supt.																										
New Orleans, La.																										
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	250	112	114	3	15	42	15	4	55	17	45	.....	34	...	.....	16	52	...
N. S. Bullard, Supt.																										
Paducah, Ky.																										
"Soldiers' Home,".....	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	75	22	30	1	4	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	..13	...	.....	2	.....	...
E. D. Way, Supt.																										
Washington, D. C.																										
"The Home,".....	...	...	1	22	10	...	...	...	17	13	6	...	5	...	50	17	114	55	4	.....	.....	...	38	25	344	...
J. B. Clark, Supt.																										
"The Home for wives and mothers,".....	...	...	...	4	4	...	...	...	1	1	.....	...	.....	...	2	12	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	6	6	42	...
J. B. Clark, Supt.																										
"Lodge No. 4,".....	...	...	1	7	5	...	...	...	41	18	8	2	3	17	47	9	149	20	3	.....	4	1	14	17	188	2
D. G. Loomis, Supt.																										
"Lodge No. 6,".....	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	...
H. Y. McPherran, Supt.																										
Total.....	44	6	12	122	38	6	4	7	2,117	1746	580	59	654	68	878	90	1442	1178	212	167	730	3	236	195	1567	4

cided then that we should request you to send any supplies intended for us, and which you were unable to finish by the time specified for closing, to our old address, that being so well known by Express-men and carriers. The supplies will be received by an agent of the Sanitary Commission, at one of their storehouses, nearly opposite the Cooper Union. The letters, containing invoices, should be addressed "U. S. Sanitary Commission, 823 Broadway, New York." This is in answer to several letters recently received from you upon this subject.

At the same meeting, the proposition of having a History of the Woman's Central

"HOMES," "LODGES," AND "RESTS," FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1865.

Ohio.	Pennsylvania.	Rhode Island.	Tennessee.	Texas.	Vermont.	Virginia.	West Virginia.	Wisconsin.	U. S. Regulars.	U. S. Navy.	Vet. Reserve Corps.	Q. M. Department.	Paroled Prisoners.	Colored Troops.	Unclassified.	Total Soldiers.	Relatives.	Refugees.	Whole number.	Lodgings.	Meals.	Furloughed.	Discharged.	Under Orders.
88	294	46	.....	...	33	...	8	26	19	.....	13	...	100	.....	224	1,714	61	12	1,787	1,294	4,912	76	100	1,538
1	14	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	4	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	.....	38	409	1,315	.....	.....	.....
7	31	1	1	...	6	...	...	4	2	.....	1	...	45	.....	.....	218	31	62	311	321	1,255	78	38	61
5	3	7	1	...	7	...	...	3	104	93	148	3	176	.....	.....	2,334	20	1	2,355	1,785	4,009	959	862	358
28	.....	4	2	...	...	2	...	16	10	6	6	...	.....	.....	2	235	.....	.....	235	276	838	77	156	.....
168	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	6	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	238	.....	1,002	17	19	1,038	1,068	2,916	26	196	778
1,720	31	4	55	...	...	15	...	6	.....	.....	.....	...	107	.....	.....	2,544	.....	.....	2,544	2,436	5,948	556	1,096	892
174	36	2	72	2	2	5	5	1,437	.....	.....	.....	...	206	9	.....	3,488	.....	1	3,489	1,608	7,849	1,221	237	20
239	18	.....	7	...	...	1	...	63	236	.....	362	4	66	2	.....	1,662	8	8	1,678	218	2,437	594	332	688
149	44	1	102	...	2	...	6	192	4	1	.....	51	465	3	.....	1,790	.....	40	1,830	1,007	3,410	159	151	940
.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	1,008	.....	.....	1,008	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
11	19	4	.....	...	3	...	...	2	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	337	5	8	350	806	2,435	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	1,656	.....	.....	1,656	683	3,832	.....	.....	.....
705	87	.....	295	...	...	...	...	.....	146	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	4,029	49	.....	4,078	3,006	8,620	675	3,337	.....
84	29	19	7	3	14	...	...	113	1	.....	9	...	.....	114	43	1,218	.....	.....	1,218	3,100	15,452	263	611	344
23	2	.....	15	...	...	...	...	25	2	.....	.....	7	.....	33	.....	254	.....	.....	254	800	3,671	25	25	204
41	224	5	3	...	13	10	...	27	...	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	1,044	2	4	1,050	3,438	9,168	253	314	477
6	39	2	.....	...	1	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	139	21	160	715	1,476	.....	.....	.....
56	163	16	5	...	13	5	...	19	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	824	.....	.....	824	3,322	12,431	241	543	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	.....	15	.....	20	7	25	50	.....	117	.....	10	127	30	1,400	.....	.....	.....
3,505	1034	111	565	5	94	38	19	1,934	889	100	559	92	1,190	449	269	25,474	370	186	26,030	26,322	93,374	5,203	8,010	6,300

Association written for publication, was considered. It was decided to have it done; and a Committee, composed of members of the Board, was appointed to prepare it, at their own time and convenience.

Our books, letters, and papers will be turned over to the Sanitary Commission, at their request, and, with their own records and those of the other Branches, will finally be deposited for preservation in some public building, probably in Washington.

Should there be any unsettled accounts still open, which we have not thought of, or should extra copies of our Final Report be desired, or other pamphlets of the As-

sociation, letters addressed to Miss Ellen Collins or myself, at the office of the Sanitary Commission, 823 Broadway, will reach us. And it will give us both great pleasure to hear from you, dear friends, at any time, upon any subject.

There is one explanation and apology which I wish to make to some of you. In No. II of the series of papers of which this is the last, we promised to send a lecturer in the course of the winter, to explain the work of the Sanitary Commission to any society desiring it. We were never able to fulfill the promise, and the annoyance and regret this has occasioned us have been, we trust, far greater than your disappointment. The explanation is, that we were obliged to depend for our lecturers upon the Canvassing and Supply Department of the Commission. Owing to the very numerous applications for lecturers, made simultaneously by all the Eastern Branches, this department was entirely over-taxed, and unable to obtain a sufficient number of gentlemen capable of filling the position. We are very sorry to have thus been obliged to break faith with you, for the first time.

I have been requested to say, that persons desiring Card Photographs of the Exterior of our Office, No. 11 Cooper Union, can obtain them by sending their names and addresses, and enclosing 25 cents, to Rockwood & Co., Photographers, 839 Broadway, N. Y. For larger photographs of the same, 75 cents.

Before closing I must thank you for your most precious, farewell letters, which have come to us during the past fortnight, and which have given us great pleasure. We would like to answer each separately, but there are many hundreds of them, and the winding up of our work will still keep us so busy for several weeks that it is impossible to do so.

We knew that we loved you, and we thought that we knew how you loved us, but we have never really known it until now—when the time has come for us to part. This spontaneous expression of such warm affection on your part has completely overcome us, and there have not been many dry eyes or clear voices at our rooms lately, after the receipt of the day's mail.

We feel *humbled* too. How can it be otherwise, when we see how entirely you have over-estimated our share in the work? Our part in it, with the stimulant and excitement of being so much nearer the centre of interest, with our great opportunities of seeing and knowing what was being done, and sustained by the sympathy received daily through your letters, has been nothing compared to the great difficulties which you have met and overcome in keeping up the interest of the work, and in raising the funds for the support of your societies. We know all about it—just how hard it has been sometimes for you to struggle on, the amount of time and labor often spent in raising the five or ten dollars, collected at many houses, in many little pieces of currency; the walks through the cold, and the heat, and the storm to go to that weekly meeting; the home sacrifices made by those who could not otherwise have given to the soldiers; and all this quietly, constantly, cheerfully. No, dear friends, these are not little things; we cannot forget them; and we could not, in all sincerity, have left your last letters unanswered without saying this to you.

We have all tried to do our duty; but, when we look back, we shall not think of how much we have done, but of how little, with the regret that we did not do more while the opportunity lasted. God has greatly blessed us in our work during the past four years—a work interwoven with prayer. And may His blessing rest upon us always.

Believe me, affectionately, your friend,

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER.

NEW YORK, 11 Cooper Union,
July 8, 1865.

DR. C. F. TAFT'S FANNING MACHINE.

LINCOLN U. S. GENERAL HOSPITAL,
WASHINGTON, D. C., *June* 29, 1865.

H. W. BELLOWS, D. D.,
President of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

REV. AND DEAR SIR: I have the honor to report that I have performed the duty which the Executive Committee of the U. S. Sanitary Commission imposed on me, of awarding their premium for the best invention for fanning patients in military hospitals.

In calling your attention to that subject, you will recollect that I pointed out the desirability of having a contrivance something like the Indian punka, by which all the patients of a long ward might be gently fanned, so as to protect them from flies by day, and from mosquitoes by night—thus

superseding the cumbrous and stifling curtains now in use; it being all-important, however, that the machine should work noiselessly, be simple, and cheap, requiring the labor of a single attendant to keep it in motion.

No sooner did the announcement appear in the newspapers that such a machine was needed, than plans were transmitted to me in great numbers, all of them exhibiting great ingenuity, many of them being the inventions of our ingenious soldiers, who, when in hospital, had often suffered for the want of fanning. I was unable, however, to form an opinion of the relative value of these plans from a mere inspection of the drawings, or the little models that were presented. The expense attending the construction of the apparatus on a scale sufficiently large to test its value, deterred all but two inventors from competing for the premium. One of the contrivances is the invention of Mr. Blonquist, of New York, who, under the patronage of L. E. Chittenden and T. B. Bunting, Esqrs., and at considerable expense to the last-named gentleman, came to Washington, and put up a fanning-machine in one of the wards of this hospital—Dr. McKee, U. S. A., surgeon in charge, kindly favoring this attempt of accomplishing a hospital desideratum.

This invention afforded much satisfaction to Profs. A. C. Post and C. A. Lee, of New York, and Prof. Bacon, of New Haven, who witnessed its operation. Mr. Blanquist also exhibited an automaton punka, which is admirably adapted for domestic use—for single beds, offices, dining-rooms, and the like.

But a machine, the invention of Surgeon Taft, A. A. S. U. S. A., in charge of the Signal Corps Hospital, Georgetown, D. C., has been put up in an adjacent ward, which, for military and municipal hospital purposes, is, in the opinion of Dr. McKee, myself, and others, entitled to the palm. It is so simple, that any carpenter attached to a hospital can construct one; so inexpensive, that twenty-five cents will cover the expense for each bed; and, withal, capable of being kept in motion by a single attendant, who can thus fan two rows of beds, thirty or more in a row. Its action can be suspended over any single bed when desired, or its fan may be extended, so as to keep flies from a suppurating foot.

With true professional feeling, Dr. Taft declines taking out a patent for his invention. He is only desirous of having its benefits extended to patients.

There is now, thanks be to God, who hath given us the victory, comparatively little occasion for a hospital fanning-machine; but it is needed, nevertheless; and as it is desirable that it should be speedily brought into general use, I hope you will make the public acquainted with the invention, and through your own publications give the technical description herewith transmitted.

While the humane and patriotic deeds of the Sanitary Commission will be embalmed in history, an ever-active memento of its beneficence will be afforded in hospitals by this hygienic appliance, which it has been the means of calling into existence.

Most respectfully,

D. J. MACGOWAN.

LINCOLN U. S. GENERAL HOSPITAL,
WASHINGTON, D. C., *June* 29, 1865.

MY DEAR DR. BELLOWS: Everybody hereabouts—nurses, patients, surgeons, and visitors—are delighted with the fanning invention. If the instrument does not come into general use, it will be because there is no Sanitary Commission to stimulate hospital authorities. I wish you could get some one to come to see the contrivance in operation. It is expected that you will publish my report *immediately* in the New York dailies and in your own publications. And also that, either in one of these latter or in a circular to be sent to the hospitals, you will publish Judge Taft's technical description of his son's invention.

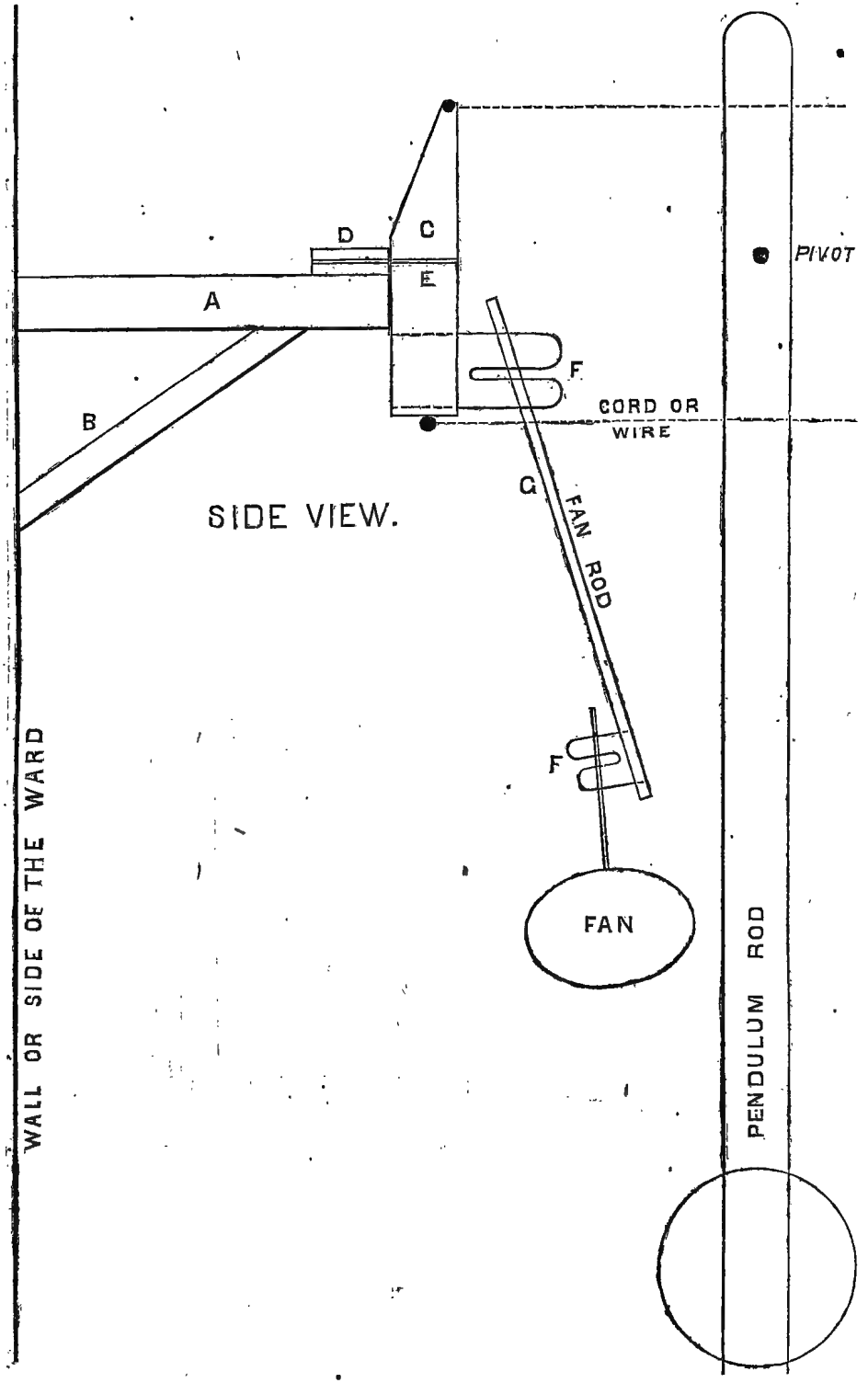
Please direct that the premium be sent to Dr. Taft, care of Judge Taft, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

Most truly, yours,

D. J. MACGOWAN.

A Rough Sketch and Description of Dr. C. S. Taft's Hospital Fanning Arrangement, for the Mechanic.

A braced bracket (A and B) is projected from the wall of the hospital ward about two feet, or to suit the position of the bed. (D) is a strip of board, nailed fast to the top of the bracket, and running the length of the ward. (C) is the oscillating-block, hung loosely on a strong wire, (E), which is tightly driven into (D). These brackets are placed at convenient distances apart. The *blocks* are, of course, placed over each bed, usually six or seven feet from the floor. (F) is a stiff wire, bent something as represented, and driven fast into the block. The fan-rod (G) is run through this bent wire, (as seen,) the middle portion resting on the rod as a spring, to keep it in place. The same arrangement is at the bottom of the fan-rod, to hold the


D
C
E
A
B
F
CORD OR
WIRE
G
FAN ROD
SIDE VIEW.
F
FAN
PIVOT
PENDULUM ROD
WALL OR SIDE OF THE WARD

fan, which may be the common palm-leaf. These wires, or clasps, allow both the fan-rod and the fan itself to be placed in any position to suit the patient.

A cord, or wire, (copper wire is best,) is strung from one end of the ward to the other, or from the two outside blocks, and is attached to the top of each block; another cord, or wire, is attached to the *bottom* of the two outside blocks; both cords, or wires, are tightly drawn, while the blocks stand perpendicular. In this condition, the movement or oscillation of either of the outside blocks moves or oscillates the whole. And the whole *may* be worked by a *lever* from either end of the ward. But to give steadiness and regularity of motion to the fans, it is found best to extend the cords, or wires, at one end, and attach them to the rod of a pendulum, at equal distances, *above* and *below* the *pivot* upon which the rod swings. A weight, weighing fifteen or twenty pounds, is attached to the bottom of the rod. This pendulum may be on the outside of the ward, if desirable. By hanging the pendulum so as to swing transversely at the end of the ward, and extending the wires from the fan-blocks from *each side* of the ward around *pulleys*, and attaching them to the pendulum-rod as above, the movement of the pendulum operates *all* the fans in the ward, and is done by one man.

Such is the arrangement now in operation at the Lincoln Hospital, fanning sixty beds—thirty on each side of the ward.

LETTER FROM GENERAL MEIGS.

Q. M. General's Office,
Washington, D. C., *July* 19, 1865.

John S. Blatchford, Esq.,
General Secretary U. S. Sanitary Commission.

Sir: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst., covering a Resolution of the Sanitary Commission, acknowledging the co-operation of the Quartermaster's Department, in the efforts and operations of the Sanitary Commission, during the war for the suppression of the Rebellion

I shall take pleasure in communicating the Resolution of the Commission to the officers under my command, and desire to express my thanks for the manner in which the Commission has acknowledged the assistance and aid which we have been able to render them.

The Quartermaster's Department is charged with the duty of transporting and delivering to the troops, whether in garrison, hospital, camp, or field, nearly all the supplies essential to life and comfort.

It stores and transports not only the supplies of clothing, equipment, shelter, and means of transportation, but the subsistence, hospital supplies, and ammunition, which are provided by other Departments.

Upon the efficient performance of its duties depend, therefore, in a great measure, the military efficiency, comfort, and health of the troops, and thence the success of military operations.

The Sanitary Commission, organizing sympathy, has given unity and character to the efforts of the friends and relatives of the soldier on a gigantic scale, and borne an important part in the war. It has supplied, without the delays which are inseparable from a complete official, pecuniary, and personal accountability, much which the regular Departments of supply could not so soon, or could not at all distribute.

Its agents have been everywhere, and have aided and assisted the officers, cheered many a weary and wounded man, and saved many a life. When the Secretary of the Commission first called upon me, at the outbreak of the war, I well remember the interview, and the joyful expression with which, after comparing our opinions and views, as to the manner in which the Commission could best fulfil its objects of usefulness, he said that I had given him a new hope and confidence, and that he then, for the first time, felt as though he had "touched bottom," and had found firm ground to stand upon.

Since then I have seen the operations of the Commission, not only in this city, and the extensive hospitals which surround it, but at the bases of supply, the temporary depots through which the wounded were passing after great battles, I have gratefully recognized the value of its labors to the soldier, to the officer and to the cause, and rejoiced that I was early brought into contact with it, and that I had been able to aid it by my own efforts and by those of officers under my direction.

This country has many proud memories to mingle with the sadness of the late war, and among the proudest will be the magnificent voluntary sympathy and charity to its representative soldiers, organized and conducted by the Sanitary Commission.

Wishing the members and officers of the Commission health and happiness, and long life to enjoy the honor and regard with which their names are crowned by a free people,

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obt. servant, M. C. Meigs,
Quartermaster General, Brevet-Maj. General.

MISAPPLICATION OF SANITARY COMMISSION SUPPLIES.

LETTER FROM REV. F. N. KNAPP.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 10.

MY DEAR FRIEND: Your letters were duly received calling the attention of the Commission to the fact that a returned soldier in your neighborhood is said to have in his possession various articles of clothing with the mark of the Sanitary Commission upon them, and you suggest the importance of having the affair cleared up by an investigation at the hospital near Washington where the soldier was recently an inmate.

Probably the facts are just as stated to you; it would be strange if to every thousand soldiers, honest in themselves, and grateful to the Commission for its services, as most of them are, there were not at least one man so unprincipled and devoid of gratitude as to lead him to steal sanitary stores, just as he would any other goods he could lay his hands on. And moreover, in the process of "breaking up" the general hospitals, now going rapidly on, though the system of issue by the Commission may have been, as we believe it has, eminently wise, and though the surgeons in charge may be watchful, it is simply impossible to prevent cunning men from secreting some of the articles which may be in use in the various wards, and which, of course, having been once appropriated to the hospital and regularly accounted for in the issues of the Commission, the Commission cannot keep a personal watch over.

The hospital you refer to was "broken up" some weeks ago, with ten or fifteen other hospitals in this vicinity. Of course no investigation can be made at the hospital itself in the case you refer to. But it seems to me eminently the duty of any friend of the Commission, who is cognizant or suspicious of the existence of such facts as you state in his own neighborhood, to see the man himself, and make a thorough examination in an open and straightforward manner. If such investigation should be made in the present case, as I trust it may be, will you inform me of the result?

One word more. Considering the vast amount of supplies issued by the Sanitary Commission, and the utter impossibility of the agent of the Commission keeping a personal watch over these supplies after they are once issued; considering, too, how soldiers, after they are once well, will sell articles of clothing which have been furnished to them when sick; considering these points, it really seems strange to me, not that occasionally goods bearing the Sanitary Commission mark are found in the wrong hands, but that such occurrences are rare as they are. Am I not right in this view of the case?

Sincerely your friend,

FRED. N. KNAPP,
Superintendent Special Relief.

MRS. HORATIO SEYMOUR,
Buffalo Branch U. S. Sanitary Commission.

WOMENS' PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

1307 CHESTNUT STREET,
PHILADELPHIA, July 4, 1865.

To the Aid Societies contributing to the Women's Pennsylvania Branch of the United States Sanitary Commission:

We send you to-day document No. 93, being the Farewell Address of the Sanitary Commission to its tributary branches and aid societies.

We have, of course, accepted it to guide our action at this office. Our Ladies' Executive Committee feels it a duty and a proud privilege once more to communicate with those who have worked with it so long, so faithfully, and so harmoniously. The close of the war has come upon us so suddenly that we feel like those who dream, as if the peace or the war were, one or the other, a vision. Yet the peace is a glorious present reality, and the cruel war, which yet was the means of banding us together in a work of holiest sympathy and love, is, with the necessity of our banded labor, among the things of the past. As we have toiled together in our days of sorrow, so let us together rejoice and give thanks, on this day of joy, to the great Ruler who has held the destinies of our dear country in His hands, and has preserved to us this precious heritage of our fathers, "now and *forever*, one and indivisible." We thank you for your warm, earnest, and untiring co-operation, feeling that, if the Philadelphia Agency of the Sanitary Commission is able to look with grateful satisfaction upon results accomplished, the praise is largely due to you as faithful co-workers in this blessed ministry to the suffering. Our work is closing, dear friends, but shall we ever forget how our hearts have been knit together during its accomplishment? Our memories of these years will never perish. The sorrow and

the agony cannot be forgotten; but, like a rainbow upon the storm, we shall look back with ever-returning joy to the help we were enabled to give to that most noble of instrumentalities for good whose work has been so vast and so beneficent—the United States Sanitary Commission.

MARIA C. GRIER,
Chairman Executive Committee.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Army and Navy Claim Agency.

NO CHARGE FOR SERVICES.

This Agency is established to prosecute the claims of those who have been in the service of the United States, in the Army and Navy, and their dependents, for Pensions, Arrears of pay, Bounty, Prize-Money, and all other Army and Navy claims on the Government, *WITHOUT CHARGE OR EXPENSE OF ANY KIND WHATEVER TO THE CLAIMANT.*

CENTRAL OFFICE, 244 F ST.,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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General Agent.

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Steubenville	W. A. Walden
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Madison	David G. Phillips
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Terre Haute	Thomas C. Bailey
Fort Wayne	W. F. Jenison

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WISCONSIN.

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Knoxville.....Chas. Seymour

KANSAS.

Leavenworth.....Chas. H. Crane
Lawrence.....Eugene L. Akin

LOUISIANA.

New Orleans.....C W. Seaton

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington.....M. P. Barry

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U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

BUREAU OF INFORMATION AND EMPLOYMENT.

Central Office, 244 F Street, Washington, D. C.

This Bureau is established with the following objects:

1. To aid those who have served in the Army and Navy of the United States in obtaining employment.

2. To prevent, as far as possible, the necessity for costly charitable institutions, by thus encouraging industry, and aiding the disabled soldier, who might otherwise seek an asylum, to strive for self-support.

3. To lessen the pauperism and crime necessarily more or less a consequence of war, and which surely attend on large numbers of unoccupied men left to themselves without employment or means of subsistence.

4. To save to the country a large amount of productive labor, at a time when it can least afford to maintain idle hands.

The services of the Bureau are given gratuitously.

Information and suggestions are solicited relative to employments adapted to maimed and disabled men. Employers are earnestly requested to make applications to this Bureau for every class of labor; and are reminded that our Army and Navy have contained many of the best and most trustworthy young men of the nation—skilled in every occupation.

It is demanded by both patriotism and humanity, that the light occupations of all towns, and whatever work can be as well done by invalid soldiers as by others, be given to the men who may have incapacitated themselves for rivalry in more active and laborious fields of duty, by giving their limbs, their health, and their blood to the nation.

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D. D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M. D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M. D., New York.
Wolcott Gibbs, M. D., Cambridge, Mass.
S. G. Howe, M. D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M. D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M. D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clark, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, Jr., Philadelphia, Penn.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Charles J. Stillé, Philadelphia, Penn.
Ezra B. McCagg, Chicago, Ill.

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H. W. Bellows, D D., President.
A. D. Bache, LL D., Vice-President.
Geo. T. Strong, Treasurer.
Jno. S. Blatchford, General Secretary.
J. S. Newberry, M. D., Associate Secretary.

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Henry W. Bellows, D. D. Geo. T. Strong.
Wm. H. Van Buren, M.D. Wolcott Gibbs, M. D.
C. R. Agnew, M. D. Charles J. Stillé.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

F. N. KNAPP, Supt., Washington, D. C.
J. B. ABBOTT, Chief Asst., Washington, D. C.

"SOLDIERS' HOMES" AND "LODGES."

[OBJECTS. Temporary aid and protection,—food, lodging, care, &c.,—for soldiers in transitu, chiefly the discharged, disabled, and furloughed.]

Alexandria, Va. "ALEXANDRIA LODGE." Orange and Alexandria Railroad Station. J. B. Holt, Superintendent.

Annapolis, Md. "HOME FOR SOLDIERS' WIVES AND MOTHERS." Mrs. Hopes Sayres, Matron.

Baltimore, Md. "SOLDIERS' HOME." No. 62 Conway Street. A. E. Hastings, Supt.

"SOLDIERS' LODGE." Opposite Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad Station. ——, Superintendent.

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3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

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